



# *Catalog of Federal Drought Assistance Programs*

*June 2001*

*Prepared by the Interim National Drought Council*

## **Catalog of Federal Drought Assistance Programs**

This Catalog of Federal Drought Assistance Programs has been compiled by the Interim National Drought Council (INDC), as a replacement for the production of the Western Drought Coordination Council, to help individuals and governments determine what programs are available to help reduce the effects of drought. Many of these programs are also available as a result of other natural disasters.

The Catalog of Federal Drought Assistance Programs has been categorized by types of assistance and gives a brief description of each program. Included is the name of the Agency that administers the program, a national and local contact person, type of assistance, who is eligible, and some eligibility rules.

For help in finding out whether you are eligible, call or visit the local contact. The local contact will know what programs have been authorized for your area. If you are not able to get help at the local level, the national contact will be able to provide guidance.

For general information about the catalog, please contact:

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## **CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)**

### **Emergency Haying or Grazing**

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Robert Stephenson, Director, Conservation and Environmental Programs Division, (202) 720-6221 E-mail Address: Robert.Stephenson@usda.gov <u>Local:</u> County FSA Service Center
<b>Statute</b>	Sections 1231-1236 of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Haying or grazing privilege.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	During periods of severe drought (or other similar emergency), FSA may permit farmers with Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts to hay or graze land enrolled in CRP.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Owners and operators of CRP land that have livestock or livestock producers who lease haying or grazing privileges on CRP land.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Producers must have eligible CRP acreage or may lease the haying or grazing privilege on eligible CRP acreage in approved counties.
<b>Limitations</b>	Counties or parts of counties must meet certain loss requirements to be eligible for designation. Producers seeking to hay or graze under emergency conditions agree to a reduction in annual rental payment. Further, a portion of the acreage must remain undisturbed for the benefit of wildlife. Other conditions and limitations may apply.
<b>Availability</b>	It does not require a major disaster determination by the President or Secretary of Agriculture to provide assistance. Once the Secretary announces emergency haying or grazing is available due to disaster conditions, the County and State FSA committees may request designation of a county or partial county.
<b>Comments</b>	Contact local FSA Service Center for further information.

## AGRICULTURAL MARKET TRANSITION ACT (AMTA) PROGRAM

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture.
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Diane Sharp, Director, Production, Emergencies, and Compliance Division, (202) 720-7641 E-mail Address: dsharp@wdc.fsa.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> State FSA Office
<b>Statute</b>	Public Law 104-127.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Direct payments to eligible producers.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	The purpose of AMTA is to help producers who have been earning deficiency payments transition from government driven planting decisions to market driven planting decisions.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Producers on farms who comply with AMTA program requirements.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Participation in AMTA, compliance with fruit and vegetable planting restrictions on contract acreage; agreement to protect idle contract acreage from erosion and weeds; compliance with highly erodible land conservation and wetland conservation provisions.
<b>Limitations</b>	A \$40,000 per person per fiscal year limitation on the payments made to a person under one or more production flexibility contracts.
<b>Availability</b>	Availability to all producers on farms with 1996 crop acreage bases if they enrolled in the AMTA program by August 1, 1996, and to producers with Conservation Reserve Program Contracts with protected crop acreage bases which will expire or terminate before September 20, 2002.
<b>Comments</b>	Under AMTA eligible producers may earn payments whether or not a crop is planted on the contract acreage.

## NONINSURED CROP DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Steve Peterson, Chief, Noninsured Assistance Program Branch, Production, Emergencies, and Compliance Division, (202) 720-2657 E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:steve.peterson@wdc.fsa.usda.gov">steve.peterson@wdc.fsa.usda.gov</a> <u>Local:</u> County FSA Service Center
<b>Statute</b>	Public Laws 103-354 and 104-127
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Direct payments.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) provides assistance to reduce financial losses that occur when natural disasters cause a catastrophic loss of production prevented planting of an eligible crop.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Eligible persons sharing in the proceeds of an eligible crop at the time of loss with annual qualifying gross revenues less than \$2 million.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	<p>Each commercial crop or other agriculture commodity (except livestock) for which catastrophic risk protection under section 508 (b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act is not available that is produced for food or fiber. Effective with P.L. 103-354 eligible crops also include floricultural, ornamental nursery, and Christmas tree crops, turfgrass sod, and industrial crops. Effective with P.L. 104-127 eligible crops also include seed crops and aquaculture (including ornamental fish).</p> <p>Payment eligibility is based on an expected yield for the area and the producer's approved yield based on actual production history, or a transitional yield if sufficient production records are not available. Production for the applicable area expected yield must be reduced by more than 35 percent because of a natural disaster and the individual producer unit must suffer greater than a 50 percent loss of yield or be prevented from planting more than 35 percent of intended acreage due to a natural disaster reasonably related to the basis for the area designation.</p> <p>Once the area loss requirement for a crop is met, direct payments are calculated based on the loss of yield in excess of 50 percent of a producer's approved yield, or acreage prevented from being planted in excess of 35 percent of intended times the producer's approved yield, as applicable, times 60 percent (55 percent for 1999 and subsequent years) of the average market price determined by Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), or any comparable coverage determined by the Secretary, times a payment factor for decreasing cost incurred in the production cycle of a crop that is harvested, planted but not harvested, and prevented from being planted.</p>
<b>Limitations</b>	Producer must report acreage and production by specified deadlines and furnish timely notice of loss within 15 days of the disaster occurrence. Additionally, applications for NAP payments must be filed with the local office no later than the first acreage reporting date for the crop in the crop year immediately following the crop year in which the loss occurred.
<b>Availability</b>	Assistance will be made available for each approved crop in an area approved by CCC for a natural disaster.
<b>Comments</b>	No person shall receive payments for a crop year in excess of \$100,000. If a producer is eligible to receive NAP assistance and benefits under any other program administered by the secretary for the same crop loss (excluding FSA emergency loans), the producer must choose whether to receive the other program benefits or NAP assistance. The producer is not eligible for both.

## WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Leslie Deavers, National Program Manager, Wetlands Reserve Program (202) 690-0848 E-mail Address: leslie.deavers@usda.gov <u>Local:</u> NRCS State Office
<b>Statute</b>	Public Law 101-624 (104 Stat. 3584; 16 U.S.C. 3837, et seq.), 7 CFR, Part 620.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Technical and financial assistance through the purchase of easements or cost-share agreements.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Assistance in reducing flood damage, preventing soil erosion, recharging ground water, improving water quality, and wildlife habitat improvement.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Public and private landowners.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	To offer a conservation easement, landowner must have owned the land for at least 1 year prior to enrollment.
<b>Limitations</b>	120,000 acres in FY 99 with the three types projects (i.e., permanent and 30-year easements and cost-share agreements) to be enrolled in proportion to the level of land owner interest.
<b>Availability</b>	This is an ongoing program.

## EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM (ECP)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National</u> : Robert Stephenson, Director, Conservation and Environmental Programs Division, (202) 720-6221 E-mail Address: Robert.Stephenson@usda.gov <u>Local</u> : County FSA Service Center
<b>Statute</b>	Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended.
<b>Regulations</b>	7 CFR Part 701
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Cost-sharing.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Provide financial assistance through the sharing of costs of restoring farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disaster, or for emergency water conservation measures during severe droughts. Practices include providing water for livestock, restoring structures, and water conservation measures.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Agricultural producers.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Conservation problems which existed prior to disaster are not eligible for assistance.
<b>Limitations</b>	Assistance limited to solving conservation problems caused by natural disaster that impair land or productive capability. Damage must be unusual and not likely to occur frequently in the same area.  Payments are limited to \$200,000 per person per disaster.
<b>Availability</b>	This program is available for drought aid but is not limited to drought or other emergencies. It does not require a major disaster determination by the President or Secretary of Agriculture to provide local assistance. Except for drought, the County FSA committee may implement the program with the concurrence of the State FSA committee. Severe drought designations must be approved by the FSA Deputy Administrator.
<b>Comments</b>	Contact local FSA Service Center for further information.



## ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Anthony Esser, EQIP Program Manager, (202) 720-1834 E-mail Address: Anthony.Esser@usda.gov <u>Local:</u> NRCS County Office
<b>Statute</b>	Federal Agriculture Improvement Reform Act of 1996, P.L. 104-127, 7 CFR, Part 1466.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Cost-sharing.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Necessary technical, educational, and financial assistance to assist owners and operators and to comply with Federal, State, and tribal environmental laws on a voluntary basis to encourage environmental enhancement.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Owners and operators of agricultural lands.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Land must meet land eligibility requirements and be in a conservation priority area or under a Statewide natural resource concern initiative.
<b>Limitations</b>	This program is not an emergency conservation program. The program is designed for long term planning and contracting to address natural resources concerns.
<b>Availability</b>	Program practices could address drought situations. It is an ongoing program slated for funding through fiscal year 2002.
<b>Comments</b>	This program is not a drought assistance program, however, practices could be used to address particular drought impacts upon the land.

## FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Risk Management Agency United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Phyllis Honor, Acting Administrator, (202) 690-4526 E-mail Address: Phyllis.Honor@usda.gov <u>Local:</u> Local Crop Insurance Agency or Regional Service Offices in Billings, MT; Jackson, MS; Oklahoma City, OK; Raleigh, NC; Sacramento, CA; Springfield, IL; Spokane, WA; St. Paul, MN; Topeka, KS; and Valdosta, GA.
<b>Statute</b>	Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C 1501-1502
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Insurance
<b>Assistance Available</b>	<p>The Risk Management Agency (RMA) administers the programs of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC). The mission of the RMA is to provide and support cost-effective means of managing risk for agricultural producers in order to improve the economic stability of agriculture. Crop insurance is USDA's primary means of assisting farmers following a crop loss. Crop insurance helps farmers recover from crop losses, secure operating loans, and market a portion of their crop aggressively.</p> <p>Crop insurance coverage is widely available on all major commodities, such as corn, wheat, and cotton. Coverage is also available on a growing number of fruits, nuts, and vegetable crops. Nationally, 80 crops are insurable, though not everywhere they are grown.</p>
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Insured producers.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Any owner or operator of farmland who has an insurable interest in a crop in county where insurance is offered on that crop is eligible.
<b>Limitations</b>	The insured producer must have suffered a loss below the guarantee level for the particular crop insured. Producers are not indemnified for losses resulting from negligence or failure to observe good farming practices.
<b>Availability</b>	Multiple peril crop insurance is available only through private insurance agents selling for private companies reinsured by FCIC. Check with your local Farm Service Agency Service Center for a listing of agents in your area. Premiums for the catastrophic risk protection (CAT) level of crop insurance are fully subsidized and available to producers for \$60 in administrative fees per crop, per county, not to exceed \$200 per county, or \$600 for all crops and all counties. A portion of the premiums are subsidized for higher buy-up levels of crop insurance coverage and for other plans of insurance such as the Group Risk Plan or Revenue Insurance Plans.
<b>Comments</b>	For more information about the Federal Crop Insurance Program, contact a local crop insurance agent or access the Risk Management Agency Website at <a href="http://www.act.fcic.usda.gov">http://www.act.fcic.usda.gov</a> .

