



# State of Mississippi

**TATE REEVES**  
Governor

April 1, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20500

Through: Regional Administrator Gracia B. Szczech  
FEMA Region IV  
3003 Chamblee Tucker Road  
Atlanta, GA 30341

Re: Major Disaster Declaration for COVID-19

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 C.F.R. § 206.36, I request that you declare an expedited major disaster declaration for the State of Mississippi as a result of the ongoing impacts of the coronavirus COVID-19 global pandemic. United States Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the United States on January 31, 2020, pursuant to Section 319 of the Public Health Service Act. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a global pandemic on March 11, 2020. You declared a National Emergency on March 13, 2020, pursuant to Section 201 and Section 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. § 1621) and an emergency declaration pursuant to Section 501(b) of the Stafford Act.

As of the date of this letter, at least 1,087 people have contracted and tested positive for COVID-19 in the State of Mississippi. The unusual severity and magnitude of this extraordinary event required the State of Mississippi to take unprecedented measures to save lives, protect public health and public safety, and lessen or avert the spread of the virus in order to mitigate a greater disaster.

The event is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and local governments, thereby necessitating Federal assistance. I respectfully request that you declare an expedited major disaster declaration for the State of Mississippi.

### **ACTION UNDER STATE LAW COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

In accordance with 44 C.F.R. § 206.36, I have taken appropriate actions under state law to respond to this situation.

On January 24, 2020, the Mississippi State Department of Health appointed a Public Health Incident Management Team at the Public Health Coordination Center to manage the public health impacts of COVID-19.

I created the Mississippi Coronavirus (COVID-19) Preparedness and Planning Steering Committee on March 4, 2020, to coordinate Mississippi's response to the emerging threat from this virus. Our first case of COVID-19 was identified on March 11, 2020. On March 12, 2020, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was opened to coordinate the state and local government response activities designed to lessen or avert the spread of the virus and to implement treatment response for residents who have contracted the disease.

On March 14, 2020, I declared a State of Emergency and directed all state and local government entities and agencies to cooperate in the implementation of the declaration and the execution of the State Emergency Operations Plan to respond to the event.

On March 19, 2020, I ordered the closing of all K-12 public schools and prohibited mass gatherings in the State of Mississippi for any event or convening that would bring together more than ten (10) persons in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater or any other confined indoor or outdoor space.

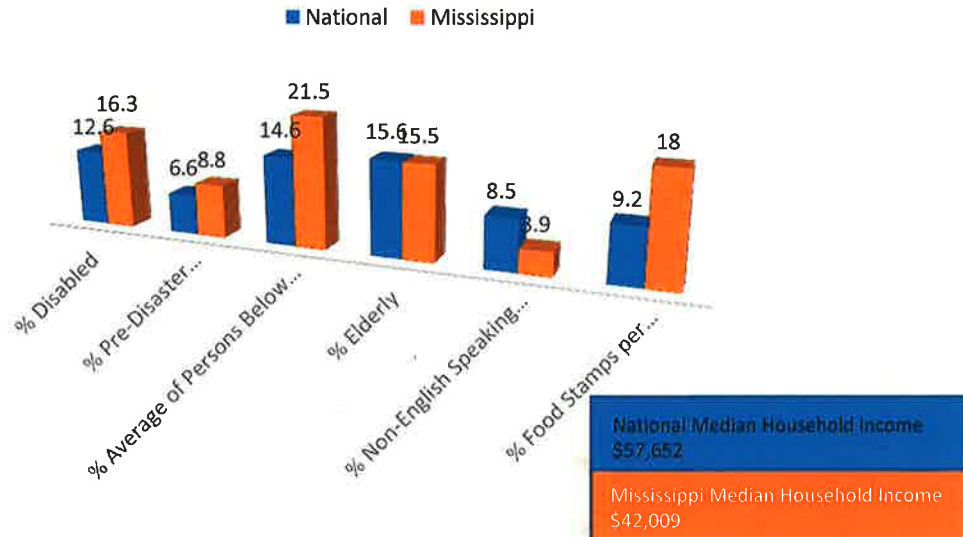
In anticipation of significant economic impacts, I issued Executive Order 1462 to waive the enforcement of certain unemployment benefit requirements to help workers unemployed due to COVID-19 and those who are employed but will not receive a paycheck.

