Everyone has access to some immediate short-term benefits to help with basic needs:

- Soup kitchens for hot meals
- Food pantries for groceries
- Health centers
- Crisis counseling services
- Emergency overnight shelters (many of them ask you leave in the daytime)
- Domestic violence shelters

Check with the nearest One-Stop Center at www.careeronestop.org or ask your local health center about local emergency services that can help you.

Learn more about assistance after a disaster from the Farmworker Justice guides on Food and Housing Assistance.

This publication was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under cooperative agreement U30CS22741, National Training and Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement, for $450,000 with 0% financed with non-federal sources. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position of policy of, nor should any endorsements by inferred by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.
The Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) coordinated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and administered by the Department of Labor (DOL), gives money to workers or self-employed individuals who lose money or work as a result of the disaster.

To qualify for DUA, you must be a U.S. citizen or lawfully present immigrant and meet ALL of the following requirements:

- File a DUA claim within 30 days of the disaster
- Be unemployed as a result of the disaster
- Register for work with the state employment services department
- Meet certain wage requirements
- Not be eligible for regular unemployment compensation benefits

Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) vs. Unemployment Compensation (UC)

Unemployment Compensation (UC) is help you can get if you lose your job. It has stricter eligibility requirements than Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA). DUA does not require that you show that you have worked for a long time.

To apply for DUA benefits from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): Call 1-800-621-3362

DOL Disaster Unemployment website: http://workforcesecurity.doleta.gov/unemploy/disaster.asp

You can contact the State Unemployment Insurance Agency in the state where you live for help applying for these benefits.

You might be able to get DUA if:

- You are self-employed
- You are a migratory or seasonal worker
- You lose a week of work because of the disaster (beginning right after the disaster)
- You cannot reach your place of employment because of the disaster
- You were going to start a job but could not start it because of the disaster
- You have become the main person who earns for your family because the head of the household died as a result of the disaster
- You cannot work because you were hurt or injured in the disaster

You are eligible for DUA if you are:

- A U.S. Citizen
- A person with valid work authorization
- A Lawful Permanent Resident (green card)
- A Refugee
- An Asylee
- A Cuban/Haitian entrant
- A Parolee for more than one year
- An immigrant survivor of trafficking or domestic violence (T- or U- visa holder)
- A person who received a withholding of deportation

DUA benefits continue for up to 26 weeks.