## EMERGENCY LOANS (EM)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Mike Hinton, Chief, Direct Loans Branch, Loan Making Division (202) 720-1472 E-Mail Address: mhinton@wdc.fsa.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> County FSA Service Center
<b>Statute</b>	7 U.S.C. 1961; 5 U.S.C. 301; CFR 2.23; 7 CFR 2.70.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Loans.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Emergency loans to family farmers, ranchers, or aquaculturists for physical damage or severe production losses.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Family farmers, ranchers, and aquaculturists (owners or tenants.)
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Must have suffered qualifying physical loss or production loss of at least 30 percent. Must be unable to obtain suitable credit from other sources and have repayment ability.
<b>Limitations</b>	Loan ceiling is 80 percent of production loss and 100 percent of actual physical loss.
<b>Availability</b>	Farmers can apply for assistance under this program when they have suffered losses in a county that has been named by FEMA as eligible for federal assistance under a Presidential major disaster declaration or under a Secretary of Agriculture disaster declaration. Farmers operating in adjacent counties are also eligible.
<b>Comments</b>	Applications must be filed within eight months of disaster declaration by the President, Secretary of Agriculture, or the Administrator of Farm Service Agency. The maximum indebtedness under the program is \$500,000, and the funds can be used for restoring or replacing damaged property, purchasing machinery and equipment, reorganizing the farm, or paying production costs.

## FARM OWNERSHIP LOANS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Mike Hinton, Chief, Direct Loans Branch, Loan Making Division (202) 720-1472 E-mail Address: mhinton@wdc.fsa.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> County FSA Service Center
<b>Statute</b>	7 U.S.C. 1922, Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Loans and loan guarantees.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Funds can be used to acquire or enlarge a farm or ranch, to make capital improvements, and to promote soil and water conservation and protection.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Family-sized farmers and ranchers.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Available to borrowers who are unable to obtain sufficient credit at reasonable rates elsewhere. Loans available to individuals, partnerships, cooperatives, and corporations.
<b>Limitations</b>	Loans limited to family-sized farmers.
<b>Availability</b>	This is an ongoing program and does not require a major disaster declaration by the President or Secretary of Agriculture to provide local assistance.
<b>Comments</b>	Maximum loan is \$200,000 and maximum loan guarantee is \$700,000.

## FARM OPERATING LOANS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Farm Service Agency (FSA) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Mike Hinton, Chief, Direct Loans Branch, Loan Making Division (202) 720-1472 E-mail Address: mhinton@wdc.fsa.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> County FSA Service Center
<b>Statute</b>	7 U.S.C. 1941, Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Loans and loan guarantees.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Funds can be used to pay annual farm operating expenses, to purchase livestock and farm equipment, and to pay costs associated with land and water development.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Owners and operators of family-sized farms and ranches.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Available to borrowers who are unable to obtain sufficient credit at reasonable rates elsewhere. Loans available to individuals, partnerships, cooperatives, and corporations.
<b>Limitations</b>	Loans limited to family-sized farmers.
<b>Availability</b>	This is an ongoing program and does not require a major disaster declaration by the President or Secretary of Agriculture to provide local assistance.
<b>Comments</b>	The maximum loan is \$200,000 and maximum loan guarantee is \$700,000.

## EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY/DROUGHT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Ed Hecker, Chief, Civil Emergency Management Branch, HQUSACE, (202) 761-4601 E-mail Address: edward.j.hecker@hq02.usace.army.mil <u>Local:</u> USACE, District Office
<b>Statute</b>	Public Law 84-99, as amended.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Emergency supply of clean drinking water for human consumption, and construction of wells if not commercially possible.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	USACE is authorized to transport emergency supplies of clean drinking water for human consumption to any designated area as a drought distressed area, and to construct wells in such drought distressed areas. Water normally provided by tank trucks or small diameter pipelines. Assistance will be to meet minimum public health and welfare requirements.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Any locality faced with a threat to public health and welfare from a drought situation affecting the water system.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Water distribution system may be publicly or privately owned. State and local agencies must make full use of their own resources, including the National Guard. Requests for assistance to the Corps must be initiated by the Governor or his/her authorized representative.
<b>Limitations</b>	Assistance is limited to work which is the most economical means of furnishing a temporary drinking water supply. Water will not be furnished to a business firm except as incidental to the use of the existing water distribution system, but drinking water can be provided for employees and on-site customers. Water is provided only for human consumption, not for livestock.
<b>Availability</b>	Application for program assistance will be made to USACE District, but assistance is subject to approval at higher level. The impacted area must be designated as a drought distressed area by Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.
<b>Comments</b>	USACE assistance is supplemental to State and local efforts. Permanent restoration of water supply is a local responsibility. Applicants must furnish land, easements, and rights-of-way; make necessary relocations; and hold the U.S. free from damages. Purchase and storage costs are not eligible for USACE assistance.

