

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Under the PREPS program, the state provides partial repair to survivors' homes, who are displaced because of Hurricane Harvey. This will allow them to return to their own home and shelter in place for an extended period of time until permanent repairs can be completed. This could mean no longer having to stay at shelters, hotels, or rentals.

If you decide to participate in the program, you will need to sign a Legal Right of Entry and Indemnification Form as well as an Agreement to Participate form.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Single-family owner-occupied properties are eligible for basic, temporary damage repairs to prepare your home for permanent work and to make the home safe, sanitary and secure. Repair work will be performed by contractors hired by the Texas General Land Office. The PREPS program allows residents to quickly and safely shelter in their own home and come back to their communities. Only properties that are determined that they can be brought up to a safe and habitable standard will be eligible to participate in the program. A damage assessor provided by the program will examine your home to determine if it can be made safe and habitable within the funding limitations, for example: if the structural integrity of the dwelling is in good condition and excessive flood waters were not experienced, it is likely the property will be eligible. All areas of the home are observed to identify eligible scope of work items.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The program evaluates each interested applicant's home to determine a scope of work in the home to create a safe, secure, and habitable place for the family to live while they continue their permanent home rebuilding. Construction work will include items such as gutting out and cleaning the house, treating but not remediating for mold, electrical restoration, installing a water heater, removing wet wall insulation, installing limited drywall, insulation, heat and air conditioning, and provide up to \$500 in basic cooking or refrigeration appliances. This work will be provided to eligible homeowners at no out-of-pocket cost. Assistance under the PREPS program is designed to be an emergency protective measure to support efforts to save lives and promote public health and safety. As a result, PREPS emergency protective measures do not affect a FEMA Individuals and Households Program ("IHP") applicant's eligibility for repair, replacement, or permanent or semi-permanent housing construction under the Stafford Act. However, once emergency work is completed and the residence is cleared for occupancy, the homeowner will no longer be eligible for temporary housing assistance or further Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) or any other FEMA sheltering assistance. This essential emergency cleanup and partial repair work will help families live in at least a portion of their home, while they continue to finish making permanent repairs to their home.



TEXAS GENERAL
LAND OFFICE



SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM?

Many residents are desperately ready to go home and get back into their communities. This may not be possible because their home is not safe and sanitary yet. If you are ready to leave the shelter, rental apartment or hotel room; if you are ready to go home, this program is for you and could be what you have been waiting for.

Keep in mind that this program provides partial repairs necessary to prepare your home for more permanent repairs but it does allow you to get back into your home and community so that you can begin the tasks of rebuilding.



For more information:
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Partial Repair & Essential Power for Sheltering (PREPS) Examples of Temporary Repairs

EXAMPLE EXTERIOR REPAIRS

(Homeowner may not receive all listed repairs)

- Work necessary to provide a potable water supply – this may include well decontamination if it's the only source of potable water
- Securing broken windows and repair or replacement of functioning exterior and/or interior necessary doors
- Taking temporary actions to weatherproof the home and prevent water intrusion; repairs could be temporary patches to roof or siding
- Repairing damaged front stairs or porches to allow safe entrance and exit

To be eligible for PREPS, individuals and households must reside in a county that has been designated for Individual Assistance. Your damage must be to a primary residence, you must be the homeowner, and damage must be a result of Hurricane Harvey.

NOTE: You must have registered with FEMA prior to the closing date to take advantage of this program.

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Drywall on exterior facing walls



EXAMPLE INTERIOR REPAIRS

(Homeowner may not receive all listed repairs)

- Work necessary to provide essential electric power supply, HVAC, and hot water
- Work necessary to restore natural gas supply if required for HVAC, hot water, and/or food preparation
- Removal of disaster-related debris within the home to a curbside location to ensure safety in entering, assessing, and performing eligible work within the home
- Removing flood-damaged water-absorbing flooring material including carpet, carpet padding, vinyl and other floor covering materials
- Minor interior and/or exterior work to provide safe access to the home and ensure a safe living environment
- Drywall and insulation replacement for the purpose of safely covering any exposed electrical work or to ensure the home is properly insulated
- Ensure one useable bathroom with vanity cabinet and countertop, sink and faucet, toilet (with tank), tub or shower, drywall around bathroom for privacy
- Ensure functional kitchen facilities with minimal base cabinets, countertops, sink and faucet to include minimal cooking and refrigeration appliances necessary to shelter in place (not to exceed \$500)
- Ensure safe and adequate sleeping accommodations for all household members
- Post-jobsite cleanup of exposed floor and wall surfaces where flooring or wall coverings were removed
- Replacing/installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Items and work necessary to ensure safe shelter and accessibility for individuals with access and functional needs