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**Date:** 10/24/2016 4:13:51 PM  
**Subject:** DRAFT NR IA and PA for more counties... (no word yet)

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Hey,

Here's a draft news release if additional counties are declared for Public and Individual Assistance... no word yet on if they actually are.

\*Also, still waiting to hear about the Williamsburg DRC.

## **Public and Individual Assistance for Storm Damage, Response Costs Approved for Additional Counties**

**COLUMBIA, S.C.** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency approved four additional counties for Individual Assistance, allowing survivors who sustained losses to apply for aid in the wake of Hurricane Matthew. Counties approved for FEMA Individual Assistance include: **Berkeley, Charleston, Chesterfield, Kershaw** and **Richland counties**.

Assistance can include money for temporary rental assistance and essential home repairs for primary homes, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses and other programs to help survivors recover from the effects of the disaster.

Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Calhoun, Clarendon, Colleton, Darlington, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Orangeburg, Sumter and Williamsburg counties were previously designated for Individual Assistance.

Survivors can register online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov) or by calling [800-621-3362](tel:800-621-3362). Disaster assistance applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing should call [800-462-7585](tel:800-462-7585) (TTY); those who use Video Relay Service may call [800-621-3362](tel:800-621-3362). The toll-free telephone numbers will operate 7 AM to 10 PM seven days a week until further notice.

Three additional counties were also approved for all categories of Public Assistance to help them recover from the storm: Chesterfield, Kershaw and Richland counties. Charleston County was previously approved for categories A and B and is now eligible for reimbursement for categories C through G. This assistance from FEMA enables state agencies, local governments and certain private non-profits to recoup costs for storm response and debris removal.

The FEMA Public Assistance program categories are as follows:

Category A: Debris Removal.

Category B: Emergency Protective Measures.

Category C: Roads and Bridges.

Category D: Water Control Facilities.

Category E: Buildings and Equipment.

Category F: Utilities.

Category G: Parks, Recreational Facilities and Other Items.

The FEMA Public Assistance program is a reimbursement grant program. Typically, the federal share is 75 percent and the state or local governments pay the remaining 25 percent whereas eligible private non-profit groups are responsible for the full 25 percent. [More information about this program can be found here.](#)

Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Beaufort, Berkeley, Colleton, Dillon, Dorchester, Florence, Georgetown, Hampton, Horry, Jasper, Lee, Marion, Orangeburg, Sumter and Williamsburg counties were previously designated for all categories of Public Assistance and Calhoun, Clarendon, Darlington and Marlboro

counties were previously approved for categories A and B of Public Assistance.

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*"South Carolina's emergency management program minimizes loss of life and property damage from all-hazard incidents."*