Hurricane Recovery Resources

Hurricane Helene

To help the health and fitness industry in the wake of Hurricane Helene, HFA has compiled the below resources from FEMA, The Small Business Administration, and state and local government organizations.

Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact HFA's Vice President of Government Relations Mike Goscinski at mgosicnski@healthandfitness.org.

Federal Resources

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency)

- Disaster Assistance Website
    - Allows business owners to apply for individual and public assistance for damages and recovery.

- FEMA Business Assistance Programs:
    - Public Assistance Program: Helps private non-profit organizations by reimbursing costs associated with emergency protective measures and repair of damaged facilities.
    - Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs): Available for in-person assistance.

FEMA Hurricane Preparedness and Recovery Resources:

- Information on mitigating future disasters.

SBA (Small Business Administration)

- Disaster Loan Assistance
    - Offers low-interest loans to businesses affected by disasters, including property damage and economic injury.

- Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL)
    - Helps businesses meet working capital needs caused by a disaster.

State Government Resources

Florida

- Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM)

- Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program
    - Provides short-term, interest-free loans to help businesses recover quickly after a disaster.

Georgia

- Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS)
    - Offers business recovery resources, including disaster-specific grants and assistance for business continuity.

- Georgia Small Business Development Center (SBDC):
    - Provides disaster assistance counseling and access to SBA loans.

Alabama

- Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)
    - Offers information on how businesses can access disaster recovery services.

Tennessee

- Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA)
    - Provides resources for businesses, including debris removal, emergency business assistance, and FEMA public assistance programs.

- Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC)
    - Offers disaster recovery counseling and support for businesses affected by natural disasters.

North Carolina

- North Carolina Department of Public Safety (NC DPS) - Division of Emergency Management

    - Provides hurricane response and recovery resources for businesses.

- NC Rural Economic Development Center
    - Offers disaster recovery loans for small businesses.

- North Carolina Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC)
    - A hub for disaster recovery planning and SBA disaster loan support.

South Carolina

- South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD)
    - Provides disaster recovery and mitigation information for businesses, including business interruption aid.

Local Government & Community Resources

- **Local Chambers of Commerce:** Many local Chambers offer disaster relief programs or can help connect business owners to state and federal resources.
    - Florida
    - Georgia
    - North Carolina
    - South Carolina
    - Tennessee
    - Alabama

- **City & County Emergency Management Agencies:** Each county typically has an emergency management agency that offers localized disaster relief and recovery resources.