

# NEBRASKA

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY FUND GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Revised: July 7, 2022

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Governor's Authorized Representative

Good Life. Great Strength.

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**PROMULGATION**

As established by Nebraska RSS 81-829.42, the Governor's Emergency Fund was established to provide appropriations for the Governor to expend for any state of Emergency. This Governor's Emergency Fund Guidelines for Public Officials plan serves as the official written policies and procedures for disasters or emergencies that may result in the necessity to provide state financial assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund.

This revised Governor's Emergency Fund Guidelines for Public Officials plan ensures consistency with current policy guidance and serves as a basis for improving the coordination among all of Nebraska's emergency management partners. We the undersigned do hereby promulgate this revised Governor's Emergency Fund Guidelines for Public Officials plan.



Major General Daryl Bohac  
Adjutant General  
Nebraska Military Department  
Nebraska Emergency  
Management Agency



Ervin L. Portis  
Governor's Authorized Representative  
Assistant Director, Nebraska Emergency  
Management Agency



## RECORD OF CHANGES

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will be responsible for making updates and revisions to this document. The document should undergo a full review annually. Changes will be made on an as needed basis and recorded in this Record of Changes.

<b>Date Posted</b>	<b>Change (s)</b>	<b>Page/Paragraph</b>	<b>Made By</b>
February 2020	County Property valuation web address	Page 8 paragraph 2.2.2	Donny Christensen
February 2020	Added website address for county FHWA road maps	Page 10 Paragraph 2.3.3	Donny Christensen
March 2021	County Property valuation web address updated	Page 7 paragraph 2.2.2	Donny Christensen
March 2021	Added explanation that threshold is not an annual threshold but per incident	Page 7 paragraph 2.2.5	Donny Christensen
March 2021	Added clarification language regarding assistance process	Page 11 paragraph 2.4.1	Donny Christensen
March 2021	Clarified language regarding State assistance request	Page 13 paragraph 2.6	Donny Christensen
March 2021	Removed copy of ISR	Page 15 and 16	Donny Christensen
May 2021	Added unincorporated "community" language	Page 7 Paragraph 2.2.1	Donny Christensen
May 2021	Alternate/Improved project language added	Page 9 Paragraph 2.3.3	Donny Christensen
May 2021	Clarification on Declaration Requirements	Page 9 and 10 paragraph 2.4.1	Donny Christensen
March 2021	City/Village Property Valuation web address	Page 7 paragraph 2.2.2	Donny Christensen
July 2022	Governor's Authorized Representative changed		Donny Christensen
July 2022	Added Annex D	Page 2 & Annex D	Erv Portis
July 2022	Added text from 81-829.42 N.R.S.	Page 6 Section 1.1	Donny Christensen
July 2022	Added citation 13-1612 N.R.S. Political subdivision defined	Page 6 Section 1.2	Donny Christensen
July 2022	Added text from 81-829.40(3) N.R.S.	Page 7 Section 2.1	Donny Christensen
July 2022	Added requirement to make claims on applicable insurance policies	Page 9 Section 2.3.3	Donny Christensen

July 2022	Added text clarifying when public power districts and/or electric cooperative corporations are eligible for state cost share on declared federal disasters	Page 10 Section 2.3.3	Donny Christensen
July 2022	Added that self-deployed entities are not eligible for reimbursement	Page 14 Section 2.5.3	Donny Christensen
July 2022	Removed redundant and/or unnecessary text, clarified that notification by a local EM or incident command to NEMA is necessary for reimbursement, added updated chart of rates or reimbursement for resourced equipment used in fire fighting	Annex A	Donny Christensen

# Governor's Emergency Fund Guide for Public Officials

## BASIC PLAN

### 1 - Introduction

#### 1.1 - Purpose

The Governor's Emergency Fund was established by Nebraska RRS 81-829.42 to provide appropriations for the Governor to expend for any state of emergency. It is the intent of the Legislature that the first recourse shall be to funds regularly appropriated to state and local agencies. If the Governor finds that the demands placed upon these funds are unreasonably great, he or she may make funds available from the Governor's Emergency Program. The Governor may provide assistance to political subdivisions that have suffered from a disaster or emergency to such an extent as to impose a severe financial burden exceeding the ordinary capacity of the subdivision. Such assistance is designed to help political subdivisions of the state maintain or promptly restore essential public facilities or services when threatened by or damaged as the result of a natural or man-made disaster. Assistance will be provided at the direction of the Governor.

#### 1.2 - Scope

1.2.1- Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) under the direction of the Adjutant General administers the Governor's Emergency Fund.

1.2.2- For the purposes of the Governor's Emergency Fund a political subdivision is a city, village, county, school district, or other units of government below state level, including entities created by local public agencies pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperative Act. (*Nebraska Revised Statute 13-1612 Political subdivision, defined.*)

#### 1.3- Authorities

Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska Section 81-829.42 Governor's Emergency Fund

#### 1.4- Situation/Assumptions

1.4.1- It is recognized that while appropriations are adequate to meet the normal needs, the necessity exists for anticipating and making advance provision to care for the unusual and extraordinary burdens imposed on the State and its political subdivisions. (81-829.42(1))

1.4.2- The Governor's Emergency Fund was established and shall be expended, upon direction of the Governor, for any state of emergency. The Adjutant General shall administer the fund. (81-829.42(2))

1.4.3- It is the intent that the first recourse shall be to funds regularly appropriated to state and local agencies. If the Governor finds that the demands placed upon these funds are unreasonably great, he or she may make the funds available from the Governor's Emergency Fund. Assistance shall be provided from the Fund to political subdivisions of Nebraska which have suffered from a disaster to such an extent as to impose a severe financial burden exceeding the ordinary capacity of the subdivision affected. (81-829.42(3))

## 1.5- Schedule of Revision

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will be responsible for making updates and revisions to this document. The document should undergo a full review on an annual basis. Changes will be made on an as needed basis and recorded in the Record of Changes on Page 4.

## 2 – Concept of Operations

### 2.1- Emergency Proclamation

The Governor must have signed a State of Emergency Proclamation as detailed in Nebraska RRS 81-829.40(3) before the Governor's Emergency Fund is available for use. Under certain emergency circumstances, the Governor may verbally approve a State of Emergency Proclamation until the earliest possible time that a written proclamation can be signed.

### 2.2- Threshold/Deductibles

2.2.1- Because the Governor's Emergency Fund provides financial assistance to political subdivisions only when disaster/emergency costs exceed ordinary capacity, **threshold deductibles** are established below.

- A County shall be eligible for aid when the repair costs for damage to public property and/or disaster relief service costs exceed:
  - A sum equal to the amount that would be raised by the Tax Rate of 0.00035 on the dollar of the valuation of all taxable property in the county including property located within the cities and/or villages, or
  - A sum equal to the amount that would be raised by the Tax Rate of 0.00052 on the dollar of the valuation of all taxable property in the county, excluding property located within the cities or villages,

- For counties organized under townships, expenditures by the county and all townships therein shall be totaled for the purposes of the threshold deductible,
- Expenditures by unincorporated “communities” within a county shall be added to the County total for the purposes of the threshold deductible,
- Any city or village shall be eligible for aid when the repair costs to damaged public property and/or disaster relief service costs exceed a sum equal to the amount that would be raised by a tax rate of 0.00035 on the dollar on the valuation of all taxable property in the city or village.