### **INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DECLARATION FACTORS**

44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b) establishes several individual assistance declaration factors to be considered when making a request.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 21.5% of Mississippi residents live below the poverty level. The table below shows the demographics of the state. In Mississippi, the average percentage of persons living below the poverty level surpasses the national average.

### Disaster Impacted Population Profile



<sup>1</sup>The following is a list of State and local resources that have been or will be used to alleviate the conditions of this incident:

#### State Response Actions

- Mississippi has at least 1,087 cases of confirmed COVID-19 (as of March 30, 2020) with many hospitalizations as of the date of this letter and has documented the first case of community spread. The number of confirmed cases continues to rise daily.
- Our State Public Health lab in Jackson, Mississippi, working in partnership with private labs and labs in our public and private universities, will continue to expand our testing capacity as long as we have the testing materials and personal protective equipment (PPE) for medical professionals.
- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) is activated and continues to monitor the global COVID-19 situation. The SEOC is working to protect the public health by identifying confirmed cases as well as people under investigation (PUIs) and focusing on surveillance, management of confirmed cases and PUIs, triage, testing, contact tracing, and laboratory testing. The SEOC will evaluate other protective actions and will continue to plan for scarce resources and medical surge potential.
- Our SEOC has received requests for personal protective equipment, durable medical equipment and supplies, testing supplies, tents, and personnel to provide emergency protective measures for state and local governments. The state will be opening additional test collection sites for COVID-19 in the coming days.

<sup>1</sup> See also FEMA Form 010-0-13.

### Local Declarations

- As of the date of this letter, eighty-two (82) county governments including the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (MBCI) have declared states of emergency, and all have opened their county Emergency Operations Centers in response to COVID-19.

### **IMPACT TO COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

According to State and Federal Treasury reporting, the State of Mississippi has Total Taxable Resources of \$125.3 billion and a Gross Domestic Product of \$101.63 billion. The impact on the community infrastructure in the State is as follows:

Childcare assistance will be required in order to ensure the continuity of healthcare and other critical services. Currently, 850 or 57% of childcare facilities are closed as of March 25, 2020.

Social distancing, isolation, and quarantine measures directly impact the supply chain, including food and medical supplies, due to manufacturing and distribution disruption.

Care and resources will be necessary to provide door-to-door assistance to at-risk populations, including but not limited to the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and those in isolation and quarantine.

Closure of schools requires innovative solutions to provide continuity of childcare and the nutrition needs of students. With all public schools closed until at least April 17, 2020, and 57% of childcare centers closed, this increases the burden on parents, many of whom are currently unable to work due to the emergency. Currently, 124 schools district are providing meals to students at 351 sites through either the "Grab-n-Go" or delivery (Drop, Knock, and Go) methods.

A significant risk to public safety occurs when personnel, including firefighters, law enforcement, healthcare, and emergency medical service workers, become ill or need to care for family members.

It is not currently anticipated that "traditional" housing assistance, including temporary housing or repair and replacement assistance, will be needed due to the nature of this event.

However, the need for Other Needs Assistance (ONA) is evident to deal with uninsured, disaster-related necessary expenses and serious needs, to include:

- Child Care Assistance for families, healthcare workers, first responders, and others whose children cannot attend school due to mandatory school closures and daycare center closures;
- Funeral/Burial Assistance for fatalities resulting from the COVID-19 disease;
- Miscellaneous Costs, such as cleaning/sanitizing homes of persons who have contracted COVID-19 or to prevent the spread of the virus;
- Medical services and prescriptions for persons who have contracted COVID-19; and

- The Critical Needs Assistance for households who have immediate or critical needs for vital resources due to the disruption of community services and higher demand and limited availability of commodities.

In addition to ONA, the State of Mississippi is also collaborating with Mississippi Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters and the Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services to assist with the unmet needs of the thousands of Mississippians who are directly impacted by the community response to COVID-19.

The significant impacts of COVID-19 on school systems and students in Mississippi cannot be overstated. School personnel and students will have increased and heightened needs for spiritual and emotional care and will require enhanced access to mental health services.

