Nearly 40,000 Iowans Apply for Assistance

Following this spring’s tornadoes, flooding and severe storms, nearly 40,000 Iowans have registered for Individual Assistance program funding.

As of Nov. 4, more than $790 million in disaster assistance has been approved for homeowners, renters, businesses, and government and non-profit entities in the following categories:

- $117.5 million for Housing Assistance, which may be used for temporary disaster housing and repair of owner-occupied disaster-damaged homes.

Continued on Page 3...

HSGP Grant Allocations Announced

Funds for the FFY 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program have been awarded to Iowa’s local and state entities. Iowa received $6.1 million for the 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), down from $7 million that was received in the 2007 program.

Meetings between HSEMD and local and state recipients will be conducted during November and December to provide information and help in the preparation of agreement articles, scopes of work, and detailed budget.

Specific information about that process will be distributed to grant recipients by mid-November.

The breakdown of the funded projects and contacts is as follows:

1. Multi-state Partnership for Security In Agriculture – Project Lead Mark Shearer (HSEMD)


Continued on Page 3...
Training Opportunities

Many classes are available to those in the emergency management field at no cost! Visit HSEMD’s Web site at [www.iowa-homelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowa-homelandsecurity.org) and click on the “Training” link on the right side of the home page. That page will give you more information about signing up as well as a link to HSEMD’s Events Management System, where you can register for the course of your choice. The 2009 schedule of classes is now online, so register today!

You don’t have to be limited to those courses offered in Iowa. The federal government also offers coursework free of charge to emergency management professionals through the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium. Visit the Web site at [www.ndpc.us](http://www.ndpc.us) for more information or contact David Hempen at 515.725.3281 or david.hempen@iowa.gov.

The following classes are available in the coming months within Iowa:

**Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)**

The mission of ALERRT is to teach law enforcement officers, specifically the true first responders, to safely and effectively respond to, address and stop an active shooter.

The ALERRRT program is open to all state-certified peace officers, federal law enforcement officers and military personnel in good standing with their units.

The 40-hour instructor-level course begins with the two-day ALERRT basic course and is followed by three days of intense teaching techniques, role-playing and in-depth explanation of the curriculum.

**When:** Nov. 17-21

**Where:** University of Iowa

**Benefit Cost Analysis Workshop**

FEMA has completely reengineered the BCA program. This two-day workshop will cover each of the reengineered modules with specific emphasis on the flood module. Local planners, project officers or government officials who develop project applications for any of the hazard mitigation grant programs [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Pre-Diaster Mitigation (PDM), and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)] are encouraged to attend.

Many communities are in the process of completing project grant applications under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGPD) from Disaster 1763. All mitigation project applications require a FEMA-approved BCA as part of the application. Project selection for funding is determined, to a large extent, based on the validity of the Benefit Cost Analysis. Attendees will receive instruction and conduct practical exercises on completing the BCA process for projects that are typical in the state of Iowa including property acquisition. The State anticipates opening the HMGP to other mitigation projects (in addition to property acquisition) later this fall.

There is no cost to attend but travel, food and lodging will be the responsibility of the participant and will not be covered by FEMA or the State of Iowa. The training will be held at the State’s Emergency Operations Center.

**When:** Dec. 18-19

**Where:** State EOC

6100 NW 78th Ave.
Johnston, IA

*Continued on Page 4*
Nearly 40,000 Iowans Apply for Assistance

...Continued from Page 1

$15.7 million for Other Needs Assistance programs, which may be used for disaster-related needs not covered by insurance of other assistance programs.

$244.5 million for Small Business Administration Loans ($155.3 for homeowners, $89.2 for businesses)

$413.2 for Public Assistance, which reimburses state and local government agencies and certain nonprofit organizations for eligible disaster-related expenses.

The deadline to apply for Individual Assistance was Oct. 31. For those who have already registered, information about disaster assistance is still available by calling FEMA’s hotline at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. seven days a week. Ω

HSGP Grant Allocations Announced

...Continued from Page 1


4. Information Sharing – Project Leads Tom Baumgartner (HSEMD), Terry Cowman (Iowa Dept. of Public Safety)

5. Urban Search and Rescue – Project Leads Frank Klier (HSEMD), Dave Ahlers (Sioux City Fire Dept.), Brian Ciachino (Cedar Rapids Fire Dept.)


8. Special Weapons and Tactics – Project Leads Frank Klier (HSEMD), Len Murray (Des Moines Police Dept.)


10. Animal Health Emergency Response – Project Lead Mark Shearer (HSEMD)

11. Public Information Officer Training – Project Lead Bret Voorhees (HSEMD)


13. Emergency Operations Center Standardization – Project Leads Joyce Flinn (HSEMD) Steve O’Neil (Cerro Gordo County EMA)

14. Metropolitan Medical Response System – Project Leads Lisa Sexton (HSEMD) and Tom Patava (Des Moines Fire Dept.)

15. Citizen Corps – Project Lead Joyce Flinn (HSEMD)

16. Management and Administration – Project Lead Lynda Wessel (HSEMD)

Additional information on the 2008 HSGP grant allocations will be on the HSEMD Web site at a later date. Ω

Coordinator Update

Connie Knutson has replaced Mary Vavra and is now the interim County Coordinator in Cedar County. Connie can be reached using Mary’s old email until further notice at mvavra@cedarcounty.org. Ω
HSEMD Personnel Notes

Preparedness Bureau

Janet Riley has moved from her position as the state’s exercise training officer to a regional planner position. Janet has worked for HSEMD for 10 years.

Janet says she doesn’t have a lot of spare time these days. In addition to working at HSEMD and her military duties, Janet is enrolled in the Army War College’s Distance Education Program pursuing her master’s degree in strategic studies. She is scheduled to complete her degree by July 2010.

Other news in the Preparedness Bureau: Dave Johnston was promoted from program planner for Region 1 to chief planner in September and Jack Briggs has returned to the bureau effective Oct. 17 as a program planner for Region 6. Jack had been working as an information security officer for the Homeland Security bureau. Additionally, Beth Gathercole will now be working as a program planner for the Emergency Exercise Team.

Readiness & Response Bureau

Tara Hattery joined the division as an administrative assistant in the Readiness and Response Bureau on Sept.

Training Opportunities

...Continued from Page 2

Please note that individuals attending the BCA training will be required to complete an online course prior to attending the classroom portion of the BCA workshop. There are two online courses available and may be found on the BC Helpline Web site: www.bchelpline.com/training.html.

For enrollment information, please contact Lisa Behrends at 515.251.3673. Please submit an enrollment application no later than Dec. 5 via email to lisa.behrends@iowa.gov. HSEMD will send an email confirmation of enrollment approval and final course details on or about Dec. 8.