

11.0 Pre-Emptive Response Costs Before a Disaster (for local authorities)

There may be times when a local authority is required to take action prior to a disaster event. Keep in mind that all local authorities should take any actions necessary to protect their community regardless of whether they are eligible for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA).

In order to be considered for eligibility under the DFA program, all pre-emptive response costs must meet the following conditions:

1. Pre-emptive measures are taken based on a credible warning by an authorized agency (for example, the Hydrologic Flood Forecast Centre or the Office of the Fire Commissioner).
2. Pre-emptive measures are reasonable given the scope and scale of the disaster.
3. Pre-emptive measures are taken during the imminent threat period of the disaster.
4. The local authority has notified Manitoba EMO in writing before the pre-emptive action is taken by sending an email to dfa@gov.mb.ca.

If all the conditions are met, the costs related to pre-emptive measures will be considered even if the disaster does not occur.

Some examples of eligible pre-emptive response costs include:

- Incremental costs related to pre-emptive response (ex. Sandbagging or pumping).
- Incremental costs for short-term security to monitor evacuated properties.
- Short-term costs to set up and operate an emergency operations centre including rental of telecommunications equipment, facilities, or services.
- Dike construction and barriers to prevent damage to public/community infrastructure.

Ineligible pre-emptive response costs include:

- Snow removal and ditch cleaning, except under special circumstances.
- Capital purchases — barricades, road closure signs, or any other equipment that can be re-used.
- Measures considered a normal part of the municipality's operations.

If the local authority is unsure whether an expense is eligible, contact Manitoba Emergency Management Organization at 1-888-267-8298 or at dfa@gov.mb.ca from Monday to Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.