Mississippi's public school system serves more than 495,000 students across 152 school districts and six charter schools. Prolonged school closures will affect all public school students. Special populations of students (including students with special needs, children in foster care, and economically disadvantaged students) are likely to have the greatest increased needs for mental health services. Access to school programs, school routines, and other auxiliary services helps students in these special populations succeed and mitigates against students' adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in their home-lives. The absence of such services, paired with students' limited access to mental healthcare during and after the COVID-19 public health emergency, is likely to have far-reaching, negative mental health effects.

The impact to our Human Services system has been significant, and the needs from both social services and behavioral health will continue to increase. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, our statewide Department of Mental Health Helpline, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster Distress Helpline, as well as the call centers of our 14 regional mental health centers, have all reported increases in COVID-19 specific calls, and many are seeing overall increases in call volume.

#### KEY STATISTICS

The following reports are from individually-managed care organizations, which together manage care for 591,509 Medicaid beneficiaries and 345,000 uninsured individuals.

- 63% increase in calls in the past 9 days compared to the first 9 days themselves of the month.
- 234% increase in our social media traffic indicating people are seeking urgent real time information.
- Reports of services needed from behavioral health outpatient providers linking school closures to an increase of 30% over normal volume, and that has escalated in the past week to a volume that is 175% over normal volume.
- Numerous reports from providers who are concerned about the impact of social distancing, which is driving social isolation and potentially worsening stabilized individuals with mental illness.
- Reports from behavioral health and others who provide group, adult-day, and congregant care to individuals with disabilities indicate there is concern about being able to shift treatment methods to provide care.

Currently, the Mississippi Department of Human Services, which maintains offices in all 82 counties, has altered public-facing operations at 85 locations. There are concerns for staff with respect to public health and safety, as well as concerns that beneficiaries may face delays in accessing needed services, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid. The Mississippi Department of Human Services is currently preparing guidance for county agencies to ensure access to services and benefits.

Since March 1, 2020, county Departments of Social Services have seen an increase of 200 additional applications per day for Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) benefits. Daily applications averaged 267 per day over the last 6-month period. For the period of March 1, 2020, to March 20, 2020, the average daily total was 1,535.

#### Medicaid

From experience in previous disasters, we know that mental illness is usually slow to arise as an issue because individuals can sustain some early isolation and trauma, and issues spike later. This delayed effect is especially concerning during the COVID-19 pandemic because Mississippi's provider networks are already experiencing drops in patient census, liquidity, and staff availability, in addition to other issues like school closures. Combined with a potentially lengthy pandemic timeline, this likely will negatively impact the number of Mississippians who are able to have their behavioral health and intellectual or developmental disability needs met through traditional means, which could create additional, significant resource pressure on crisis lines as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds.

#### Casualties

As of the date of this letter, the State of Mississippi has over 1,087 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with hospitalizations across 74 counties and anticipates that many more cases will be identified over the upcoming days, weeks, and months. As of this letter, Mississippi has confirmed 22 fatalities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **DISASTER RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT**

The full economic impact to the State of Mississippi has yet to be determined, but the impacts on the State's economy from this pandemic are expected to be devastating.

Mississippi is experiencing large layoffs and increased claims due to the impact of COVID-19. The largest impacts are currently being experienced in the following industries: retail trade; transportation and warehousing; educational services; arts, entertainment, and recreation; accommodation and food services; and real estate and rental leasing. The large increase in unemployment claims and layoffs are also centered in these industries. In January 2020, these industries accounted for over 1,123,830 jobs and \$11.7 billion in quarterly wages. It is anticipated in the coming weeks that all sectors of the economy will experience extensive declines in employment.

A Presidential major disaster declaration will provide needed relief to those applying for unemployment benefits. Pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 71-5-511(d), there is a one-week waiting period for each unemployment claim filed.

A major disaster declaration under the Stafford Act would mean the one-week waiting period will not apply for any unemployment claim that is directly related to the federal disaster declaration. The Emergency Declaration under the Stafford Act issued by you on March 13, 2020, does not meet the requirements to waive the one-week waiting period because it was not a major disaster declaration.

