




FEMA

September 28, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR: FEMA Regional Administrators

FROM: Melissa K. Forbes
Assistant Administrator
Recovery Directorate 

SUBJECT: Consensus-Based Codes, Specifications, and Standards Clarification

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide clarification on FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program implementation of [FEMA Policy 104-009-11, Version 2.1, Consensus-Based Codes, Specifications, and Standards](#) (CBCSS). FEMA has included an appendix to the CBCSS policy containing a list¹ of approved codes, specifications, and standards that may be required for PA-funded projects.

The list of approved codes, specifications, and standards outlined in the appendix is not exhaustive. Applicants are not limited to using the codes, specifications, and standards listed in the appendix to be eligible for Public Assistance funding. Applicants who use different state or locally adopted codes, specifications, or standards with resilience criteria that are comparable to, or more stringent than, those listed in the appendix are eligible for funding and will be reimbursed for those costs.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ana Montero, Director, Public Assistance Division, at Ana.Montero@fema.dhs.gov.

¹ FEMA has simplified the process for implementing the CBCSS Policy by listing in Appendix A codes and standards that are pre-determined to conform with the policy. PA subrecipients are not precluded from using codes and standards that are not in Appendix A.