

MISSISSIPPI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

# NEWS



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** January 12, 2001 10:00 am  
**SUBJECT: Deadline for State's Disaster Housing Program**

(Jackson) – The State's Disaster Housing Program was implemented statewide on December 17, 2000. People whose homes were made unlivable by the tornado that impacted Lauderdale County on December 16, 2000 may apply for the assistance by calling 1-800-434-4243. So far MEMA has received 15 applications for temporary housing assistance under this program.

Both homeowners and renters may apply. The Disaster Housing Program was established by the Mississippi Legislature to assist Mississippians in recovering from the effects of a disaster. **This is grant money from the State of Mississippi that is available to the public and does not have to be repaid.**

The application process takes about five minutes to complete. Callers should have on hand social security numbers and insurance settlement information prior to calling. Families that have insurance can also qualify.

Homeowners may qualify for up to **three months** rental assistance. If they choose not apply for rental assistance, they may be eligible for minimal home repair assistance in an amount up to the amount they would have received for the rental assistance. Renters may qualify for one month rental assistance and are not eligible to receive repair funding.

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE STATE DISASTER HOUSING PROGRAM APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 16, 2001 (Tuesday.)**

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