To help address the economic impacts, on March 21, 2020, I issued Executive Order No. 1462 which will directly aid workers who may have lost wages in restaurants and other meeting places due to restrictions on mass gatherings. For example, workers who lose income due to tips or scheduled work hours, but are still employed, would be eligible for benefits because of this Order. Among other changes:

- It removes the one-week waiting period to apply for unemployment benefits for those workers who lose their jobs.
- It removes the requirement that a person must be actively looking for another job during this time when many potential employers are closed and social distancing guidelines are in effect.
- It allows employees who lose their jobs or, in certain cases, have had their hours reduced due to COVID-19, to apply for unemployment benefits.
- It directs that employers will not be held responsible for benefits paid as a direct result of COVID-19 claims.
- It waives the requirement that people must apply for benefits in person; workers can apply for benefits online or by phone.

However, the State will need Disaster Unemployment Assistance pursuant to Section 410 of the Stafford Act because tens of thousands of employees will require unemployment assistance, severely straining, and potentially exceeding the State's capacity to fund. The State has received 5,848 unemployment assistance claims since the issuance of Executive Order No. 1462, as compared to 3,460 claims for the entire month of February and 5,119 for the entirety of January 2020.

## **UNINSURED HOME AND PERSONAL PROPERTY LOSSES**

This event will most likely not damage homes and property like a natural disaster, but there may be some unforeseen impacts that we have not yet realized. However, it is possible that disaster housing will be required to maintain proper quarantine and isolation for high-risk individuals.

## **DISASTER HISTORY**

Mississippi has a strong State Emergency Management Agency with Individual Assistance, Public Assistance, Hazard Mitigation, and Resiliency programs. However, the State has been inundated with a number of declared disasters, both Federal and State, which have strained our capabilities and resources.

The disaster history for the State of Mississippi from the last twelve (12) months includes twenty-three (23) state-level responses to disaster events in which eight (8) required the declaration of a State of Emergency and five (5) Federally Declared Events. Throughout the year, the SEOC sent 26 Level 5 "Monitoring" messages for enhanced monitoring of the threats of severe weather, cold weather, Tropical systems, River Flooding, and Excessive Rainfall events. There were 15 Virtual activations of the SEOC and eight (8) Level 3 Partial activations which included:

- Severe Weather March 3 - 4, 2019;
- Severe Weather March 9, 2019;
- Severe Weather April 4 - 5, 2019;
- Severe Weather April 18, 2019;
- Severe Weather and elevated rainfall May 8 - 9, 2019;
- Severe Weather and elevated rainfall June 6, 2019;
- Tropical Storm Barry in which a State of Emergency was signed by the Governor on July 13, 2019;
- Hurricane Dorian August 29, 2019;
- Tropical Invest 95;
- Potential Tropical Cyclone 9; and
- Two Tropical Disturbances from September 11 - 17, 2019.

The SEOC moved to enhanced monitoring for a strong cold front, severe weather and flash flooding events during the month of October 2019.

The SEOC continued monitoring for Cold front/freezing weather and severe weather that occurred throughout the month of November 2019 with a Tornado touchdown in Star, Mississippi, during the overnight hours of November 26 - 27, 2019.

A severe weather outbreak on December 16, 2019, resulted in tornadic activity statewide with additional severe weather events occurring December 26-27, 2019, and December 29, 2019.

A severe weather outbreak on January 10, 2020, resulted in statewide tornadic activity that resulted in a Federal Small Business Administration declaration in Jones County.



The State has expended an extraordinary amount of money on Stafford Act and non-Stafford Act disasters in the previous three years, as well as the current fiscal year. Serious remaining impacts still need to be addressed.

Therefore, I am respectfully asking you to issue an expedited Major Disaster Declaration for the State of Mississippi including:

- Disaster Unemployment Assistance;
- Individuals and Household Program, limited to Other Needs Assistance (ONA);
- Small Business Administration's (SBA) Disaster Assistance Loans Program;
- Crisis Counseling;
- Disaster Legal Services;
- Disaster Case Management; and
- Disaster Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program.

I also request Public Assistance Category B emergency protective measures, including Direct Federal Assistance.

I certify that for this major disaster, the State and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal shares of the cost required by the Stafford Act.

I have designated Todd S. DeMuth as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He will work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and may provide further information or justification on my behalf.

I appreciate your support and recognition of the continued impact that COVID-19 poses to the State.

