



Vermont First Responder and Health Care Worker Housing Options Guidance

Under Governor Phil Scott's Executive Order Addendum 8 (<https://governor.vermont.gov/content/addendum-8-executive-order-01-20>), local governments and private non-profit organizations that determine there is a need to provide housing to healthcare workers and first responders may provide non-congregate temporary housing to quarantine and temporarily isolate first responders and healthcare workers who have a reasonable risk of having been exposed to or are infected with COVID-19, or are recovering from COVID-19, and cannot return to their usual residence because of the risk of infecting other household members.

Rooms in hotels, motels, inns, and other vacation properties can be rented for this purpose, despite the prohibition of the practice for the general public put forth in the Governor's Executive Order. It is important to note the execution of this provision of Addendum 8 is at the full discretion of the local jurisdiction or private non-profit that deems there is a need to provide this type of temporary housing.

Further, local jurisdictions and critical private non-profits (such as hospitals) are eligible for federal reimbursement for these accommodations at 75% federal share under the Public Assistance Program included in the recent Major Disaster Declaration. To be reimbursed a community or private non-profit must first submit a request for public assistance into the Federal Grants Portal, as it would for any other FEMA reimbursement. Potential Applicants should continue to keep cost documentation that will be submitted to FEMA for grants.

The State Emergency Operations Center can assist with finding and securing housing for jurisdictions, agencies, or critical private non-profits such as hospitals if the ability to do so has been exceeded. You may contact the **SEOC 24/7 at 800-347-0488**. The cost of such housing remains the responsibility of the requesting entity.

If you wish to apply for Public Assistance COVID-19 Funding, and are eligible as a town, state agency, and/or critical private non-profit you can find information on applying at <https://vem.vermont.gov/covid19/disaster>

If you have further questions on Public Assistance reimbursement, contact Vermont Emergency Management Public Assistance Officer Kim Canarecci at kim.canarecci@vermont.gov.