

City of Friendswood-Galveston County Residents
Update on Community Development Block Grants for Disaster Recovery Funds
October 16, 2018

City of Friendswood-Harris County residents information [CLICK HERE](#)

Following Hurricane Harvey, Texas was awarded \$5.024 billion in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funding. The State composed an action plan and assigned 80 percent of the funds, over \$4 billion, for use in the most impacted and distressed areas, which includes Galveston County.

CDBG-DR related housing programs for City of Friendswood, Galveston County residents are being managed and implemented by the Texas General Land Office (GLO). Residents seeking grant assistance will apply directly to the GLO.

One of the primary national objectives for CDBG-DR funding is to benefit Low to Moderate Income (LMI) persons so that they have safe and sanitary housing. As such, 70 percent of all funds must be used to benefit LMI populations with programs having income restrictions. The remaining 30 percent must be used on urgent needs. The median family income for the Houston region is \$74,900 for a family of four. To qualify as LMI, you must make 80 percent or less of the median family income. Here is a sliding scale based on the size of the household:

Galveston County	Persons in Family	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Low Income Limit (\$)	41,950	47,950	53,950	59,900	64,700	69,500	74,300	79,100

Eligibility is determined by several factors. In general, you must have received damage from Hurricane Harvey in order to qualify. Available programs will take LMI into account and prioritize those who are LMI but does not necessarily preclude non-LMI residents from applying.

Planned programs are not yet taking applications; however, many will begin in the next several months. The City encourages all residents who still need housing assistance to examine CDBG-DR funding programs.

--Homeowner Assistance: Provides funding for rehabilitation and reconstruction of owner-occupied single-family homes damaged by Hurricane Harvey. <http://recovery.texas.gov/programs/homeowner-assistance/index.html>

--Homeowner Reimbursement: Allows homeowners to be reimbursed for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred for repairs to their home including reconstruction, rehabilitation or mitigation, up to \$50,000. <http://recovery.texas.gov/programs/homeowner-reimbursement-limited-repair/index.html>

The projected period for the GLO to **begin taking applications is in late November**. When the application periods begin, the GLO will make available additional charts, fliers, and information that will better explain eligibility and requirements for each program. Governments and residents will be notified and qualifying applicants will be **served on a first-come, first-served basis**. It will be crucial for interested homeowners to have gathered the correct and accurate documents in order to meet eligibility requirements for the program.

Additional information from the GLO can be found at <http://recovery.texas.gov/>

City of Friendswood, Galveston County residents may contact the City of Friendswood Office of Emergency Management at 281-996-3335 or EOC@Friendswood.com for further information.