Sincerely,



Tate Reeves  
GOVERNOR

Enclosures

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
**REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL DISASTER DECLARATION**  
**MAJOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY**

OMB Control Number 1660-0009  
Expires 09/30/2019

1. Request Date Apr 1, 2020

**Burden Disclosure Notice**

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 9 hours per response. The burden estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and submitting the form. This collection of information is required to obtain a benefit. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street SW, Washington, DC 20472, Paperwork Reduction Project (1660-0009). **NOTE: Do not send your completed form to this address.**

Completion of this form including applicable attachments satisfies legal requirements for emergency and major disaster declaration requests under 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170 and 5191, respectively, as implemented at 44 C.F.R. §§ 206.35 and 206.36. Failure to use this form may result in a failure to meet these requirements and/or a delay in processing the request.

<p>2a. Name of State (as defined in Stafford Act 102, 42 U.S.C. § 5122) or Indian tribal government requesting declaration.</p> <p>Mississippi</p>	<p>2b. Population (as reported by 2010 Census) or estimated population of Indian tribal government's damaged area(s). <u>2,967,297</u></p>
<p>3. Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Name</p> <p>Governor Tate Reeves</p>	<p>4. Designation of State or Tribal Coordinating Officer upon declaration (if available) and phone number</p> <p>Todd DeMuth, 769-798-7321</p>
<p>5. Designation of Governor's Authorized Representative or Tribal Chief Executive Representative upon declaration (if available) and phone number</p> <p>Gregory S. Michel, 601-933-6362</p>	
<p>6. Declaration Request For: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Disaster (Stafford Act Sec. 401) <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (Stafford Act Sec. 501 (a))</p>	
<p>7. Incident Period: Beginning Date <u>Jan 20, 2020</u> End Date _____ or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuing</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>If requesting a "continuing" incident period, enclose an official statement from a qualified Federal Government agency acknowledged as a national authority in a specific incident field (e.g., United States Geological Survey for seismic incidents, the National Weather Service for flooding).</i></p>	
<p>7b. Type of Incident (Check all that apply)</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Drought    <input type="checkbox"/> Earthquake    <input type="checkbox"/> Explosion    <input type="checkbox"/> Fire    <input type="checkbox"/> Flood    <input type="checkbox"/> Hurricane    <input type="checkbox"/> Landslide    <input type="checkbox"/> Mudslide  <input type="checkbox"/> Severe Storm (rain, high water, wind-driven, rain, hail, lightning)    <input type="checkbox"/> Snowstorm (Must include Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data)    <input type="checkbox"/> Straight-Line Winds  <input type="checkbox"/> Tidal Wave    <input type="checkbox"/> Tornado    <input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Depression    <input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Storm    <input type="checkbox"/> Tsunami    <input type="checkbox"/> Volcanic Eruption    <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Storm  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <u>Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic</u> </p>	
<p>8. Description of damages (Short description of impacts of disaster on affected area and population). Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.</p> <p>As of this request, Mississippi has 1,073 confirmed cases and is expecting many more in the coming days and weeks. Community infrastructure remains disrupted and/or halted for over seventy-two hours. Economic impacts are immeasurable but include historic unemployment and furloughed workers, loss of business, and reduced government revenue. Mississippi has municipalities that are restricting visitor access and issuing curfews. The State is experiencing shortages of water, paper products, cleaning supplies, and first aid kits due to panic buying along with unprecedented interruption of normal governmental services.</p>	
<p>9. Description of the nature and amount of State and local or Indian tribal government resources which have been or will be committed. Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.</p> <p>I directed state and local agencies to assist with the response and mitigation of this pandemic. I have issued Executive Orders to limit all gatherings to no more than 10 people, closed all K-12 public schools, and suspended dine-in services in restaurants and bars. Mississippi anticipates significant economic impacts, and I have issued Executive Order 1462 to waive the enforcement of certain unemployment benefit requirements to assist workers who have become unemployed due to COVID-19 and those who are employed but will not receive a paycheck. Our State Emergency Operations Center has received requests for personal protective equipment, durable medical equipment and supplies, testing supplies, and personnel to provide emergency protective measures for State and local governments. The State continues to open additional testing sites for COVID-19. State and local law enforcement and public health employees are working to implement the Orders I have issued to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Mississippi.</p>	

### 10. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment\*

☐ Individual Assistance      Dates Performed \_\_\_\_\_ Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Start \_\_\_\_\_ End \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)

Due to the Statewide nature of this event, along with further risk of spreading the virus, Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments are not feasible.

