



Disaster Recovery: Application Questions

INTRODUCTION

Public media stations play a vital role in keeping communities informed during times of crisis. The Public Media Bridge Fund's Disaster Recovery program provides rapid response, one-time financial assistance to public media organizations whose ability to deliver essential service has been disrupted due to a force majeure-type event.

Funding is intended to help stations restore service, repair or replace essential equipment, cover temporary operating costs, and address urgent community communication needs. Approval of emergency funding is dependent on available funds from the Public Media Bridge Fund.

Note: The Public Media Bridge Fund is not a primary relief agency and does not seek to duplicate the work or assume responsibilities of governments, insurance carriers or private relief efforts.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Disaster Recovery grant, applicants must either be a qualified CPB Community Service Grant (CSG) grantee as of September 30, 2025 OR a current member of the National Federation for Community Broadcasters (NFCB).

Is your station either a CPB CSG qualified grantee as of September 30, 2025 OR a current member of the National Federation for Community Broadcasters (NFCB)?

- ☐ Yes – The station is a CPB CSG qualified grantee as of September 30, 2025.
- ☐ Yes – The station is a current member of the NFCB.
- ☐ No – This application is only open to stations that were CSG-eligible as of September 30, 2025 or are NFCB current members. *If your station has special circumstances regarding CPB CSG qualification, please reach out to us directly at bridgefund@publicmedia.co before submitting an application.*

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Organization Name:

Station Name/Call letters:

CPB ID (if applicable):

(four digits)

Service Type:

- ☐ TV
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ Joint Licensee

Mailing address:

Head of grantee / Primary contact:

(name, title, phone, email)

Licensee official contact:

(name, title, phone, email)

EMERGENCY IMPACT

Date of emergency/disaster:

Please describe the emergency/disaster and how many people were directly affected:

Please describe the impact of the disaster on station operations:

Was the station's broadcast/streaming service disrupted? If yes, please describe.

Please describe the specific repairs or emergency actions needed to restore service, including the expected timeline for repair/service restoration.

Please provide estimated costs for each item described above.

(Best estimate is acceptable)

Please upload photos of the damage, engineering assessments, or cost estimates/invoices.

FINANCIAL NEED

Please submit the station's most recent audited financials and/or current year budget.

Calculate your organization's current cash position and estimated operating runway.

Please estimate how long your organization can continue normal operations using unrestricted cash, reserves, and any endowment funds that are available for operating use (exclude restricted funds or endowment principal that cannot be accessed).

[Click here for instructions on how to complete the calculation.](#)

Please note that this question is asking about the cash position of your entire organization, not the cash position of each individual grantee that you operate and are completing an application for (if relevant).

Based on the calculation above, what is your organization's estimated operating runway (in months)?

How much of your current unrestricted cash is already committed or needed for payroll/basic operations?

Do you have access to endowments, board-designated reserves, Friends group funds, or other similar capital?

If yes, please provide details about the nature and balances of those funds.

Is the damage partially or fully covered by insurance?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes:

- Has a claim been filed?
- What is the estimated deductible or out-of-pocket cost?
- Please provide further details on the insurance claim if desired.

If no:

- Please provide a detailed reason why insurance is not covering this cost.

Have you applied for other sources of emergency funding (FEMA, state grants, foundation emergency funds)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please describe the additional sources of funding and their current status.

What amount are you requesting from the Bridge Fund's Disaster Recovery program?

(Maximum request amount: \$100,000)

Optional: If your station requires financial assistance exceeding \$100,000, please indicate the nature of additional expenses. The Bridge Fund will review special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

ORGANIZATION COMMITMENT AND SERVICE

Do your station leadership and your Licensee Official plan to continue operating your station as a local public media organization once service is restored?

- ☐ Yes – we (station leadership and Licensee Official) are committed to continuing operations
- ☐ No – we are not able to commit to continued operations
- ☐ Unsure / undecided at this time

Does your organization provide unique geographic coverage?

(e.g. serves a market or other geographic area not otherwise covered by another relevant CPB-qualified local public media station)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please describe. If relevant and available, provide additional information (e.g. signal coverage maps, engineering study insights, etc.) to help illuminate your situation.

Does your organization provide unique coverage in terms of content or audience demographics?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please provide additional information.

(e.g., signal coverage maps, engineering study insights, etc) that help illuminate your situation (where relevant and available).

Does your organization provide local news or information?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please describe.

Does your station fall within any of the following special categories?

- ☐ Native/Tribal station
- ☐ HBCU
- ☐ Rural
- ☐ Other (specify)