## EMERGENCY COMMUNITY WATER ASSISTANCE GRANTS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National</u> : Howard Kelly, Branch Chief of Water Programs Division, (202) 720-9589 E-mail Address: dkelly@rudev.usda.gov <u>Local</u> : State RD Office
<b>Statute</b>	Title V of the Disaster Assistance Act of 1989 (PL 101-82, 103 Stat. 570, Aug 14, 1989).
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Grants.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	The objective of the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program is to assist the residents of rural areas that have experienced a significant decline in quantity or quality of water to obtain adequate quantities of water that meet the standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) (SDWA): (a) Grants can be made to alleviate a significant decline in quantity or quality of water available from the water supplies in rural areas that occurred within two years of filing an application for assistance. Grants cannot exceed \$500,000. (b) Grants for repairs, partial replacement, or significant maintenance on an established water system cannot exceed \$75,000.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Public bodies and private nonprofit corporations serving rural areas.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	In the case of grants made to alleviate a significant decline in quantity or quality of water available from the water supplies of rural residents, the applicant must demonstrate that the decline occurred within two years of the date the application was filed with Rural Utilities Service. This would not apply to grants made for repairs, partial replacement, or significant maintenance on an established water system.
<b>Limitations</b>	Grant funds may not be used to: (1) Assist any city or town with a population in excess of 10,000 inhabitants according to the most recent decennial census of the United States. (2) Assist a rural area that has a median household income in excess of the Statewide non-metropolitan median household income according to the most recent decennial census of the United States. (3) Finance facilities which are not modest in size, design, and cost.
<b>Availability</b>	Authorization for this program comes at the State level by the Rural Development State Office and are subject to the availability of funds.
<b>Comments</b>	Must compete nationwide for funding.

## RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (RC&D)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Joan Comanor, Director, Resource Conservation and Community Development Division, (202) 720-2241 E-mail Address: joan.comanor@usda.gov <u>Local:</u> State NRCS Office
<b>Statute</b>	Reauthorized with the passage of Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Technical assistance.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Technical assistance available for projects that were developed under the RC&D Program. Projects must benefit community or RC&D area.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Public agencies or nonprofit corporations with activities reviewed and approved by the RC&D council serving the RC&D area.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	None.
<b>Limitations</b>	None.
<b>Availability</b>	This program is not strictly a drought program, but it is available for drought aid. It is an ongoing program and does not need a major disaster declaration by the President or Secretary of Agriculture.
<b>Comments</b>	This program is not a drought financial assistance program, and could take several years to develop and implement a project. However, as an example of possible drought related use, the program could be used to develop a water supply reservoir project to supplement or replace a drought impacted water supply. NRCS typically provides the needed technical expertise.



## NATIONAL STREAMGAGING PROGRAM

<b>Administering Agency</b>	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) United States Department of the Interior
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National</u> : Mike Norris, Assistant Chief, Office of Surface Water, (703) 648-5304 E-mail Address: mnorris@usgs.gov <u>Local</u> : USGS District Office
<b>Statute</b>	The Organic Act of March 3, 1879, the Sundry Civil Bill of 1888, the Appropriation Acts of 1894 and 1896, and the Joint Resolution of May 16, 1902 (Pub. Res. 13, 54th Congress).
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Information.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Monitoring of streamflow, ground-water levels, and reservoir contents. Comparison with previous droughts, drought studies, and service on drought-emergency committees. Information and advice concerning hydrologic conditions.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Cooperators (partners) in the NSP, national weather service, emergency managers, planning agencies, reservoir operators, media representatives, and the public.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	None.
<b>Limitations</b>	None.
<b>Availability</b>	Streamflow information are available from district offices in nearly every State. Real-time and historic streamflow data are available on the World Wide Web for 3,000 gaging stations.
<b>Comments</b>	The USGS operates a national network of 7,000 streamgages that continuously measure the stage and flow at key points on streams and rivers. The Agency also monitors ground-water levels, reservoir contents, and water quality. Flow data from about 4,600 stream-gages are available via satellite telemetry in nearly real time. The data available from the USGS are used in responding to drought emergencies, characterizing a drought, finding alternative supplies of water, and allocating water resources.

## EMERGENCY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM (EWP)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Lee Bensey, Director, Watershed and Wetlands Division, (202) 720-3534 E-mail Address: Lee.Bensey@usda.gov <u>Local:</u> State NRCS Office
<b>Statute</b>	Section 216, Public Law 85-516; Section 403, Title 4, Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, Public Law 95-334, 7 CFR 624.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Technical and financial assistance (cost-share).
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Assistance to local organizations for planning and implementing watershed projects in relieving an imminent threat to life and property as a result of a sudden impairment of a watershed caused by a natural occurrence including drought. The threat must significantly exceed that which existed before the impairment.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Public and private landowners, but they must be represented by a project sponsor.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Project sponsor must be a public agency of the State, county, city, or special district that has authority to acquire needed land rights, water rights, and permits.
<b>Limitations</b>	None.
<b>Availability</b>	The State NRCS Conservationist has the authority to implement this program.
<b>Comments</b>	Program is much more applicable to emergency actions required due to sudden natural disaster, such as earthquakes and floods, than due to droughts. However, droughts result in blowing soils, and loss of visibility is a threat to the driving public. Able to cost-share emergency tillage and treatment of other critical areas.