2.2.2- Valuation of taxable property can be found at:

- County property valuation is found online at: [CompVT-Subdiv\\_propType 2020-2021state\\_93counties.pdf \(nebraska.gov\)](https://revenue.nebraska.gov/PAD/2021-annual-report-property-assessment-division) Counties are listed in alphabetical order,
- City or Village property valuation is found online at: <https://revenue.nebraska.gov/PAD/2021-annual-report-property-assessment-division> (Table 15).

2.2.3- Municipality owned utilities and other political subdivision(s) requesting assistance will provide the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) with certification that a severe financial burden exists. In all cases, the utility or political subdivision must prove that the financial burden exceeds the ordinary capacity of the political subdivision to recover.

2.2.4- All other Governmental entities deemed eligible for disaster assistance will receive assistance as determined by the Governor based upon the severity of the financial burden and their ability to recover.

2.2.5- After the threshold deductible has been met, the state may match all eligible expenditures at the rate of 50% or at a rate determined by the Governor. Threshold deductible is removed once for each incident and is not an “Annual threshold.”

## 2.3- Eligibility Requirements

2.3.1- All state disaster eligibility and documentation requirements along with basic guidelines follow FEMA’s policies and procedures – see FEMA Policy 104-009-02 – Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) Unless otherwise specified in this guide. The version of the PAPPG to be used for a state disaster is the version in use during which time the Governor declares a disaster. FEMA Policy 104-009-02 can be found by searching the internet for “FEMA Public Assistance Policy and Program Guide” or NEMA Public Assistance Staff can provide the appropriate PAPPG version necessary.

2.3.2- A disaster damaged facility (road, bridge, public facility, etc.) with less than \$3,000 in eligible repair costs is not eligible for assistance from the Governor’s Emergency Fund. If there



are multiple sites at/on the same facility, they may be combined to reach the \$3,000 minimum threshold, subject to the conditions below:

- Damage repairs must not be part of normal maintenance, i.e. graveled sites with minimum grading are not eligible,
- The disaster damaged site must be restored to pre-disaster design, subject to codes and standards, in place prior to the disaster. Previous inspection reports or maintenance records may be required to prove pre-disaster condition,
- Only eligible damages, incurred during the declared incident period, as a result of the declared disaster, and in a declared area are eligible for assistance.

2.3.3- Eligible categories of work follow the basic Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) policies and procedures and may include:

- Opening, repairing, restoring public roads and highways,
- Repairing and restoring public infrastructure (buildings, bridges, etc.) Claims must be made on applicable insurance policies and proceeds from insurance claims must be removed from assistance amount,
- Restoration of publicly owned facilities of political subdivisions,
- Furnishing medical services and supplies to prevent the spread of disease and epidemics
- Quelling riots and civil disturbances,
- Clearing or removing debris and wreckage resulting from the disaster event which threatens public health or safety from publicly owned land or water,
  - Debris cleanup will be paid based on documented costs (labor/equipment) to include contracted work on PUBLIC property, or a calculation of debris pile size (cubic yard) times a compaction factor (typically .66) times the current FEMA rate of reimbursement for debris cleanup,
- Other recovery costs as are necessary for restoration of essential government services, and
- Emergency work for wildfire. See wildfire portion of Governor's Emergency Fund guide for details.

2.3.3- Ineligible categories of work not eligible for assistance include:

- Roads funded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FHWA provides funds to counties for maintenance and repair of certain roads in each county. The county maps showing which roads are on the Federal Aid system are kept by the Nebraska Department of Transportation and are found at the following website: <https://dot.nebraska.gov/travel/map-library/func-by-county/> Use the "National Functional Classification" maps.
- Repair costs related to disaster damages that are eligible for funding from other state or federal programs are not eligible for financial assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund. Other program funds are considered primary sources for financial assistance. Assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund is supplemental to all other available

State and Federal assistance programs and **ALL INSURANCE POLICIES**. As such, the Governor's Fund is utilized as the last source for state financial disaster assistance.

- The following exceptions apply to eligibility of work and financial assistance unless part of a federally declared disaster:
  - No emergency snow funding,
  - No donated resource funding,
  - No alternate project funding, no state funding in federal disaster either,
  - No improved project funding,
  - No repetitive damage site coverage,
  - No Private Non-Profit (PNP's), and
  - No FEMA Pilot Programs.
- Under a federally declared disaster there is typically limited or no state cost share for improved or alternate projects. The Governor has final discretion as to state share funding on these projects when part of a federal disaster declaration.
  - Improved projects – an improved project is a project in which damaged facilities are improved beyond pre-disaster condition while repair/replacement work is being completed. i.e. a water line damaged during incident period is increased in size in anticipation of future necessity WITHOUT a current code requirement. The cost of restoring to pre-disaster size/capacity can usually be calculated and a state share may be paid for that calculated amount.
  - Alternate projects – an alternate project is one in which a Political Sub-Division determines disaster damaged “site” NOT necessary to be repaired/replaced. Instead the sub-division can request FEMA approval to use the money designated for this “site” for another purpose, e.g. County decides NOT to replace a bridge and instead use the money to purchase county equipment.
- Other state entities are not eligible for funding from the Governor's Emergency Fund. The Governor has final discretion regarding providing financial assistance to the following entities:
  - Public Power Districts and Electric Cooperative Corporations are not eligible for assistance through the Governor's Emergency Fund unless the following condition is met. They may be applicants to FEMA Public Assistance Program under a federal disaster declaration.
    - If the State threshold to request a federal disaster declaration IS NOT met without PPD and/or ECC damages, then the PPD(s) and/or ECC(s) would be eligible for a State cost share on their FEMA Public Assistance projects. The cost share would be at the Governor's Discretion.
    - If the State threshold to request a federal disaster declaration IS MET without Public Power District (PPD) and/or Electric Cooperative Corporation (ECC) damages; then the PPD(s) and ECC(s) are NOT eligible for a State cost share on their FEMA Public Assistance Projects.
  - Irrigation Districts and Natural Resource Districts are not eligible for assistance through the Governor's Emergency Fund. Such districts may be applicants to FEMA under a federal disaster declaration.
  - Private Not for Profit (PNP) are not eligible for state funding except for state share funding under a federal disaster declaration.

### 2.3.4- Additional eligibility requirements

- Proof of proper insurance coverage is required, and insurance payments are subtracted from the amount of the damage costs to determine eligible costs.
- NEMA is to be notified of an incident within 24 hours of the event.
- Proof of damages, i.e. video or still picture taken before clean up.

## 2.4- Declaration Process- Local

2.4.1- Incident Status reports must be submitted to NEMA as soon as possible, or, within 24 hours of the event to ensure proper notification of the event

- **The local Emergency Manager shall make the initial report of a threat of damage or actual damages to NEMA utilizing the NEMA Incident Status Report (ISR).** Local Elected Officials should communicate with their Local Emergency Manager regarding filling out and submitting an ISR to NEMA. The Local Emergency Manager has access to the ISR and is the individual responsible for submitting an ISR to NEMA.
- Upon receipt of the ISR the Adjutant General may require further investigation to determine the nature and extent of the emergency and type or amount of assistance required.
- Taking pictures of the damages as soon as possible will help record the damages for State and Federal Officials who may visit damage sites after debris is removed or repairs have begun or are completed.

2.4.2- **Documentation Requirements:** The jurisdiction should immediately begin documentation of response expenses and costs. All disaster related damages must be identified and reported to NEMA in writing no later than sixty (60) days following the disaster event to be eligible for the programs. Attachment 1 provides worksheets that may be used to provide a summary document of expenses including (actual labor and equipment sheets, invoices and contracts will be required to support costs incurred).

