

Quarantine & Isolation and Alternative Care Site Guidance

Guidance established by Unified Command of Utah Department of Health and Utah Division of Emergency Management to assist local health departments and emergency managers in their efforts to identify, procure, run and maintain a facility should the need arise during the COVID-19 response.

OVERVIEW

Local jurisdictions in Utah are responsible for identifying and managing Quarantine and Isolation (Q&I) sites. These temporary facilities help protect the public by preventing exposure to people who may have the Coronavirus. Sites may include the construction of a temporary facility or leasing an existing structure, the decision health departments make should be based upon what is prudent and reasonable. Eligibility for FEMA Public Assistance (PA) reimbursement for these Q&I sites will be based on surge need and in response to an immediate threat to lives. Eligible FEMA applicants include State and Territorial Governments, Indian Tribal Governments, Local Governments, and Certain Private Nonprofits (PNPs) subject to PNP eligibility requirements.

Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who may have been exposed to see if they become sick.

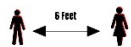


Isolation separates sick people from people who are not sick with COVID-19.



Utah's Non-Congregate Sheltering Plan to FEMA proposed securing sites for emergency healthcare use, including but not limited to, mass care facilities including conference centers assessed by the US Army Corps of Engineers, hotel and motel rooms, college dormitories, shuttered healthcare facilities, and other facilities with similar layouts. Also under consideration are travel trailers, cabins, homes, apartments and other facilities converted to fit the need. As your jurisdiction identifies specific Q&I sites you may consider any of the above, if the facility you want to use is not listed be sure to check with the State of Utah to confirm eligibility for reimbursement. FEMA has approved NCS in Utah through May 7, 2020, unless the public health needs terminate earlier.

FEMA must give pre-approval for all shelters. If work has already started to prepare a shelter in your area contact the State of Utah immediately and they will help you to secure a waiver from FEMA Region VIII.



All sheltering must be conducted in accordance with standards and/or guidance approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) and must be implemented in a manner that incorporates social distancing measures.



The population to be placed in non-congregate sheltering includes individuals who are under quarantine orders or recommendations to isolate, individuals who meet criteria to be placed at an alternate medical facility site, and both high/low risk, and (non) symptomatic individuals testing positive for COVID-19 who do not have a place to reside or cannot return to their residence.



The population also includes first responders and healthcare workers who need to quarantine safely without exposing their families or to keep them closer to the facilities they work.

Grants Portal

Before you set up a Q&I site you must enter a [Request for Public Assistance \(RPA\) into FEMA's Grants Portal](#). There is a link to a webinar and helpline for Grants Portal in the additional resources below.

STANDARDS FOR Q&I SITES

In order to ensure compliance with federal reimbursement in regards to the COVID-19 response, a jurisdiction will want to ensure that the identified Q&I sites are:



Not in the Special Flood Hazard Zone. Please work with your local floodplain administrator. Should you need additional assistance, please contact the State Floodplain Manager Kathy Holder 385-315-3566 kholder@utah.gov. If no other alternative sites are available and you choose a location in a flood hazard zone, FEMA will require an Emergency Evacuation Plan for the site.



Establish security measures to maintain privacy and protection of residents.



Special structural and system modifications; HEPA filtration, backup generator, temporary privacy barriers, etc.



Sites must be comprehensive with wrap around services (laundry, food, access to restroom, shower, waste removal, etc.)



Include provisions for the care of individuals with disabilities or access and functional needs, including service animals.



Any procurements for non-congregate housing units must comply with [FEMA's Procurement for Grants Conducted under Exigent or Emergency Circumstances](#) guidance and applicable requirements, which includes ensuring there is a termination for convenience clause in contracts.



Utah and local jurisdictions must comply with applicable [environmental and historic preservation laws](#), regulations, and executive orders when establishing non-congregate housing units.



Alternative Care Sites (ACS) or the conversion of facilities for the provision of emergency medical care must be approved by FEMA before they open. Please contact the Utah Department of Health and State of Utah for guidance on an ACS to ensure compliance with HHS/CDC guidelines and to qualify for FEMA reimbursement.

VERIFICATION

Consult with your local legal counsel and the State of Utah on contracts/agreements for these sites. It will be the responsibility of the local health department in coordination with the emergency manager, to maintain agreements and contracts with these sites. Have the documents ready before it is time to open the shelter.



Funding for non-congregate sheltering cannot be duplicated by another federal agency, including the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HHS, or CDC. FEMA is requiring a written statement from the applicant for each NCS stating that other federal funds will not be accepted. Confirm with your local health department and State of Utah Health Department to ensure all CDC funding has been exhausted and there is no duplication of benefits.



FEMA PA will be provided at a 75 percent federal cost share and FEMA will reimburse applicants through normal reimbursement procedures FEMA > Recipient State > Sub-recipient Local Jurisdiction. Set up a cost code to help you track costs. Your finance department should be compiling these costs along the way and reporting them to Tiffany Snowball at the State of Utah.

DETAILED INFORMATION

Costs incurred in Q&I site procurement and maintenance are reimbursable if the site falls in compliance with federal guidelines. A detailed list of eligible activities is provided here [List of Services Qualifying for Reimbursement](#).



Please note that costs associated with support services like case management, mental health counseling and similar services are not eligible for reimbursement under PA programs.

Please refer to the [Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#) (PAPPG) for additional information.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Grants Portal Webinar](#) Grants Portal Helpline 866-337-8448

[FEMA Non-Congregate Sheltering \(NCS\) Fact Sheet](#)

[FEMA EHP Fact Sheet](#)

[FEMA Floodplain Fact Sheet](#)

[Federal Health Resilience Task Force Alternate Care Site \(ACS\) Toolkit and Talking Points](#)

QUESTIONS

Contact Utah Department of Health Pete Adams 385-272-2043 padams@utah.gov

Contact State of Utah Grants Portal Expert Eric Martineau 801-946-4022 emartineau@utah.gov

Contact State of Utah NCS Questions Tiffany Snowball 385-321-6947 tiffanysnowball@utah.gov