## WATER AND WASTE (WW) DISPOSAL LOANS AND GRANTS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Utilities Service United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National</u> : Howard Kelly, Branch Chief of Water Programs Division (202) 720-9589 E-mail Address: dkelly@rudev.usda.gov <u>Local</u> : State RD Office
<b>Statute</b>	Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C.1926 (a).
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Loans and grants.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Funds are to provide financial assistance for water and waste disposal facilities. Available in rural areas and incorporated communities up to 10,000 people. Priority is given to areas with no more than 5,000 people to restore deteriorating water supplies to improve or enlarge water facilities or inadequate waste facilities.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Public entities such as counties, municipalities, special districts, Indian tribes, and nonprofit corporations for water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas and incorporated communities up to 10,000 people.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Applicant must be unable to obtain needed funds from other sources on reasonable terms. Commercial interim financing is normally used for construction, with program funds available when project is completed.
<b>Limitations</b>	Applicant must have legal authority and capability to repay funds (based on taxes, assessments, or revenues) and operate and maintain facilities.
<b>Availability</b>	This program is available for drought aid but it is not limited to drought or other emergencies. It does not require a major disaster declaration by the President or Secretary or Agriculture to be triggered.
<b>Comments</b>	Priority is also given to small facilities serving low-income communities. Funds may be used to (1) construct, repair, improve, expand, or modify rural water supply facilities (reservoirs, wells, pipelines, pumping stations), (2) acquire a water supply or water right, (3) fund waste water and storm drainage facilities, and (4) pay legal, engineering, and right-of-way costs of these facilities. Grants are made for facilities in the most financially needy communities.

## RECLAMATION STATES EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF ACT OF 1991

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Bureau of Reclamation United States Department of the Interior
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National</u> : Roseann Gonzales, Reclamation Drought Coordinator, (303) 445-2787 E-mail Address: rgonzales@do.usbr.gov <u>Local</u> : Regional Office
<b>Statute</b>	Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991, P.L. 102-250. This act authorizes a variety of activities and measures that will minimize, or can be expected to have an effect minimizing and mitigating, losses and damages resulting from ongoing drought conditions.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Drought mitigation and contingency planning activities; loans, nonfinancial assistance to willing buyers and sellers.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Purchase of water for fish and wildlife purposes; Use of project facilities to store and convey water. Temporary drought assistance could include construction, management, and conservation activities undertaken by Reclamation on a nonreimbursable basis and are subject to applicable state and Federal laws, including the National Environmental Protection Act. Specific activities might include: (1) drilling of wells, (2) diking and dredging to improve river channel flow efficiency, (3) lining of canals to maintain proper water temperature through the installation of temporary materials, (4) installation of temporary fish screens (5) installation of temporary equipment to maintain proper water temperature levels, (6) temporary installation of pumps in reservoirs and canals in order to lift water to outlets, (7) improved measurements, and reporting of conditions and deviations, (8) participation in State established water banks, and (9) changes in diversion schedules. Short term (in no cases no more than 15 years) loans to water users for construction, management, conservation activities, and the acquisition and transportation of water as outlined in Title I of PL 102-250.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Activities and loans would be available to Indian Reservation governing bodies, States and Federal agencies, and nonprofit entities, e.g. irrigation districts, municipal water utilities, private or public fish and wildlife facilities.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Title I. Assistance During Drought Programs and authorities under this title are applicable to the geographic areas within the Reclamation States (from North Dakota south to Texas and west to the Pacific coast) and Hawaii. The programs and authorities are only applicable during times of actual declared drought, after the Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation has determined that a request from the Governor of any state or the governing body of any Tribe has merit. Title II. Drought Contingency Planning Programs and authorities under this title pertaining to identification of opportunities for water supply conservation, augmentation and use are applicable to the Reclamation States. The drought contingency planning authority is applicable to the geographic areas within the United States and all of the territories. Programs and activities under this title may be initiated after consultation with Reclamation and the appropriate funding for the activities is determined to be available.
<b>Limitations</b>	The geographical area can be parts of a State, or Indian reservation, and are not limited to Reclamation project areas, or to water provided by Reclamation projects.
<b>Availability</b>	Subject to annual appropriations being provided.

## FARM LABOR HOUSING LOANS AND GRANTS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Housing Service United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Tracee Lilly, Loan Specialist, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, (202) 720-9729 E-mail Address: tlilly@rurdev.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> State RD Office
<b>Statute</b>	Housing Act of 1949, as amended, Section 514 and 516, Public Laws 89-117 and U.S.C 1484 and 1489.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Loans and grants.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Project grants; guaranteed/direct loans to provide decent, safe and sanitary low-rent housing and related facilities for domestic farm laborers.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Family partnerships, family farm corporations, or an association of farmers.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Grants are available to eligible applicants only when it is doubtful that such facilities could be provided unless grant assistance is available. The applicant must furnish factual evidence of the following: (a) the number of domestic farm laborers currently being used in the area; (b) the kind of labor performed; (c) the future need for domestic farm labor in the area; (d) the kind, condition, and adequacy of housing presently used for such labor; (e) ownership of presently occupied housing; (f) ability of workers to pay necessary rent; and; (g) with the exception of State and local public agencies, be unable to provide housing from its own resources or credit on terms and conditions that would enable the applicant to provide labor housing.
<b>Limitations</b>	The housing must be of practical type and must be constructed in an economical manner and not of elaborate material or extravagant design; loan and grant funds and any funds furnished by the applicant may be placed in a supervised bank account.
<b>Availability</b>	No deadlines.
<b>Comments</b>	The loans and grants may be used for construction, repair, or purchased all year around or seasonal occupied housing; and developing related support facilities including recreation areas, central cooking and dining facilities, small infirmaries, laundry facilities, day care centers, and other essential equipment and facilities.