- **Regular** and overtime hours of force account labor for permanent work.
- Overtime hours only for debris removal and emergency protective measures; all equipment time may be reimbursable and as a result all labor time must be documented to support equipment time.
- Equipment use and hours; costs will be calculated based on the most current FEMA. Equipment cost codes, or, previously adopted local equipment rates if determined to be reasonable.
- Materials used during response and recovery.
- Contracted work determined to be eligible that followed proper procurement procedures.

2.4.3- **Local Disaster Declaration:** The local jurisdiction shall make a determination on the ability of the jurisdiction to continue response activities and to recover from the disaster. If the determination is that the jurisdiction will require response assistance or financial assistance, the Chief Elected official of the local entity will declare that a State of Emergency exists and sign a

local Declaration of Emergency on official stationery. The declaration must be filed with NEMA to be effective. The information may be phoned into NEMA with a faxed or emailed copy of the declaration and ISR to follow as soon as possible as stated in section 2.4.1.

- The Local Emergency Declaration indicates that normal resources cannot effectively respond to the disaster or have been expended for response and recovery efforts to the point that remaining resources are inadequate to meet all disaster related needs.
- Before a city, town or village may request assistance from the state, the municipality **MUST** notify the County Emergency Manager where the city, town, or village is located of the situation occurring or anticipated to occur and an ISR must be submitted to NEMA following the procedures discussed in previous paragraphs. The County **MUST** examine the needs of the municipality and inform the municipality of the county's ability to provide assistance. If a County cannot provide the needed assistance, the municipality, working through and with the County Emergency Manager may request assistance from the State.
- Both a Municipality and County disaster declaration is required prior to being eligible for a federal disaster assistance under a federal declaration.
- A local emergency declaration by a village, city or county is **NOT** a request for assistance from the State. A separate application for assistance will be part of the documentation package from the NEMA State Public Assistance Officer.

The local disaster Declaration of Emergency is required before any State assistance may be made available.

- Following receipt of the Local Disaster Declaration, NEMA will contact the local Emergency Manager to begin gathering information on the severity of the situation.
- Based on the severity of the situation, the NEMA Public Assistance Officer (PAO), in coordination with the Recovery Section Administrator, Recovery Section Manager, and the Governor's Authorized Representative may arrange to visit the impacted jurisdiction. The Recovery Section Manager, or designee, will work with the jurisdiction to explain and complete necessary documentation and paperwork that must be submitted. This documentation and/or information will be used to inform the Governor's Office of the extent of the impact to the local Jurisdiction in order for the Governor's Office to determine IF assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund is warranted.
- If the Governor's Office determines that assistance is warranted (by signing a State Proclamation) the local jurisdiction will be informed of the decision and will be provided an application for state assistance by the Recovery Section Manager, or designee.
- The Recovery Section Manager, or designee, will inform the local jurisdiction what additional documentation is required to be submitted to NEMA to process the request for assistance.
- When a disaster of such severity and magnitude occurs that a request for federal assistance is anticipated, NEMA may immediately request a Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) with FEMA Region VII after the initial state inspection, whereby a

Federal Representative(s) will accompany State and Local Representative(s) on a detailed survey of the damaged facilities.

- If the PDA determines that a federal disaster declaration is possible, the local jurisdiction will be notified of the procedures to follow. In the event a federal disaster is declared, elected officials and department heads will be invited to, and should make every effort to attend, an applicant's briefing. At that meeting, they will be given the forms and instructions necessary to participate in the federal programs.

## 2.5- Declaration Process- State/Federal

2.5.1- State Declaration/Assistance: If the Governor declares a State Disaster Declaration, any of all of the following activities may occur.

- NEMA may deploy a field team to the affected jurisdiction to serve as liaison with that jurisdiction.
  - The local affected jurisdiction shall have instituted Incident Command prior to NEMA responding and will provide NEMA with the following information:
    - Name of the Incident Commander,
    - Contact information for the Incident Commander including a phone number,
    - Location of the Incident Command Post and the local emergency operations center if one is activated.
- The NEMA field team and assignments will be determined by the scope of the disaster, and will ensure an incident management system is implemented.
- Members of the field team may assist the local Incident Commander in assessing the response needs and ensure a system for tracking resources is in place that includes expenses and mutual aid entities that are requested and are necessary to complete the response.

### 2.5.2- Mutual Aid

- Entities requested by the impacted jurisdiction under existing Mutual Aid Agreements will respond under the terms of the existing agreement. These Agreements must include specifics regarding billing procedures and/or length of time of responding without billing the requesting entity if applicable.
- There may be a verbal agreement concerning the type, extent, terms, conditions and costs of the assistance when the assistance is requested by the impacted jurisdiction with no pre-existing Mutual Aid Agreement, or where there are no dollar amounts for services in existing Mutual Aid Agreements. Post event verbal agreements must be documented in

writing as soon as possible. The agreement must be signed and dated by all parties involved no later than **72 hours following the event.**

- **Entities that self-deploy are not eligible for reimbursement.**
- Following a State Declaration of disaster the Adjutant General, through the NEMA Assistant Director, working directly with the local Emergency Manager, Incident Commander and elected officials of the declared jurisdiction, may name a responding entity as a State Emergency Response Team (SERT) under State Statute 81-829.52 - .55 (See Detailed description of SERT operations later in Guide).

2.5.3- Federal Declaration/Assistance: In the event the Incident becomes a Presidentially Declared Disaster, the declared jurisdiction may become an applicant under the Federal Public Assistance (PA) program.

- Entities requested by the declared jurisdiction, who are responding outside their home jurisdiction, are not eligible applicants to the PA program. However, if the pre-existing or post-event mutual aid agreement includes payment requirements, such entities can bill the declared jurisdiction based on their documented expenses and the declared jurisdiction may then request reimbursement for these expenses under the PA program. If the request is for eligible expenses the declared jurisdiction will be reimbursed for the federal share, and applicable state share of matching funds.
- Entities name as SERT's will be reimbursed by NEMA and are not eligible to be applicants under the PA program.
- **Self-deployed entities are not eligible for reimbursement.**

## 2.6- Request for State Financial Assistance

- A request for financial assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund should be made only when a political subdivision has exceeded its ability to respond to or recover from an incident AND has exceeded the threshold deductible. The application must be initiated by the Chief Elected Official or an appointed Authorized Representative.
- State inspection of disaster related damages or documentation will determine the eligibility of the applicant and work projects. This information will be provided to the Governor's Office to assist the Governor in determining if Financial Assistance is necessary along with the amount of financial assistance to be provided from the Governor' Emergency Fund to aid in disaster recovery.
- Representative(s) from NEMA will assist local jurisdictions in completing the required forms as necessary.
- Upon receipt of a completed ISR, Local Emergency Declaration and either site inspection or review of documentation the Adjutant General may:
  - Recommend the Governor provide emergency financial support from the Governor's Emergency Fund, and

- Request, on behalf of the Governor, a joint damage assessment with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 2.6.1 Reimbursement

Before receiving financial aid from the Governor's Emergency Fund, completion of the following steps is necessary.

- Assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund will be in the form of reimbursement after the applicant has submitted an approved claim, satisfactory evidence indicating the disaster relief measures for which assistance is being sought have been accomplished, and all bills for such measure have been paid. Reimbursement of expended funds, prior to completion of a project, may be considered in cases where NEMA has documentation that cash flow is a problem for the local political subdivision. Claims of this nature will be reviewed on a case – by – case basis and approved by the NEMA Assistant Director.
- Eligible applicants will not receive reimbursement from the Governor's Emergency Fund prior to the State's receipt of all required documentation set forth in these guidelines to support the applicant's claim, unless approved under the previous paragraph.
- NEMA will conduct a final review/desk audit of all documentation to verify that work has been completed and all bills have been paid, prior to final payment.

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will initiate the payment process upon receipt and review of all required documentation to support an applicant's claim for reimbursement from the Governor's Emergency Fund.

- Reimbursement, at a rate of up to 50% (or as directed by the Governor) minus the threshold deductible, will be based on completed and paid projects identified by the State to be eligible for assistance.
- Public Assistance and Budget/Fiscal staff of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will review all documentation, then prepare and submit a payment voucher to the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services.
- The preferred method of payment to applicants for approved, eligible disaster repair costs is by electronic transfer. If the reimbursement amount is over twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) the payment can only be made by electronic transfer.





# ATTACHMENT 1

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FORCE ACCOUNT LABOR RECORD																																
APPLICANT			#REF!	PW REF NO.		#REF!	CATEGORY		#REF!	DISASTER #		#REF!	DATES & HOURS WORKED EACH WEEK								After review of the pay policy, are EXEMPT employees eligible for OT?		Enter OT Rate									
			#REF!	#REF!		#REF!	#REF!		#REF!	#REF!		#REF!	#REF!										TOTAL REG HOURS		REG TIME TOTAL		#REF!					
EMPLOYEE NAME / TITLE			STATUS		REG / OT																											

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
**FORCE ACCOUNT EQUIPMENT RECORD**

APPLICANT		PW REF NO.		CATEGORY	DISASTER #																									
#REFI		#REFI		#REFI	#REFI	#REFI																								
EQUIPMENT / OPERATOR INFORMATION										DATES / HOURS USED EACH DAY											TOTAL HOURS	TOTAL COST								
Equipment Name (Unit Number, Make, Model)	Operator's Name	HP	Capacity	Unit	Equip. Code #	Equip. Rate	1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/7	1/8	1/9	1/10	1/11	1/12	1/13	1/14	1/15	1/16	1/17	1/18	1/19	1/20	1/21	TOTAL HOURS	TOTAL COST	
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FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY								
FORCE ACCOUNT MATERIALS SUMMARY RECORD								
APPLICANT		PW REF NO.		CATEGORY		DISASTER		
#REF!		#REF!		#REF!		#REF!		
Vendor	Description	Total Invoiced Amount	Total Claimed Amount	Date Purchased	Date Used	Source of Data		Comments
						Invoice #	Stock	

### CONTRACT SUMMARY RECORD

APPLICANT		PW REF NO.		CATEGORY		DISASTER
#REF!		#REF!		#REF!		#REF!
Vendor	Description of work performed	Invoice No	Dates Worked	Total Contract Amount	Total Claimed Amount	Comments

## ATTACHMENT 2

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REMEMBER: This document must be prepared and submitted to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency on the **OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD** of the jurisdiction requesting state assistance. Fax to (402) 471-7433 Attn: PAO

### SAMPLE CITY OR VILLAGE DISASTER DECLARATION

**A Disaster Declaration for a city or village must be transmitted through the County Board to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency**

\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_ (affected city/town/village) located in \_\_\_\_\_ County has suffered a \_\_\_\_\_ (i.e., disastrous tornado strike) that occurred on \_\_\_\_\_ (include date(s) and time) causing severe damage to public and private property, disruption of service, and endangerment of health and safety of the citizens of \_\_\_\_\_ (affected city/town/village) within the disaster area. (Briefly explain the extent of damage/loss and assistance required.) \_\_\_\_\_

Therefore, the Mayor (or Board Chair) of \_\_\_\_\_ (affected city/town/village) has declared a state of emergency authorized under Nebraska State Statute R.R.S. 81-829.50 on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (affected city/town/village), and will execute for and on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (affected city/town/village), The expenditure of emergency funds from all available sources, the invoking of mutual aid agreements, and the applying to the State of Nebraska for assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund and any other resources he deems necessary in the fulfillment of his duties.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, City of \_\_\_\_\_  
(or Board Chair of affected jurisdiction or by appointed authorized representative)

Witness my hand and the seal of my office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

## WILDFIRE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- I. The purpose of this guidance is to establish a framework by which State resources will support the needs of Rural Fire Protection Districts in the detection, management and suppression of wildfires.
  
- II. Nebraska statute RRS81-829.42 (6) authorizes the Adjutant General to make expenditures of up to twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) per event available for immediate emergency response without an emergency proclamation by the Governor.
  - A. The Governor has authorized NEMA to provide state financial assistance for Aerial Wildfire Detection & observation assistance and to establish the necessary procedures and controls required to administer any expenditures from the Governor's Emergency Fund. Notifications and operations must be conducted as described below.
  
  - B. The Wildland Incident Response Assistance Team (WIRAT) is made up of employees of the Nebraska Fire Marshal and the Nebraska Forest Service. The immediate goal of members of this team is to provide technical assistance response to a wildfire incident. To request a WIRAT team member, the Incident Commander or designee will call the NEMA Watch Center at 402-471-7421.
  
- III. Aerial wildfire detection and observation financial assistance under the Governor's Emergency Fund was established to provide local government with a means to detect wildfires in their early stages and/or observe a fire for planning purposes thus preventing loss of life and property.
  - A. Mission Guidance
    1. The local Emergency Manager, acting upon a request from the local Rural Fire Protection District Chief, is authorized to coordinate and dispatch an aerial wildfire detection mission. The local Emergency Manager is responsible for notifying NEMA through a phone call to 402-471-7421 asking to speak with the Watch Center or the Watch Officer, off hours, of the need for an observation flight.
  
    2. The local EM has provided CAP with a list of potential observers to act as observers so the CAP can pre-qualify them to ride in a CAP owned plane.
  
    3. The EM will provide NEMA with the following information:
      - a. Approximate time for flight,

- b. The area to be observed,
  - c. The name of the local fire chief or designee to be the observer, and which airport they may be picked up from.
4. On completion of the mission and if a wildfire is discovered, the local Emergency Manager will advise NEMA of the following incident information. Notification information should include:
- a. Name of Incident Commander,
  - b. Date and Time of Wildfire,
  - c. Location of wildfire,
  - d. Cause of wildfire (if known),
  - e. What is burning (grass, timber, crops, etc.),
  - f. Fire district where the fire is,
  - g. Mutual Aid Departments on scene or being called in,
  - h. What the wildfire is threatening,
  - i. Wind speed and direction,
  - j. Number of aircraft requested for suppression and which aerial applicators,
  - k. Any evacuations underway or anticipated

- B. NEMA will pay CAP for the flight as stated in the MOU. All bills must be submitted within 30 calendar days of the mission to: (see Attachment 1)

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency  
2433 NW 24<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lincoln, NE 68524

If notification of the mission is not received by NEMA at the time the flight is requested, costs associated with this flight will not be paid by NEMA; the cost will be the responsibility of the requesting entity.

- IV. Aerial Wildfire suppression assistance under the Governor's Emergency Fund was established to provide rural fire protection districts with a means of applying aerial wildfire suppression or retardant materials to wildfires, thus preventing loss of life and property.

