



DATE: 29 AUGUST 2021

**SUBJECT: EVACUATION AND RETURN ASSISTANCE FOR AIRMEN/GUARDIANS
AND FAMILIES IMPACTED BY HURRICANE IDA**

**TO: HQ AFAS, ALL AIRMEN & FAMILY READINESS CENTERS, AMERICAN
RED CROSS AND OTHER MILITARY AID SOCIETY OFFICES**

**1. PURPOSE: BLANKET AUTHORITY (\$600.00 GRANT) / EFFECTIVE 29 AUGUST 2021
through 30 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Authorization to provide \$600 Grant under Blanket Authority for disaster assistance (Evacuation and Return) for eligible Air Force and Space Force members who have been impacted by Hurricane Ida in Louisiana and Mississippi. **This guidance also applies to adjacent states by exception.** Eligible Air Force and Space Force personnel may be provided financial assistance to assist with evacuation and return from the devastation of Hurricane Ida. Disaster assistance may be provided for **travel related expenses (lodging, fuel, food) associated with evacuating from or returning to an evacuated home.** Before considering assistance for evacuation and/or recovery assistance, caseworkers will verify through the local municipality that a mandatory order and/or a return order has been issued for departure and/or for return.

2. ELIGIBILITY.

The individuals listed below who have been impacted by Hurricane Ida are eligible for AFAS Disaster Assistance (Evacuation and Return):

- a. Active duty Airmen/Guardians and their eligible family members;
- b. Air National Guard and AF Reserve Airmen/Guardians (regardless of duty status) and their eligible family members;
- c. Retired Airmen/Guardians and their eligible family members;
- d. Retired Air National Guard and AF Reserve members receiving retired pay and their family members;
- e. Airmen/Guardian widows and widowers.

3. GENERAL GUIDELINES.

- a. Assistance for departing and/or returning to a home will only be considered upon confirmation by the local municipality that it is mandatory to depart and/or safe to return to the impacted area.
 - b. Assistance considered for basic essential needs (lodging, fuel, food) for departure or return home.
 - c. No budget required.
 - d. Assistance after-the-fact authorized with receipt(s) if assistance requested upon turn back home.
 - e. Spouse may apply with Power of Attorney (POA) if eligible member deployed.
 - f. **AF Airmen & Family Readiness Centers:**
 - Use Purpose Code 911
 - Use Tracking Code “**Hurricane Ida 2021**”
 - g. One \$600 grant per eligible family.
- 4. Eligible members may apply through normal application process if additional financial assistance is required.**
- 5. Blanket Authority for Hurricane Ida \$600 Grant will remain in effect until 30 September 2021. Further guidance will be provided for Hurricane Ida Recovery Assistance.**

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BEATRIZ SWANN, CMSgt (Ret)
Operations Manager