## HOME OWNERSHIP LOANS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Housing Service United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> William M. Toney, Director, Single Family Housing Processing Division, (202) 720-1474 E-mail Address: wtoney@rurdev.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> County RD Office
<b>Statue</b>	Title IV, Housing Act of 1949 (Act of July 15, 1949, 63 Stat. 413, 42 USC 1441 et seq.)
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Loans.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Funds can be used to pay, buy, build, repair, or rehabilitate rural homes and related facilities, including water and waste disposal systems. Homes may be on individual sites or in subdivisions.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Very low to moderate income individuals in rural areas.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Must be a U.S. citizen or legally admitted for permanent residency. Must personally occupy the property and demonstrate both the willingness and ability to repay the loan.
<b>Limitations</b>	Homes must be modest in size, design, and cost, and be located on desirable sites with an assured supply of safe drinking water and suitable arrangements for sewage disposal.
<b>Availability</b>	This is an ongoing program which does not require a major disaster declaration by the President or Secretary of Agriculture to provide local assistance.
<b>Comments</b>	Loans may be made for up to 100 percent of RD's appraised value of site and home.

## RURAL RENTAL HOUSING LOANS

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Housing Service (RHS) United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Carl Wagner, Director, Multi-Family Housing Processing Division, (202) 720-1604 E-mail Address: cwagner@rdmail.rural.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> State RD Office
<b>Statute</b>	Public Law 10415, Housing Act of 1949, (Act of July 15, 1949, 63 Stat. 413, 42 USC 1441 et seq.) Section 515 Rural Rental Housing.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Loans.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Funds can be used to buy, build, or repair apartments, duplexes, and multi-unit rental housing for very low and moderate-income families or senior citizens in rural areas. Funds can be used to provide water and waste disposal systems and other uses.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Loans may be made for housing in communities of up to 10,000 people and, under certain conditions, towns and cities between 10,000 and 20,000 people. Loans can be made to builders, including individuals, trusts, associations, partnerships, limited partnerships, State and local public agencies, nonprofit organizations, corporations, and cooperatives.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Loan recipients must have good credit, experience, proven ability to manage, and demonstrate a need.
<b>Limitations</b>	Funds may not be used for nursing, special care, or institutional housing. Housing must be occupied by people with very low or moderate incomes or senior citizens age 62 or over. Communities of 10,000 to 20,000 people have some limitations.
<b>Availability</b>	Loans are approved by the State Director and are not subject to a disaster declaration by the President or Secretary of Agriculture.
<b>Comments</b>	Loans are made to nonprofit organizations at up to 102 percent of appraised value; others receiving loans receive up to 97 percent. RHS publishes a Notice of Funding Availability each year in the Federal Register announcing the places in which loan proposals will be requested.

## RURAL HOUSING SITE LOAN

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Housing Service United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Lucia McKinney, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Division, Rural Housing Service, (202) 720-1474 E-mail Address: lmckinne@rdasun2.rurdev.usda.gov <u>Local:</u> RD State Office
<b>Statute</b>	Housing Act of 1949, as amended, (Act of July 15, 1949, 63 Stat. 413, 42 U.S.C. 1441 et seq.), Section 523 and 524, Public Law 89-117; Public Law 89-754, Rural Housing Amendments of 1983 ( PL 98-181, November 30, 1983, 97 Stat. 1240, 42 U.S.C. 1490c) and U.S.C. 140d.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Loans.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Direct loans for the purchase and development of adequate sites, including necessary equipment which becomes a permanent part of the development; for water and sewer facilities if not available; payment of necessary engineering and legal fees, and closing costs.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Public or private nonprofit organizations or state and local governments interested in providing sites for housing.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	A private or public nonprofit organization that provides the development sites to qualified borrowers on a cost of development basis in own county and towns of 10,000 population or less and places up to 25,000 population under certain conditions.
<b>Limitation</b>	Loan limitation of \$100,000 without national office approval; loan funds cannot be used for refinancing of debts, payment of any fee or commission to any broker negotiator, or other person for the referral of a prospective applicant or solicitation of a loan; no loan funds will be used to pay operating costs or expenses of administration other than actual cash cost of incidental administrative expenses if funds to pay those expenses are not otherwise available. Repayment of loan is expected within two years.
<b>Availability</b>	No deadline limit.
<b>Comments</b>	Sites developed within Section 524 loans must be for housing low and very low income families and may be sold to families, nonprofit organizations, public agencies and cooperatives eligible for assistance under and Section of Title V of Housing Act of 1949, or under any other law which provides financial assistance. Sites developed with Section 523 loans must be for housing to be built by the self-help method.