- A. The Adjutant General has authorized that a wildfire Incident Commander can request cooperating aerial applicator(s) to apply wildfire suppression or retardant material on wildfires occurring in Nebraska at a cost not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per event. The Nebraska Forest Service fire Control Section lists cooperating aerial applicators in the “Emergency Assistance Fore Wildfire Control” (Yellow Book). The yellow book may be found online using this link: [EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR WILDFIRE CONTROL \(unl.edu\)](https://www.unl.edu/emergency-assistance-for-wildfire-control)
- B. The Incident Commander or County Emergency Manager is required to notify the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) of the aerial suppression mission by calling the Watch Center at 402-471-7421 (this line will forward to an on-call Watch Officer after hours).
- C. Notification information should include to the extent possible:
1. Name of Incident Commander,
  2. Date Wildfire began,
  3. Approximate time wildfire began,
  4. Location of Wildfire,
  5. Cause of wildfire (if known),
  6. What is burning (grass, timber, crops, etc.),
  7. Fire District where fire is,
  8. Mutual aid departments on scene or being called in,
  9. Number, and which, aircraft have been requested for suppression,
  10. What the wildfire is threatening,
  11. Wind speed and direction,
  12. Evacuations underway or anticipated,
- D. Expenditure in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per event are the responsibility of the requesting agency unless the requesting jurisdiction files a local disaster declaration with NEMA. The Governor may issue an emergency proclamation to authorize the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to provide state financial assistance from the Governor’s Emergency fund.
- E. These guidelines will be followed by NEMA regarding financial assistance to support the Aerial Wildfire Program. Under no circumstances should



financial assistance be considered automatic or provided without proper authorization. This annex applies only to the aerial suppression program and not any other disaster.

F. The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, the Nebraska Department of Transportation – Aerial Division, and the Nebraska Aviation Trade Association acting in coordination with the Nebraska State Forester Fire Control Section, will conduct an annual evaluation of the flying hour rate structure established for this program. Necessary rate modifications will be published prior to the wildfire threat period in the Wildfire Control Emergency Assistance Handbook, printed by the Nebraska Forest Service Fire Control Section.

G. All bills for services (see Attachment 1) SHALL be submitted within 30 calendar days of the mission to:

Nebraska Forest Service  
Fire Control Section  
P.O. Box 830815  
Lincoln, NE 68583-0815

H. The office of the Nebraska Forest Service will review, sign, and forward all billings to the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency for payment. **If notification of the mission is not received by NEMA at the time the flight is requested, wildfire aerial financial assistance will not be reimbursed.**

I. If the amount of aerial suppression costs approach or are estimated to exceed the \$25,000 allowed amount, **the County must declare a local emergency and request State assistance.** otherwise any amount over the allowed \$25,000 will be the responsibility of the requesting Jurisdiction.

J. The county or regional Emergency Manager/coordinator will obtain a local emergency declaration from the affected county(s) and submit it to NEMA. The declaration process and any assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund will be administered as described in the Basic Program.

V. Single Engine Aerial Tanker (SEAT)

A. On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 the Governor signed the Nebraska Wildfire Control Act of 2013 into law. This law requires the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency to enter into a contract for a SEAT to be based in Nebraska during peak wildland fire season, for the purpose of quick

deployment to a wildfire that is beyond the ability of the Aerial Applicator(s) to suppress.

- B. The SEAT will be dispatched through the Great Planes Dispatch Center (GPDC) in Rapid City, South Dakota. All of the requirements for deploying any state or federal aircraft through GPDC will be enforced for the deployment of the Nebraska SEAT. (See Attachment 2 to this Annex for Deployment Procedures Worksheet).
  - C. A SEAT is the appropriate response for uncontrolled wildfires in forested lands, grasslands, geographically difficult to reach areas, or any combination of the above where aerial suppression is the most expedient response to containing fire spread.
  - D. Local fire chiefs and incident commanders may request the SEAT, based on the size, scope, and location of the fire.
  - E. GPDC requires the information listed below before deploying any air assets, including the Nebraska SEAT. The local jurisdiction requesting the Nebraska SEAT will call the Watch Center at 402-471-7421 with the following information (see Attachment 2 to this annex for deployment procedures worksheet):
    - 1. The latitude and longitude for the location of the fire,
    - 2. The radio frequency that will be used for air to ground communications,
    - 3. Name and Location of the individual who will be responsible for air to ground communication and who will instruct the pilot on where to start retardant application.
- VI. Wildfire Operation Assistance – the first priority of the State is to provide for firefighter and public safety utilizing risk management processes by establishing the Incident Command Structure for the event with the following strategic objectives:
- A. Full fire suppression,
  - B. The Governor’s Emergency Fund provides financial assistance to political subdivision only when an emergency/disaster has occurred that imposes a severe financial burden exceeding the ordinary capacity of the local political subdivision concerned. Additionally the Basic Governor’s Emergency Fund Guide may provide additional clarification. Accordingly, requirements for wildfire financial aid to rural Fire Protection Districts are established as follows:

1. A local entity responding to the wildfire must have proper resource ordering and supporting documentation in order to be eligible for reimbursement from the Governor's Emergency Fund **following the Governor's declaration of a State Disaster in support of the locally declared disaster.**
2. Injury claims should be submitted through Worker's Compensation/insurance carried by the Fire Departments.
3. Resources that self-deploy are NOT eligible to be reimbursed
4. Responding entities MUST provide incident forms, including but not limited to: Crew time reports, (OF-288), Equipment form (OF-286) to the Finance section, if stood up at the fire, or the appropriate Incident Command Staff person.
  - a. Responding entities will be reimbursed directly from the State following receipt and review of required documentation for eligibility and completeness
  - b. Certain entities may be reimbursed by County and the county will be reimbursed by the State (e.g. Fuel suppliers such as local Farmers Coop)
5. Volunteer labor cannot be reimbursed but may be used to track equipment and other possibly eligible expenses

### C. TRAVEL

1. For the protection of responders and to manage fatigue, travel TO or FROM an incident should NOT occur between 2200 and 0500 (excluding Initial Attack response) (in accordance with the January 2021 Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations Handbook)
2. Mobilization:
  - a. Travel time to the incident starts when the responding entity leaves their home base (usually fire station) and ends when they arrive at the incident command post or designated check-in location
  - b. Fuel costs incurred during travel to the incident may be reimbursed based on actual costs. A readable copy of a receipt showing location of fuel purchase, date, time, and amount is required. NO tobacco or alcohol products will be reimbursed.

- c. Meal costs incurred during travel to an incident may be reimbursed based on actual costs. Meal costs WILL NOT be reimbursed above the current State Per Diem rates (2022 rates are: Breakfast \$13.00, Lunch \$15.00 , Dinner \$26.00) A readable copy of a receipt showing location, food items and amount is required. Tips are NOT reimbursable. Tobacco or alcohol purchases will NOT be reimbursed.

