



# Louisiana Shelter at Home Program (SAH)

## FACT SHEET

### WHAT IS THIS?

The Shelter at Home Program enables eligible individuals or families whose homes were damaged in the August flooding to take shelter in their own homes while they rebuild, instead of having to stay in a hotel, rental or mass shelter.

#### Legal Right of Entry and Indemnification

You will need to sign a Legal Right of Entry and Indemnification Form. See end of this document for what this means or call 1-800-927-0216.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Single-family owner-occupied properties are eligible for damage remediation designed to make the home safe and habitable for a cost not to exceed \$15,000. Remediation work will be performed by contractors hired by the State. The Shelter at Home program allows residents to quickly and safely shelter in their own home. Only properties that are determined to be able to be brought up to the "safe and habitable" standard will be eligible to participate in the program. An Inspector will determine if a home can be made safe and habitable within the funding limitations, for example: if flood waters have not exceeded 24 inches in a home, it is likely the property will be eligible. The program does specify that floodwater amounts higher than that may be inspected and approved on a case-by-case basis.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

The program evaluates each applicant's home and, if up to \$15,000 of work in that home can create a safe, secure, habitable place for the family to live while they continue their permanent home rebuilding, then that applicant may be eligible for this program. Very basic initial work will include items such as mucking out the house, basic electrical restoration, installing a basic water heater, removing wet wall insulation, and providing up to \$500 in basic cooking or refrigerating appliances. This work will be provided at no out-of-pocket cost to the eligible homeowner. This assistance is independent of and will not affect determination of any Individual Assistance grant from FEMA. These essential emergency cleanup and minor repairs will help families get a jumpstart on their full recovery and live in at least a portion of their home, while they continue to finish the big task of making permanent repairs to their home.

### WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAM?

Many residents are desperately ready to go home, but their homes are 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 is the program for you.

Keep in mind that this program provides the **bare minimum necessary** to get you back in your home so that you can begin the tasks of rebuilding.

**NOTE:** You do not have to be registered with FEMA in order to take advantage of this program. All people interested in this program must apply individually (separately from registering with FEMA or SBA or filing a flood insurance claim with NFIP)

### QUESTIONS?

Call 1-800-927-0216

Email: [shelterathome@la.gov](mailto:shelterathome@la.gov)

### APPLY ONLINE AT:

[www.shelterathome.la.gov](http://www.shelterathome.la.gov)



## WHAT TYPES OF REPAIRS ARE COVERED IN THE PROGRAM?

Shelter at Home teams will complete tasks that include

### Interior

- Inspection and testing of electrical, HVAC, and plumbing systems to ensure they are in safe working order.
- Removing drywall, insulation and other water-absorbing wall coverings (excluding fire-rated walls) damaged by flooding.
- Removing flood-damaged water-absorbing flooring material including carpet, carpet padding, and other materials.
- Disposing debris at the street right-of-way.
- Cleaning and sanitizing exposed floor and wall surfaces where flooring or wall coverings were removed.
- Ensuring there is one (1) temporary working bathroom in the home, which could include cleaning or fixing a bathtub/shower, toilet and sink.
- Maintaining heating and minimum air conditioning for comfort.
- Repairing or replacing damaged water heaters.
- Inspecting and repairing natural gas lines if necessary.
- Testing and repairing or replacing/installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Providing mini-refrigerators and microwaves as necessary (The total appliance allowance will be \$500 where needed).

### Exterior

- Taking temporary actions to weatherproof the home and prevent water intrusion; repairs could be temporary patches.
- Patching (minor and quick repairs), door hardware replacement, and replacement/repair of door jambs and headers as necessary for secure entry and exit.
- Securing broken windows with minor carpentry or hardware repairs.
- Repairing damaged front stairs or porches to allow safe entrance and exit.
- Ensuring that plumbing is connected to a sanitary sewer or approved sewerage disposal system.
- Ensuring that potable water is available and operational.

### Legal Right of Entry and Indemnification Form

What am I signing?

The Right of Entry and Indemnification Form gives Louisiana Shelter at Home teams (government employees, State and Federal, and contractors) the legal right to enter your home. We cannot enter your home until you sign this form.

What does this form authorize?

This form legally allows Louisiana Shelter at Home to:

- Enter your home and property to inspect for damages, and
- If you choose to continue participation, and if you and your home qualify for this program, take actions that are covered under the Louisiana Shelter at Home program.

### Disclaimers:

- All inspections and actions by the Louisiana Shelter at Home program are done at no costs you the homeowner.
  - If you commit fraud on this form, you may be held liable for costs and be charged with a Federal crime.
  - This form is valid for 180 days unless canceled by the homeowner in writing.
  - You are waiving liability and indemnifying the Federal, State, and City Government and their contractors against any loss, damage, destruction to the home or items in the home, or injury or death to people on the property.
  - The Contractor may share any information it collects with other parties- such as government agencies and Contractors or sub-contractors - in order to inspect and repair your home. The State and the Contractor will not share this information with parties outside the Louisiana Shelter at Home program.
  - If you elect to use this program, you will not be eligible for any other Government Sheltering options.
- Remember, this form only authorizes people with an official Louisiana Shelter at Home ID to enter your home. If someone comes to your home and you are not sure if they are part of Louisiana Shelter at Home program, please contact the Louisiana Shelter at Home Program.

**Questions? Call 1-800-927-0216 or Email [shelterathome@la.gov](mailto:shelterathome@la.gov)**