

Business Guide to Emergency Preparedness: Integrating Business Resiliency and Adaptation Plans

Resource Guide



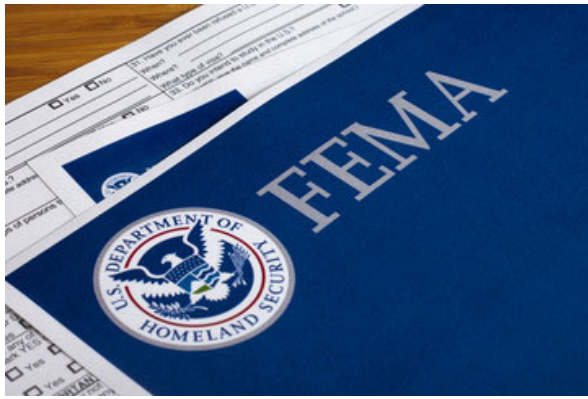
Why This Matters to You and Your Customers

Disasters are a regular part of doing business in California. California is increasingly facing climate extremes and emergencies including wildfires, evacuations, power outages, flooding, earthquakes and heat emergencies. In these moments of disruption, businesses must stay agile and resilient, often adapting operations on the fly. A restaurant becomes a donation center, a retail shop becomes a cooling center, a facilities warehouse becomes a shelter hub. What happens to accessibility when your business changes how it serves the public in times of need?

The Critical Intersection: Business Continuity and Inclusion

- Emergencies force businesses to protect their assets and operations, but that is not the full picture, as it is just as critical to ensure equitable access for customers and employees with disabilities at every stage of response and recovery.
- Many businesses adapt quickly to these occurrences by shifting their services, modifying operations or temporarily transforming them into community support centers.
- While these pivots are often essential for continuity and community support, they might unintentionally create barriers for individuals with disabilities if accessibility is not considered in the planning process.





Federal Resources

1. [Small Business Administration \(SBA\) Resources](#)

- Federal agency of US government with nationwide scope.
- Provides disaster assistance loans and grants, continuity planning tools and local Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) and technical assistance programs.

2. [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#)

- Federal agency of U.S. government to respond to disasters.
- Provides Preparedness Guides, makes disaster declarations and coordinates nationwide emergency response.
- [Continuity Resource Kit](#)
- [Disaster Ready Website](#)

3. [Internal Revenue Service \(IRS\) – Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief for Individuals and Businesses](#)

- Provides tax relief for affected individuals in federally declared disaster areas.

State Resources

1. [California Governor's Office of Emergency Services \(Cal OES\)](#)

- State program that administers financial assistance, business continuity tools, and emergency alerts during disasters.
- [Cal OES MyHazards Website](#)

2. [California Governor's Office of Economic Development \(GO-Biz\)](#)

- State program that provides support to businesses during economic disruptions.

3. [California Business Resiliency Program — Outsmart Disaster](#)

- Statewide preparedness campaign that provides disaster continuity planning guides.
- [Resiliency Roadmap](#)

4. [California Small Business Development Centers](#)

- Statewide network of local centers, funded in part through GO-Biz and in part through the SBA.
- Provides one-on-one disaster planning and recovery consultations, conducts training at the community level and helps businesses access SBA programs.

5. [California Office of the Small Business Advocate \(CalOSBA\)](#)

- State program that supports the economic growth of small businesses and assists in navigating resources.
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Local Resources

1. Chambers of Commerce

- Local Chambers of Commerce offer grant/funding alerts, disaster recovery guides and emergency preparedness events.
- [CA Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Fairfield Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [LA Area Chamber](#)
- [Orange Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Sacramento Metro Chamber](#)
- [San Diego Regional Chamber](#)
- [San Francisco Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Ventura Chamber of Commerce](#)

2. Emergency Management Agencies

- Local Emergency Management Agencies provide alerts and notifications of disasters, evacuation maps, ready-business toolkits and partnerships with business associations.
- [Los Angeles Office.](#)
- [Sacramento Office](#)
- [Orange County Office](#)
- [San Diego Office](#)
- [San Francisco Office](#)
- [San Jose Office](#)
- [Santa Clara County Office](#)
- [Solano County Office](#)
- [Ventura County Office](#)

Resources for Inclusive Emergency Response Planning

1. [Pacific ADA Center](#)

- Provides resources, training and inclusive plan creation.
- Helpline Phone Number: (510) 831-6714

2. [FEMA Guides and Information](#)

- Provides inclusive guides to how to perform essential functions both during and after emergencies.
- [FEMA FACT SHEET: Access and Functional Needs Support](#)

3. [ADA National Network](#)

- Provides guidance and information on implementing the ADA with regional centers dedicated to California.
- [Emergency Preparedness Resources](#)

4. [California Foundation for Independent Living Centers \(CFLIC\)](#)

- Offers diverse programs to assist the disability community in California.
- [Disability Disaster Access & Resources](#)