### 3. De-Mobilization:

- a. For the safety of responders and to manage fatigue, travel from an incident should NOT occur between 2200 and 0500.
- b. It is anticipated that the incident will have lodging accommodations and when a responding entity is released from the incident they should get the required rest prior to traveling home. Lodging will be NOT be reimbursed if entity starts home then stops to rest and then continues on to home base.
- c. Travel time to home base starts when responding entity departs incident scene after properly checking out of incident and ends when they arrive at their home base location. Travel time home for equipment will normally be posted the same as travel time to the incident.
- d. Fuel costs incurred during travel from an incident may be reimbursed based on actual costs. A readable copy of a receipt showing location of fuel purchase, date, time and amount is required. Tobacco or alcohol purchases will NOT be reimbursed
- e. Meal costs incurred during travel from an incident may be reimbursed based on actual costs – Costs will NOT be reimbursed above current State per diem rates A readable copy of a receipt showing location, food items and amount is required. Tips are NOT reimbursable. Tobacco or alcohol purchases will NOT be reimbursed

### 4. Driving

- a. NO driver will drive more than 10 hours (behind the wheel) within any duty-day.
- b. Multiple drivers in a single vehicle may drive up to 16 hours, provided no driver is behind the wheel for more than 10 hours

#### D. On Scene Response.

1. It is anticipated that whenever practical, the incident will provide meals and sleeping arrangements for responding entities. It is also anticipated that responding entities will be self-sufficient for 48 – 72 hours.
  - a. Responding entities must be prepared for “primitive” arrangements at an incident and must provide their own tents, sleeping bags, pillows etc.
  - b. Under very rare circumstances a responding entity may secure other lodging arrangements but ONLY with prior documented approval from the Incident Commander BEFORE making any arrangements. Receipts and documentation must be furnished and reimbursement WILL NOT exceed the current State Per Diem rate.
  - c. It is anticipated that fuel will be provided by the Incident and fuel will be obtained from there. However, if fuel is needed and the incident fuel depot is not readily available or as quickly accessible as another source, the responding entity can obtain fuel from the more accessible source and will be reimbursed. A readable copy of receipt showing location, date, time, and amount will be required.
  - d. Equipment will be inspected for operability and defects as part of the check-in and de-mobilization process.
  - e. Equipment will be reimbursed based on actual hours in use based on the rates included in the following Equipment Rate chart. Equipment use will be determined/verified by using Equipment use form OF-286 and Firefighter time report OF-288.
  - f. Equipment not listed in the equipment use chart will be determined on a case by case basis or by using the current FEMA Schedule of Equipment rates.
  - g. Nebraska has significantly increased the Equipment rates per hour, as a result the following will not be reimbursed separately: the costs of regular servicing, maintenance, and wear and tear associated with the use of the vehicles and equipment on an incident. Regular servicing, maintenance, and wear and tear includes:

- i. oil, filters, tire repairs, tire replacement, repair and replacement of hand tools, hose and other equipment provided with the unit.
    - ii. Scratches to the paint on the body of the truck, wear on the paint on the inner and outer surfaces of the vehicle and there may be chips from flying rocks and minor bumps and dents on both the sheet metal and bumpers.
    - iii. Damage or failure of shocks or power train (steering linkage and suspension) by either fatigue or part failure due to age, manufacturer defect or operator. Power train includes engine, clutch, transmission, transfer case, driveline, front and rear differentials, axles, wheel and bearings.
  - h. Claims must be submitted to the responding entities insurance company.
  - i. Any equipment checked out to the responding entity for use on the fire incident MUST be returned prior to departing the incident. If equipment is not returned the responding entity will be charged for the cost of the resource.
  - j. Other/Electronic equipment that is lost, damaged, or destroyed while responding to the incident is the responsibility of the responding entity. Those losses will not be reimbursed by the state. Other/Electronic equipment includes, but is not limited to, radios, cell phones, personal handheld computing devices (iPads, Tablets etc.).
2. The following rates will be used to reimburse the responding entities based on documented time in-route, engaged in fighting fire and travel home. These rates do not include the operator or fuel. Fuel will be reimbursed as discussed below

Equipment Description	ICS Type	NE Rate	Mileage Rate
1,000 GPM/300-gal engine; 500 GPM/300-gal engine (Structure)	1 / 2	\$97 / hr	
501 – 750 gal engine (AWD-All Wheel Drive)	3 / 4	\$90 / hr	
150 – 500 gal engine (AWD-All wheel Drive)	5 / 6	\$71 / hr	
UTV/AWD 50-gal Min (w/ firefighting equipment)	7	\$15 / hr	

UTV/AWD - 4 wheel drive (no firefighting equipment)		\$7.40 / hr	
501 – 750 gal engine (RWD-Rear Wheel Drive)	3 / 4	\$41 / hr	
150 – 500 gal engine (RWD-Rear Wheel Drive)	5 / 6	\$28 / hr	
2,500+ gal TACTICAL water tender	1	\$102 / hr	
up to 2,500 gal TACTICAL water tender	2	\$84 / hr	
4,000 + gal water tender	1	\$95 / hr	
2,500 - 3,999 gal water tender	2	\$79 / hr	
1,000 - 2,499 gal water tender	3	\$64 / hr	
4X2 Truck – ½ Ton		\$11.75 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
4X2 Truck – ¾ Ton		\$12.75 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
4X2 Truck – 1Ton		\$16.80 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
4X4 Command Vehicle (Suburban/Excursion/Pickup etc.)		\$19.25 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
Mobile Operations Center Over 43ft in length with communications and meeting space		\$87 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
Mobile Operations Center up to 43ft in length with communications and meeting space		\$43.50 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
Mechanics Truck / Equipment truck		\$23 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
Portable repeater		\$70 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
ALS Ambulance		\$76.50 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
BLS Ambulance		\$59.00 / hr	\$0.58 / mi
Ag Tractor w/ disc to 200 hp		\$40 / hr	
Ag Tractor w/ disc over 200 hp		\$75 / hr	

The State accepts no liability and will not pay for any damaged or destroyed vehicles/equipment.
Reimbursement for the use of privately owned agriculture tractors with disc requires: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Incident Commander (IC) to properly authorize (dispatch) the use of the equipment,</li> <li>2) The owner to have properly insured the equipment for use in wildfire fighting, and</li> <li>3) The owner to provide proof of insurance to the IC.</li> </ol>
FEMA Schedule of Equipment rates will be used for any equipment not listed in chart above
Other Equipment not listed or in FEMA Schedule or Rates will be determined on a case by case basis
All Equipment will be reimbursed based on documented hours of use not "standby" time (ambulances are the exception)

ALS Ambulance MUST be staffed with 1 ALS practitioner and 1 EMT (Rate includes vehicle, equipment and supplies and staff). Paid based on documented hours at incident.

BLS Ambulance MUST be staff with minimum of two staff with minimum of 1 being EMT (Rate includes vehicle, equipment and supplies, and Staff). Paid based on document hours at incident.

- E. The declaration process and any assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund will be administered as described in the Basic Plan.
1. All responses must be conducted using and Incident Management System that includes an Incident Command System in the field. When NEMA receives requests for State assistance the requesting jurisdiction will be asked to provide the name of the Incident commander, location of the Incident Command Post, if there is an Emergency Operations Center activated, and the resources of the protective fire district and those received from mutual aid must be tracked (see Annex C Attachment 1) for expenses to be reimbursed.
- F. To request and receive assistance, there must be a declaration of emergency as described in the Governor's Emergency Fund guidelines for Public Officials Basic Plan and Attachment 3, signed by the Chief Elected Official containing the fire protection district(s) requesting assistance and will signify the following:
1. The local requesting county / fire district is signifying the need for assistance and that the incident is beyond the scope of their capacity and capabilities.
  2. The Fire district(s) will integrate into Unified Command / Multi-Agency Coordination System.
  3. They are compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) as outlined in the Nebraska Governor's Executive Order 05-02 and will adhere to and follow Incident Command structure.
  4. Reimbursement under a State or Federal Disaster Declaration of Fire Management Assistance Grant shall not pay for any costs already paid for or held to be paid by funds donated, contributed or raised in support of a fire, incident, or emergency response as per 44 CFR 206.191 Duplication of Benefits.