## **WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT**

### **Economic Dislocated Worker Adjustment Assistance Act (EDWAA) National Reserve Account (NRA)**

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Employment and Training Administration Department of Labor
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Shirley Smith, Administrator, Office of Adult Services, (202) 693-3501 E-mail Address: smiths@doleta.gov <u>Local:</u> DOL Regional Office
<b>Statute</b>	Job Training Partnership Act of 1982, as amended, Title III(PL 97-300, Oct 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1322, (29 USC 1501 et seq.).
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Grant.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Funds to be used by States to provide temporary jobs (cleanup, rescue, repair, renovation and rebuilding activities) associated with such a major disaster. The State may submit an application for assistance in response to disaster events either Presidentially declared natural disasters or other situations in which the Secretary of Labor determines that an occurrence has caused massive deviation and economical dislocation to a community, under Title III B of 9 TPA.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Primarily are workers affected by the disaster, other eligible dislocated workers, and the long-term unemployed.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	To qualify individuals must have become unemployed as a consequence of the disaster or meet other eligibility criteria as defined above.
<b>Limitations</b>	None.
<b>Availability</b>	Projects are funded from the Secretary's National Reserve Account which is equal to 20 percent of the total funds allocated for the EDWAA Program.
<b>Comments</b>	Temporary jobs created under this type of grant must be in public or private nonprofit agencies for up to six months=duration. An individual worker may not receive more than \$12,000 in temporary job wages paid with NRA grant funds.

## DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE (DUA)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Employment and Training Administration Department of Labor (DOL)
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Robert Gillham, Team Leader, Federal Programs, (202) 693-3207; Darryl Bauman, (202) 693-3218; Sterling Green, (202) 693-3266 E-mail Address: gillhamr@doleta.gov <u>Local:</u> DOL Regional Office
<b>Statute</b>	Section 410 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5177, 5189a; DOL Regulations at 20 CFR 625.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Grants from Federal Emergency Assistance Agency via DOL.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Under section 410, weekly cash benefits for unemployed workers and unemployed self-employed workers and re-employment assistance.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Unemployed workers and unemployed self-employed workers.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Individuals who have either 1) exhausted their regular State unemployment compensation or 2) are otherwise not eligible for regular State unemployment compensation and who are unemployed as a result of a major disaster.
<b>Limitations</b>	None.
<b>Availability</b>	The program is implemented only upon a Presidential declaration of a major disaster designated for Individual Assistance.
<b>Comments</b>	DUA weekly payment amounts do not exceed the maximum weekly amount paid under the State unemployment compensation law. Payments may be made for up to 26 weeks after declaration. Payments are not based on need nor designed to replace all income loss due to unemployment or damage to property.

## **MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARM WORKERS**

(Migrant and Other Seasonal Farmworkers Program)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Employment and Training Administration Department of Labor
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Alicia Fernandez-Mott, Chief, Division of Seasonal Farmworker Programs, (202)693-3729 E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:afernandez@doleta.gov">afernandez@doleta.gov</a> <u>Local:</u> DOL National Office
<b>Statute</b>	Job Training Partnership Act of 1982, as amended, Title IV, Part A, Section 402, Public Law 97-300, 96 Stat. 1369, 29 U.S.C. 1672, and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, Title I, Section 167.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Formula and project grants for job training activities and other assistance.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	<p>Grant assistance is made available to (1) Public agencies and units of government. (2) Private nonprofit organizations authorized by their charters or articles of incorporation to operate employment and training programs.</p> <p>Under Section 167 of WIA (402 of JTPA), farm workers and their dependents may be offered services such as classroom training, on-the-job training, work experience, job development, job placement, and relocation assistance, education assistance, health services, and other supportive services.</p>
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Ultimate beneficiaries are farm workers who suffer chronic seasonal underemployment in the agricultural industry, and their dependents.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Limited to those individuals and their dependents who have, during any consecutive 12 months in the 24 month period preceding their application for enrollment, been a seasonal farm worker or migrant farm worker, and (a) received at least 50 percent of their total earned income or (b) been employed at least 50 percent of their total time in farm work, and (c) been identified as member of a family which receives public assistance or whose annual family income does not exceed the higher of either the poverty level or 70 percent of the lower-living standard income level.
<b>Limitations</b>	None.
<b>Availability</b>	This is an ongoing program and no one event triggers its implementation. Grantees are ultimately approved through a limited competition process by the Grant Officer, Division of Acquisition and Assistance, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, Washington D.C.
<b>Comments</b>	Currently transforming from JTPA to WIA, to be effective no later than July 1, 2000.

## ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

(Section 209 - 42 U.S.C. 3149)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Economic Development Administration (EDA) United States Department of Commerce
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> David Witschi, Director, Economic Adjustment Division, (202) 482-2659 E-mail Address: dwitschi@doc.gov <u>Local:</u> EDA Regional Office
<b>Statute</b>	Public Law 105-393, Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended.
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Grants.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Grants to a designated redevelopment area, a nonprofit organization, an economic development district, or a State or political subdivision thereof to prevent serious economic dislocations or to reestablish employment opportunities after a dislocation occurs. Grants can fund public infrastructure, business development (including funding of a revolving loan fund), planning/technical assistance, and any other assistance to alleviate long-term economic deterioration and sudden and severe economic dislocation.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Communities which will or have experienced major permanent job losses, due to a disaster or other economic downtrend.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	The area eligibility criteria for economic adjustment grants can be any one of three basic distress factors: low per capita income, high unemployment, or a special need.® Eligibility requirements are waived if there is a Presidentially declared disaster.
<b>Limitations</b>	Grants usually provide up to 50 percent of project cost.
<b>Availability</b>	The Assistant Secretary, Department of Commerce, has the authority to authorize this program. A Presidential disaster declaration is not required.
<b>Comments</b>	Communities can apply for strategy grants or implementation grants for drought-caused job losses, but must meet permanent job loss threshold level.

## ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOAN (EIDL)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Herbert Mitchell, Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance (202) 205-6734 E-mail Address: herbert.mitchell@sba.gov <u>Local:</u> Regional Office
<b>Statute</b>	Section 7 (b) (2) of the Small Business Act (PL 85-536, July 18, 1958, 72 Stat. 384, 15 USC 631 et seq.)
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Loans.
<b>Available Assistance</b>	Low-interest working capital loans to small nonfarm business and small agriculture cooperatives to help meet financial obligations arising from natural disasters.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Small nonfarm business and small agricultural cooperatives without credit elsewhere available.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Economic injury must be the direct result of disaster losses to farmers and eligibility is restricted to agri-dependent businesses in declared disaster areas.
<b>Limitations</b>	Assistance is limited to the amount necessary to carry the concern until resumption of normal operation, and is limited to an amount beyond the capacity of the concern or its owners to provide. Only economic injury caused by the declared disaster is eligible; refinancing of pre-disaster debts or other purposes not related to the disaster are not eligible. Agriculture enterprises (including farmers and ranchers) are not eligible for SBA disaster assistance (except for nurseries in drought).
<b>Availability</b>	<p>When the Secretary of Agriculture declares a natural disaster due to agriculture losses, the SBA EIDL program is automatically available to small business adversely affected as a result of the agricultural losses to agricultural enterprises. That is, small businesses dependent on the agriculture producers would be eligible for assistance for the adverse economic effects of the loss of business or increased costs resulting from the crop or livestock losses to the producers. Such businesses might include suppliers to farmers and ranchers, packers, shippers, food processors, and others directly dependent on trade with the agricultural enterprises.</p> <p>If the President were to declare a major disaster due to drought, with individual assistance included, then both the SBA physical disaster loan program and EIDL program would be automatically made available. The EIDL assistance would be available to any small businesses suffering economic injury from the drought itself rather than only the impacts stemming from agricultural losses. Thus, small businesses dependent on water supplies, including marinas, resorts, and others, would be eligible. Additionally, businesses of all sizes, homeowners and renters would be eligible for any direct physical property damage caused by the drought.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	Maximum total loan to any one business is \$1,500,000, except for businesses determined by SBA to be major sources of employment.

## BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL LOAN PROGRAM (B&I)

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Rural Development (RD), Rural Business-Cooperative Service United States Department of Agriculture
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National</u> : Carolyn Parker, Director, Business and Industry Division, (202) 690-4103 E-mail Address: carolyn.parker@usda.gov <u>Local</u> : State RD Office
<b>Statute</b>	Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended. Section 310B, (Public Law 92-419, Aug 30, 1972, 86 Stat. 663, 7 USC 1932)
<b>Form of Assistance</b>	Direct and Guaranteed Loans.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Basic uses are for developing or financing business or industry, increasing employment, and controlling or abating pollution. Funds can be used for real estate, operation expenses, and purchases of equipment for support of businesses. As examples, funds can be used to acquire businesses, construct buildings, purchase or fabricate equipment and fixtures, and working capital.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Rural businesses (see comments).
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Loans and loan guarantees are not available to charitable institutions, church-sponsored or fraternal organizations.
<b>Limitations</b>	Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans are limited to \$25 million. Business and Industry Direct Loans are limited to \$10 million.
<b>Availability</b>	Subject to the availability of funds, this program is available for drought aid but it is not limited to drought or other emergencies. This program does not require a major disaster declaration by the President or Secretary of Agriculture to be triggered.
<b>Comments</b>	Loans must be used to assist businesses in rural areas. Rural areas are generally outside cities of more than 50,000 inhabitants and their immediately adjacent urbanized areas. For information on a specific site you should contact the Rural Development State Office in the State in which the project is to be located. Priority is given to projects located in communities of 25,000 or less population.

## DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

<b>Administering Agency</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
<b>Contact</b>	<u>National:</u> Robert Adamcik, Deputy Executive Associate Director, Response and Recovery (202) 646-3162 E-mail Address: robert.adamcik@fema.gov <u>Local:</u> FEMA Regional Office
<b>Statute</b>	The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, P.L. 93-288, as amended.
<b>Forms of Assistance</b>	Cost-shared grants and technical assistance.
<b>Assistance Available</b>	Cost-shared grants to State and local agencies to meet threats to life and property from major disasters and to save lives, protect property, public health and safety, and to reduce threats from catastrophes. Assistance includes repairing and restoring public and private nonprofit facilities and providing community services (including water and fire suppression). Assistance to individuals includes disaster housing (including mortgage and rental assistance), unemployment assistance, crisis counseling, and grants for unmet needs. Federal agencies may be directed to provide technical assistance and advisory personnel to assist State and local agencies.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	Local and State governments, private nonprofit facilities, Indian tribes, families, and individuals.
<b>Qualifying Requirements</b>	Requires declaration by Governor that an emergency or a major disaster exists which is beyond the capability of the State and local agencies and a Presidential declaration of a major disaster. A major disaster is normally one which requires Federal assistance beyond the normal assistance available under other Federal agency authorities, e.g., Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of the Army, United States Army Corps of Engineers.
<b>Limitations</b>	The President may make an emergency declaration unilaterally in areas of primary Federal responsibility. Grants to individuals and families are limited to \$13,100 (FY97) each in the Individual and Family Grant (IFG) program. IFG and Public Assistance cost share is normally at 75 percent Federal share/25 percent State share.
<b>Availability</b>	Drought is specifically included in the Act as a type of event which may cause a major disaster. The Act is very broad, but droughts may not produce emergency conditions and physical damage which the Stafford Act is primarily intended to address.