



Frequently Asked Questions

State Private Nonprofit Organizations
Assistance Program



The Governor's Office and the legislature, in cooperation with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), initiated legislation that resulted in the development of the State Private Non-Profit (PNP) Organization Assistance Program. To implement this program the California Code of Regulations (CCR) was amended to include Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 6, Article 2, Sections 2991 – 2999. The following are the most frequently asked questions about the PNP program.

1. Q. If a PNP group self-deploys and the local agency subsequently enters into an agreement with the PNP, can reimbursement be retroactively charged?

A. Per Title 19, §2992 (c): "No PNP activities resulting from self-deployment will be eligible for reimbursement." Cal OES understands that extraordinary circumstances do happen, and as such, is looking into ways to address these circumstances.

2. Q. What designates the start of the three year retention period? Local agencies would like something in writing about retaining records for three years after the audit waiver letter.

A. As mandated by Title 19, §2999 (a), the Public Assistance (PA) Grant Processing Unit will send an "Audit Waiver" letter to each PNP and Intermediary PNP applicant's Authorized Representative upon close-out of their application. The three year retention period starts from the date of this letter. PNP and Intermediary PNP applicants are also subject to OMB A-133 record retention requirements.

3. Q. Who is responsible for sharing the information from the Audit Waiver letter?

A. It is the responsibility of the PNP's Authorized Representative to ensure that the proper staff are notified. Intermediary PNPs are responsible for sharing this information with all PNPs who participated in the event under their management. This is an internal process that needs to be addressed by all PNP applicants.

4. Q. What are "extraordinary costs"?

A. Based on Title 19, §2995 and §2995.1, extraordinary costs mean costs that are over and above normal operating costs, such as overtime, temporary hires (for the emergency or disaster event only), and travel-related costs for the event.



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5. Q. Will replacement of pre-event inventory be reimbursable?

A. The replacement of documented pre-event inventory may be reimbursable. PNPs would need to meet all of the qualifications of Title 19, §2910 (a) (1-4) and have completed a written inventory prior to the event to be eligible for reimbursement. Final determination will be made by Cal OES based on submitted documentation.

6. Q. Are donated items reimbursable?

A. Yes, per Title 19, §2995 (6), donated items can be reimbursable, if they were donated prior to the proclaimed event and are documented on a PNP's pre-event inventory. In addition, per Title 19, §2995 (c) (2), no reimbursement will be provided for donated items received on or after the first day of the incident period as specified in the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation for the proclaimed event in which the PNP is seeking reimbursement by the state.

7. Q. Can there be a duplication of grant funding under this program?

A. As stated in Title 19, §2995 (c) (6), no funds allocated under this program shall be used to supplant state or federal funds otherwise available in the absence of state financial relief or assistance. Additionally, you will not be eligible for disaster grant funding if you have been provided funding under another state or federal grant for the same activities.

8. Q. What if staff is removed from a grant-funded position and assigned to a disaster-related activity?

A. This cost may be eligible for reimbursement if the requested disaster-related work is not considered an eligible activity under the original grant, funding a PNP's staff position. Supporting documentation would be required. Final determination will be made by Cal OES based on submitted documentation.

9. Q. Is the request by the local agency for PNP services something different than normal Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) resource request process?

A. Requesting the resources of an eligible PNP by a local agency is a normal SEMS function. See Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 1, for the regulations concerning SEMS.

10. Q. What is required for documentation to support a request to activate by a local jurisdiction?

A. This can be a verbal request initially but must be followed up in writing by the local jurisdiction. This written request provides documentation that a PNP's activities were not the result of a "self-deployment".

11. Q. Must a written request be issued every time a PNP activates?

A. Yes, unless a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement exists between an eligible PNP and the requesting local agency. The MOU must specify the requirements of deployment and be executed prior to the PNP providing the essential community services.

12. Q. Can a PNP that was requested by a local jurisdiction request resources outside their jurisdiction?

A. No, requesting resources outside the local jurisdiction is a SEMS function and would be requested by a local agency through the Operational Area to the Cal OES' Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC). Local agencies must first exhaust all available resources within their jurisdiction prior to requesting resources from other jurisdictions through their REOC.

13. Q. Can PNPs request resources from out of state under this program?

A. No, all requests for resources must come from the local jurisdiction following SEMS. Out-of-state resources are requested through Cal OES using the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). Under EMAC, only government resources can be deployed interstate. To learn more about EMAC visit their website at <http://www.emacweb.org>.

14. Q. Do other states have this program?

A. Not to Cal OES' knowledge. This program is an outgrowth of California's experience with the freeze disaster in central California during the 1998-99 winter season and the roles of the PNP's there.