- G. Funds Collected from donation, contributions or raised by or for the volunteer department in support of a large fire incident or emergency response should adhere to Nebraska State Statute 35-901.

## **STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS**

- I. The Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska 81.829.52 allows the adjutant General, upon orders of the Governor, to establish State Emergency Response Teams (SERTs) to reinforce emergency management organizations in stricken areas to:
  - A. Reinforce emergency management organizations in disaster stricken areas or in anticipation of disaster
  - B. Provide technical expertise or specialized skills to a disaster area
  - C. Ensure the public is served in a timely and efficient manner
- II. Authorities
  - A. Nebraska RRS 81-829.52-55
- III. Situation
  - A. Disaster Conditions
    1. Specialized skill and equipment may be necessary during the response and recovery phase of any disaster
    2. Few jurisdictions within the State are capable of supporting the entire spectrum of necessary trained personnel or equipment
    3. During the response phase a jurisdiction may require more trained fire, law enforcement, public works, utility, ICS or other skilled personnel then they have to quickly and efficiently respond to the event
    4. The Emergency Management Statute allows the Adjutant General, upon orders of the Governor, to appoint State Emergency Response Teams (SERT) to aid jurisdictions to meet these shortfalls
- IV. Concept of Operations for SERTs
  - A. SERT Establishment
    1. Upon order of the Governor, the Adjutant General is authorized to establish the number of SERTs as may be necessary to reinforce emergency management organizations in stricken areas

a. Pre-Disaster defined Teams

- i. There are teams with specialized and necessary training and equipment, who are able to respond to a certain situation (i.e. Hazmat Teams). The Adjutant General may name these entities as SERTs in anticipation of the need for their services in areas of the State other than their home or Mutual Aid jurisdiction
- ii. Memorandums of Understanding will be in place before these teams are deployed
- iii. These pre-defined teams will be deployed as a SERT only following a Governor's Declaration of Disaster under the direction of the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

b. Post-Disaster defined SERTs

- i. NEMA will assign Agency staff to liaison with the local governmental jurisdiction(s) affected by the event. This liaison will work with the Incident Commander, Emergency Managers, and Executives to help determine the unmet needs of the response and make recommendations to NEMA to appoint SERTs. SERTs could be:
  - i. Volunteers from the impacted jurisdiction
  - ii. Mutual Aid departments already working the disaster who are determined to be needed for an extended period of time
  - iii. Private individual or personnel of other jurisdictions with specific equipment or skills necessary to efficiently accomplish the response

B. SERT Activation

1. Determination of the need for SERT

- a. Incident management, according to NIMS standards must be established for the incident
- b. A State assessment coordinated through NEMA must be made of the need to activate a SERT

- c. NEMA will coordinate with local officials on the need and terms of SERT activation
- 2. SERT Letter of Agreement (attachment 1) is the document by which the Adjutant General appoints a SERT and ensures that the team is covered by the protections included in that Statute
  - a. The letter is developed by NEMA,
  - b. Signed by the Assistant Director and responsible person or entity for the SERT
  - c. Elements of the letter will include:
    - i. Definition of the SERT's mission
    - ii. Identification of the Team Leader who is required to maintain a roster of team members
    - iii. Terms and conditions for the deployment of the team
      - i. Payment rate for members, lodging, meals and equipment
      - ii. Mobilization logistics including who the team reports to at the scene
      - iii. Demobilization logistics including the length of the team's deployment
      - iv. Any special considerations
    - iv. At the time of deployment, teams will coordinate with procurement of materials through NEMA and State supplies

### C. SERT Operations

- 1. NEMA will maintain oversight of the SERT's Operation
  - a. NEMA will require the SERT to use the forms in Attachment 2 of jurisdictional forms that record the same information, to keep daily records of:
    - i. Team member's hours
    - ii. Materials used, and
    - iii. Equipment hours.

- b. A NEMA staff member will be assigned as the point of contact with the SERT Team Leader
  - c. The NEMA Assistant Director, in coordination with the Incident Manager will determine when the SERT is no longer necessary to the response and able to be released
2. SERT coordination with the event's Incident Management System
    - a. The SERT becomes part of the incident Command System as assigned by the Incident Commander, primarily within the Operation section in support of the Governor's Declaration
    - b. In the event of a very large complicated response, NEMA in coordination with the local jurisdiction, may appoint a qualified SERT to become the Incident Management Team to run the incident allowing the jurisdiction's responder to remain in an operational role

#### D. Payment and Fiscal

1. Payments will be made according to Nebraska RRS 81-829.54
  - a. The State shall reimburse the political subdivision for
    - i. The compensation paid and actual and necessary travel, subsistence, and maintenance expenses of employees listed as members of the SERT of the Political subdivision
    - ii. All payment for death, disability, or injury of employees incurred in the course of duty as provided in the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Act
    - iii. All losses of or damages to supplies and equipment of such political subdivision resulting from Operation of the SERT
2. Payments will be made by NEMA based on actual invoices submitted by the SERT or its' political subdivision using the normal payment processes through the Nebraska Information System (NIS)
  - a. The SERT or its political subdivision may need to complete an ACH and a W-9 form to be eligible for payment

- b. Payment will be by electronic transfer unless the jurisdiction requests a check. If the payment is over \$25,000 the payment shall be by electronic transfer only.



State Emergency Response Team Letter of Agreement Between  
NEMA and \_\_\_\_\_

1. Due to an incident declared by the Governor of Nebraska as a Disaster on (Date) \_\_\_\_\_, The Adjutant General is appointing (Team Name) \_\_\_\_\_ as a State Emergency Response Team under RRS81-829.52-55 for the purpose of (Explain mission of the team) \_\_\_\_\_.
2. (Team Leader's Name) is named as the Team Leader and will maintain a roster of team members and ensure the proper fiscal and programmatic records are kept for the team.
3. The team will report to (Incident Commander or whoever) at (Location) and be assigned to (mission).
4. All purchases of materials for the teams use will be recorded in the forms attached to this letter. Materials for the use of the team will be procured as follows:
  - a. Disposable products not available on scene through the Incident Command System may be purchased up to \$250.00 without prior approval from NEMA. Purchases over this amount require approval for reimbursement. NEMA will require copies of invoices for each purchase.
  - b. Durable goods not available through the Incident Command System must be approved by NEMA
    - 1) NEMA may choose to purchase the goods directly and supply them to the team, or
    - 2) NEMA may choose to authorize the Team Leader to purchase the goods. All purchases must be recorded and back-up documentation kept as part of the Teams record keeping.



- 3) Durable goods purchased for the team remain the property of NEMA following the response.
5. Records of personnel, materials and equipment used must be kept by the SERT using the forms attached to this letter. The package of forms and back-up documentation will be turned into NEMA's Public Assistance Office following the team's demobilization. Payment will be made based on these records.
6. Documentation for the deployment must be kept by the team for three years after the incident is closed by NEMA for a State Disaster or FEMA for a Federal Disaster. The Team will be notified by NEMA when the documentation can be destroyed.
7. The date and time of demobilization will be determined by the NEMA Assistant Director in coordination with the impacted jurisdiction's officials and the Incident Commander.
8. Payments for the Team will be as follows (Keep the paragraphs that apply):

- a. Salary:

NEMA will reimburse the Team's home jurisdiction for salaries, overtime and backfill.

