

Incident Finance & FEMA Public Assistance for Public Power

Course Overview

FEMA's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG) was updated in 2020, adding 70 pages of detail that public power utilities can leverage to help meet FEMA's requirements for supplemental grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities. Review highlights of key public assistance program changes, including clarified guidance and operational coordination of incident finance activities, the appeal process, closeout policy and documentation requirements, and additional procurement and contracting requirements.

Learn about how to establish an incident finance organization during the disaster so the right information is collected up front and clear expectations are set with contractors and vendors; changes to grant management cost policies; and how to avoid mistakes related to what can be considered eligible work, eligible costs, and reasonable costs. This interactive session will provide a foundational familiarity with the PAPPG and walk through real-life examples from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands mutual aid responses.

Course Topics

- FEMA's Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide
- Establishing a finance section within your incident management team
- Real-time financial management coordination at the beginning of an incident
- Mutual aid eligibility
- Key considerations for adequately documenting work
- Examples of reasonable costs, eligible costs, and eligible work
- Procurement and contracting considerations
- Closeout and appeals

Recommended for

Public power managers, operations, finance, procurement, legal, and accounting staff, as well as others interested in learning more about FEMA eligibility, procurement requirements, processes and procedures.

Course Level

Basic: No prerequisites; no advance preparation.

Instructor

Gina Harrold, Consultant, Kinetics Consulting

Gina is an accomplished leader in the fields of treasury, finance and accounting. She has been recognized for her ability to distill complex financial concepts into information that is manageable and easy to understand. Ms. Harrold counts among her strengths the ability to balance the interests and perspectives of multiple parties to achieve mutual objectives.

Recently, Gina served as the Finance Chief in the Incident Command Center created to manage the mutual aid response in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. She was deployed to Puerto Rico for five months to represent the 30 public power and investor-owned utilities from across the U.S. and its territories. This effort included coordinating, negotiating and documenting cost recovery requirements with the local utility leadership, local government representatives, taxing authorities and FEMA. She also was consulted on the Virgin Islands

Water and Power Authority restoration efforts, advising on various administrative and financial activities and agreements that can be prepared and documented in a plan, in advance of, an incident. She also relayed relevant FEMA policies and other considerations for when there is a disaster declaration.

Gina has 25 years of financial management experience in both the public and private sector. She recently retired from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District where she held the position of Assistant Treasurer, managing a sizeable investment portfolio. She also directed the commercial banking activities, implemented controls to mitigate payment fraud, and created the utility's business continuity plan.

Registration Info

- Provider: American Public Power Association (APPA)
- Date: Tuesday, March 22, 2022
- Time: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. each day
- Length: 1 day
- Platform: In-Person
- Capacity: minimum of 12 attendees; maximum of 50 attendees

Estimated Enrollment Fee

SCPPA MEMBER RATE: \$550 per attendee