

Q&A about Cyclone Gabrielle Welfare Support Grant

What is the Cyclone Gabrielle Welfare Support Grant?

- The Cyclone Gabrielle Welfare Support Grant is a time-limited government fund, administered by NEMA
- It is intended to reimburse certain emergency costs incurred by marae, iwi, and recognised community organisations (including rural groups, Pacific organisations, and ethnic service providers) who supported people during the state of national emergency.
- This grant is a faster alternative to the normal process of seeking reimbursement through local authorities for emergency response costs.
- Applicants will need to meet certain eligibility criteria and conditions to receive funding.
- Grants are usually capped at \$40,000 (excl. GST), but organisations may be able to apply for a subsequent Grant after discussing their circumstances with NEMA.

Who is eligible?

To be an eligible organisation, you must meet all three of these criteria:

- You must be an authorised representative of a marae, an iwi organisation, or a recognised community group (including rural groups, Pacific organisations, and ethnic service providers).
- Your organisation must be in an area that was placed under a state of national emergency on 14 February 2023 (Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Tairāwhiti, Hawke's Bay, and Tararua District).
- Your organisation must have actively supported displaced, isolated, or affected communities during the response to Cyclone Gabrielle, for example by providing emergency accommodation or distributing essential supplies.

What costs can be reimbursed?

To be eligible for a Grant, costs must meet all four of these criteria:

1. directly incurred by the eligible organisation
2. incurred between 12:01 am on 14 February 2023 and the time the state of national emergency expired or was terminated for that area
3. not have already been met through another funding mechanism
4. incurred to meet the immediate emergency welfare needs of people affected, displaced, or isolated due to Cyclone Gabrielle

You can claim for:

- Food, water, and other essential grocery items - like meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, canned goods, milk, infant foods (including feeding equipment), pet food, cereal, crisps, muesli bars and biscuits
- Sanitary and hygiene items (like toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, toilet paper and sanitary products) and cleaning products, for example detergent, washing powder and disinfectant.
- Hire of plant/equipment used to prepare, store, or deliver food to address immediate welfare needs. For example, gas bottles, microwave ovens and refrigerators.
- Costs associated with packaging and delivery of eligible welfare items, including hire of equipment, fuel, and transportation costs

- Medical and first aid supplies, including over-the-counter medicine and emergency prescription medicine.
- Clothing, blankets, and bedding for the purpose of emergency shelter.
- Purchase of low value capital items used to provide or enable emergency welfare services – for example, fridges, freezers, cookers, generators, or satellite broadband stations (such as Starlink).
- Provision of petrol or diesel to run household or small community generators to provide electricity for cooking, heating, and communication, or to enable household vehicle access to welfare services, including the collection of welfare supplies at a distribution centre.

You cannot claim for:

- non-essential goods, or other costs not directly related to meeting welfare needs.
- Purchase of other capital items like vehicles or shipping containers, or non-welfare-related response items such as chainsaws, shovels, hand tools, gumboots, and personal protective equipment.
- Direct and indirect costs for support to the primary sector including animal feed, veterinary medicine, farm materials, fuel, and transport.
- Accommodation, food, transport, and other costs relating to staff and volunteers.

NEMA reserves the right to decline funding for other non-essential or inappropriate expenditure.

How do I apply and what do I need?

Apply online here: [Cyclone Gabrielle - Welfare Support Grant » National Emergency Management Agency \(civildefence.govt.nz\)](https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/cyclone-gabrielle-welfare-support-grant)

You will need:

- Authorisation to act for your iwi, marae or community group
- Bank account details
- Documentation like receipts