NEMA will reimburse the Team's Agency/Department for team members at a rate of (put rate here for volunteers named to a team)

- b. Lodging:

NEMA will make arrangements and direct bill lodging for team members.

NEMA will reimburse team members for lodging from original invoices for the lodging.

- c. Meals:

NEMA will reimburse team members at the State's usual rate for meals, team members will need to submit a log of amounts and location of meals for reimbursement.

NEMA will make arrangements with (name of establishment) to provide meals for team members.

9. Special Considerations:

Signed /Date for NEMA

Signed /Date for the SERT

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**Hazardous Material Assistance Program**

- I. This guidance will establish a framework by which a state hazardous materials resource would support the needs of Rural Fire Protection Districts in the detection, surveillance, and containment of a hazardous material event under the Authorities of the Governor at the time of a state disaster declaration
- II. Authority
  - A. Neb. Rev. Statute § 81-829-52 to § 81-829.55 authorizes the Adjutant General, upon authorization by the Governor, to establish a State Emergency Response Team (SERT) to; reinforce emergency management organization in disaster stricken areas or in anticipation of a

disaster, provide technical expertise or specialized skill to a disaster area, and ensure the public is served in a timely and efficient manner.

- B. 81-829.42 (6) if aerial fire suppression or hazardous material response is immediately require, the Adjutant General may make expenditures of up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per event without a state of emergency proclamation issued by the Governor
- III. Hazardous Material Response;
- A. Nebraska Hazardous Incident Team (NHIT)
1. The NHIT is made up of personnel from the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP), Nebraska State Fire Marshal (NSFM), and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ)
  2. Their purpose is to assist local fire protection districts with technical assistance in the detection and surveillance of a hazardous material spill. They can provide an analysis of the scene, and in collaboration with on-scene agencies, advise the Incident Commander on the need to request additional resources. When sufficiently staff and equipped, the NHIT may enter the hot zone to mitigate the incident
  3. To request members of the NHIT call the Nebraska State patrol who will dispatch the closest members of the team
  4. Members of the NHIT are employees of their respective State agencies and any response by the NHIT is the responsibility of the responding agency
- B. State Emergency Response Team (SERT) under 81-829.42 (6)
1. Upon order of the Governor the Adjutant General is authorized to establish a SERT. NEMA has signed local agreements with ten (10) hazmat teams in anticipation of the need for such a response. This shall not take precedence over or deter from any mutual aid agreements already in place at the local level between fire departments.
  2. To request a SERT call the closes MOU Hazardous Materials (hazmat) team. It is the responsibility of the local Incident Commander or their designee to:
    - a. Call NEMA to advise them of the request for the team
    - b. Call the local Emergency Manager, advise them of the incident, that a hazmat team has been requested and

request the local EM complete and send an Incident Status Report (ISR) to NEMA

- c. When the hazmat team arrives on scene using the check-in/checkout sheet (attachment 1) recording the time of arrival, personnel by name, and vehicles by type.
- d. Request an approximate cost per hour from the hazmat team leader and keep track of the dollars obligated. Any costs over twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) will be the responsibility of the local jurisdiction unless (all three conditions must be met):
  - i. NEMA has been advised of the need for the hazmat team to remain at the scene
  - ii. A local state of emergency has been declared (attachment 3 of the Basic Plan), and
  - iii. The Governor's Office has approved continued funding of the response by issuing a Proclamation of a State Declaration of Emergency

**Be aware that a request for a State Declaration to continue the use fo the Governor's Emergency Fund for the hazmat team response in NOT guaranteed even when conditions i. and ii. above are met**

- e. When the hazmat team demobilizes;
    - i. Complete the daily check-out portion of the check-in/Check-out form including the time of their demobilization
    - ii. If the hazmat team demobilization is phased, record the time of departure of each element including personnel names and vehicles
  - f. Receive, review and approve the hazmat team's bill with the required backup documentation and mail it to Nebraska Emergency Management Agency within 30 days of the closure of the incident c/o the Recovery Section Manager along with a copy of the check-in / Check-out forms
3. Under State law and regulations, if NEMA does not receive the documentation identified in paragraphs d. and e. above, NEMA will not be able to reimburse the hazmat team and payment will become the responsibility of the requesting local jurisdiction
4. The list of the ten designated hazmat teams are listed in the "Emergency Assistance to a Hazardous Materials Spill" (Blue Book). The Blue Book may be found online using the following link:

<https://nema.nebraska.gov/sites/nema.nebraska.gov/files/doc/hazmat-blue-book.pdf>

C. 72nd Civil Support Team (CST)

1. 72<sup>nd</sup> Civil Support Team is an asset of the Nebraska National Guard. It is a trained hazardous material team that deals in the detection and surveillance of a suspected chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) event in support of a local Incident Commander.
2. The CST is deployed through the State Emergency Operations center by the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) under authorities and direction of the Office of the Governor. Deployment of the CST must have the approval of the Adjutant General, The National Guard Bureau and the Governor. The CST deployment authorization are coordinated thru NEMA and the NGB Domestic Operations.

D. CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP)

1. The mission of the CERFP is to respond to a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) incident and assist local, state, and federal agencies in conducting consequence management by providing capabilities to conduct patient decontamination, medical triage, fatality search and recovery, stabilization and casualty search and extraction.
2. The CERFP is a regional response team with members from both Army and Air National Guard. There are 200+ personnel who are trained to a minimum of awareness level. Specialty training includes incident command, decontamination and search and recovery.









## **ANNEX D: Framework for Inclusion of Critical Infrastructure Workers in Disaster Response**

### **Purpose:**

To provide state and local elected officials, local emergency managers, and incident commanders a framework for prioritization of resources for critical infrastructure workers in disaster response and recovery efforts.

### **Guidance:**

All disasters and public emergencies are led by an Incident Commander who is responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies, tactics, and the ordering and release of resources. The incident commander has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

When a disaster occurs and local officials declare an emergency, emergency managers and other local officials like the incident commander are encouraged to consider the needs and requirements of the critical infrastructure workers. As indicated by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) voluntary Critical Infrastructure Workers Guidance, it is important to plan and prepare for the allocation of scarce resources used to protect workers during any disaster response or public emergency. The guidance also identifies workers who conduct a range of operations and services that continue critical infrastructure viability, including staffing operations centers, maintaining and repairing critical infrastructure, operating call centers, working construction, and performing operational functions, among others. It includes workers who support crucial supply chains and enable functions for critical infrastructure. The guidance is advisory in nature and not intended to list all critical infrastructure sectors, workers, and functions that should continue to work safely in order to return communities and jurisdictions to normal functioning.

For public health emergencies, state and local officials should collaborate in making decisions regarding resource allocation, other public health measures, and consider impacts on critical infrastructure. While adhering to relevant public health guidance, critical infrastructure owners and operators are expected to use their own judgment on issues of the prioritization of business processes and workforce allocation to best ensure worker safety and the continuity of the goods and services. Decisions should appropriately balance public safety, the health and safety of the workforce, and the continued delivery of critical infrastructure functions.

For further information, please refer to

[https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/essential\\_critical\\_infrastructure\\_workforce-guidance\\_v4.1\\_508.pdf](https://www.cisa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/essential_critical_infrastructure_workforce-guidance_v4.1_508.pdf).

### **Justification:**

This change to the “Governor’s Emergency Fund Guidelines for Public Officials” Guide is adopted to guide local officials to efficiently manage any response to public emergencies or disasters.