☐ Public Assistance      Dates Performed \_\_\_\_\_ Requested \_\_\_\_\_ Start \_\_\_\_\_ End \_\_\_\_\_

Public Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)

### 11. Programs and Areas Requested

Individual Assistance ☐ N/A    ☒ Individuals and Households Program    ☒ Crisis Counseling Program    ☒ Disaster Unemployment Assistance  
☒ All    ☒ Disaster Case Management    ☒ Disaster Legal Services    ☒ Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)) If additional space is needed, please enclose additional documentation).

Due to the global nature of this event, Individual Assistance for the above programs is requested for all counties, cities and tribal areas statewide.

For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes in the requested counties (if applicable).

Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

Please see **Enclosure A: Supplemental Information for Individual Assistance** for additional information in support of this request\*.

\*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)			
Public Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Debris Removal (Category A)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency Protective Measures (Category B) <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Work (Categories C-G)* (not available for Emergency Declaration Requests)</span>
<p>For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)). If additional space is needed or your request includes different categories of work for different jurisdictions; please enclose additional documentation.</p> <p>Emergency protective measures (Category B) not authorized under other Federal statutes, including direct Federal assistance, under the Public Assistance program at 75 percent federal funding statewide.</p>			
<p>For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes included in the requested counties (if applicable). Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.</p>			
<p>Please see <b>Enclosure B: Supplemental Information for Public Assistance</b> for additional information in support of this request*.</p>			
<b>Indemnification for Debris Removal Activity</b>			
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I do not anticipate the need for debris removal.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I anticipate the need for debris removal, which poses an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety. Pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170b &amp; 5173, the State or Indian tribal government agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State or Indian tribal government agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.</p>			
<b>Request for Direct Federal Assistance</b>			
<p><input type="checkbox"/> I do not request direct Federal assistance at this time.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property, and:</p>			
<p>a. I request the following type(s) of assistance: The State of Mississippi anticipates needing additional assistance with Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Disaster Case Management, and Crisis Counseling; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers support in medical facility assessments and possible build-out of needed facilities; and funding for the deployment of the Mississippi National Guard (32 U.S.C. § 502(f) status) in support of ongoing operations.</p>			
<p>b. List of reasons why State and local or Indian tribal government cannot perform, or contract for, required work and services.</p> <p>Due to the scope and operational needs during this event, the State of Mississippi will need assistance with unemployment benefits for the foreseeable future. The requirements for Crisis Counseling have surpassed the State's capability, and the funding for the Mississippi National Guard and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are key components of the State's response.</p>			
<p>c. In accordance with 44 C.F.R. § 206.208, the State or Indian tribal government agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance: (1) Provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-ways necessary to accomplish the approved work; (2) Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work; (3) Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State or FEMA-Tribe Agreement; and (4) Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.</p>			
<b>Request for Snow Assistance</b>			
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> I request snow assistance.</p>			
<p>Snow assistance for the following jurisdictions (Specify counties, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas).</p>			
<p>Please see <b>Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data</b> for additional information in support of this request*.</p>			
<p>*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request</p>			

11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Hazard Mitigation\* ☒ Statewide

OR

For the following specific counties, parishes, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas.

12. Mitigation Plan Information\*

a. Mitigation Plan Expiration Date October 17, 2023

b. Type of Plan

☐ Enhanced

☒ Standard

13. Other Federal Agency Programs

☐ I do not anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies

☒ I do anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies

Please see **Enclosure C**: Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs for additional information in support of this request\*.

14. Findings and Certifications

☒ I certify the following:

a. I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local government or Indian tribal government and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary.

b. In response to this incident, I have taken appropriate action under State or tribal law and have directed the execution of the State or Tribal Emergency Plan on March 12, 2020 in accordance with the Stafford Act.

c. The State and local governments, or Indian tribal government will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

15. List of Enclosures and Supporting Documentation

☒ Cover Letter ☐ Enclosure A (Individual Assistance)\*

☐ Enclosure B (Public Assistance)\*

☐ Enclosure C (Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs)

☐ Enclosure D (Historic and Current Snowfall Data)

☒ Additional Supporting Documentation The Cover Letter serves as evidence in lieu of Enclosures A, B, and C.

  
Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Signature

April 1, 2020  
Date

If anyone except the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive signs this document, please provide the documentation that establishes that this individual has the legal authority to act on behalf of the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive.

\*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request