

SPENDING FEMA GRANTS **WISELY**

This holiday season, as LA homeowners and renters continue to receive disaster funds, FEMA wants to remind you that federal grant money may only be used for disaster-related expenses.



It only takes FEMA a few days to deposit the money after the application is complete. Be on the lookout for a deposit in the account provided, it may not say the word FEMA. You will also receive a letter/email stating the amount to be received and spending stipulations.



Remember, disaster grants are **NOT** for regular living expenses. Some examples of **ALLOWED** expenses are:

- Home repairs (e.g., structure, water, septic and sewage systems)
- Rental assistance for rent and/or deposit
- Repair or replacement of an essential vehicle
- Medical or dental care for an uninsured injury caused by the disaster
- Necessary educational materials (e.g., computers, schoolbooks, supplies)
- Moving and storage expenses related to the disaster
- Replacement of essential personal property such as appliances or a bed from an occupied bedroom
- Increased childcare expenses



Read your determination letter carefully. **KEEP RECEIPTS FOR ALL EXPENSES FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS.** All funding is subject to review. Spending disaster funding on anything other than its intended purpose may cause you to be denied assistance in the future. In some cases, FEMA will ask that the money be returned.



Be sure FEMA has your most up-to-date contact information, including addresses, phone numbers and bank accounts. If FEMA does not have the correct contact information, survivors may miss letters or phone calls about their application for assistance or payment status.