

DEC 29 2017



FEMA

MEMORANDUM FOR: Michael Byrne
Federal Coordinating Officer
FEMA DR-4336-PR, FEMA DR-4339-PR

Thomas Von Essen
Regional Administrator
FEMA Region II

FROM: *bor* Alex Amparo
Assistant Administrator
Recovery Directorate

Kathleen B Fox

SUBJECT: Transitional Sheltering Assistance Request #1 For
FEMA DR-4336-PR; FEMA DR-4339-PR

This memorandum is in response to the request from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to extend the Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) Program for FEMA DR-4336-PR and FEMA DR-4339-PR. This assistance is authorized under Section 403, 42 U.S.C. § 5170b, Essential Assistance, and Section 408, 42 U.S.C. § 5174, Federal Assistance to Individuals and Households, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), as amended. The TSA policy is recorded in the Individuals and Households Program Unified Guidance (IHPUG), dated September 30, 2016. TSA is intended to provide short-term sheltering to displaced applicants from declared disaster areas who, after an evacuation, cannot return to their homes.

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requests that the TSA extension run from January 14, 2018 through March 20, 2018 for a period of 66 days with an eligibility review in 30 days. This extension is needed due to a large number of damaged homes across the island and lack of available utilities in many areas. Survivors are still in need of short-term, temporary sheltering options while their homes are restored and repaired. The Commonwealth requests that applicants whose NEMIS records indicate the following will be ineligible for assistance during this extension:

- INONV: Occupancy Not Verified
- INPR: Not Primary Residence
- IDUPA: Duplicate Application
- IID: Insufficient Damage, with utilities on

FEMA approves the requested ineligibility criteria; all other TSA eligible applicants that do not meet the above listed criteria will remain eligible through this extension period. FEMA approves the extended period of assistance from January 14, 2018 through March 20, 2018 to reflect 66 days of TSA with an eligibility review on February 14, 2018 (33 days into the extension period, i.e., the mid-term of the extension). TSA is approved at 100% of the established General Services Administration (GSA) lodging rate by locality to include applicable taxes. The Commonwealth is responsible for the applicable cost share.

Any request to extend the TSA Program must be received by the Recovery Directorate Front Office at FEMA Headquarters no later than 1700 hours (Eastern Standard Time) on March 1, 2018, and accompanied by an Exit Strategy. The strategy must include a narrative explaining the progress since the previous submittal, detailed analysis of a housing strategy, and a description of the TSA transition efforts to include future ineligibility criteria being considered.

Please contact Zachary Usher at Zachary.Usher@fema.dhs.gov or (202) 834-6791 with questions or concerns.

cc: Katherine B. Fox, Acting Division Director, Individual Assistance
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