

## **Bridge Assistance Program** 2025 California Wildfires

## FOR RED CROSS AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS INTERNAL USE ONLY

In early January 2025, the Palisades and Eaton wildfires destroyed homes and businesses and disrupted lives across Southern California. In addition to shelter, food, relief supplies, and comfort for disaster survivors, the American Red Cross also provided financial assistance to help people whose homes were severely impacted by the wildfires purchase necessities like groceries and clothing. This first phase of financial assistance has closed, and a second phase of financial assistance will begin in April 2025. This second phase of financial assistance will allow people to continue their recovery, and these funds can be used to help replace household items, offset transportation costs, or support other recovery needs.

## Overview

Thanks to our generous donors, the Red Cross is providing financial assistance to households whose homes were located in the burn perimeter of either the Palisades Fire or Eaton Fire and have ongoing recovery needs.

To be eligible for Bridge Assistance, households must apply for the program and must meet all of the following requirements:

- Applicant's pre-disaster primary residence must be located within the <u>Palisades Fire</u> or <u>Eaton Fire</u> burn perimeter, as defined by CAL FIRE.
- Applicant with a verified identity is the Head of Household and is not listed as a household member on any other Bridge Assistance application.
- Applicant states that household needs financial assistance due to a recovery gap resulting from the disaster.

An applicant does not need to have received previous Red Cross assistance, including Immediate Assistance, to be eligible for Bridge.

## To apply for the Bridge Assistance Program:

- People who were eligible for the Immediate Assistance program will receive an email, text, or phone call invitation from the Red Cross to complete a Bridge Assistance application.
- The Red Cross will coordinate intake events with community partners to reach people who are eligible but may not have been enrolled in the Immediate Assistance program.

All Red Cross services, including financial assistance, are available to individuals regardless of nationality, race, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, class, or political opinions. The Red Cross is a charity, not a government agency, and people do not need to be American citizens to receive our help.

Red Cross financial assistance is not a loan and does not need to be repaid.

For more information and locations of intake events, visit redcross.org/CAFireBridge.