



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

Washington, DC 20415

The Director

CPM 2022-17

October 14, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Kiran A. Ahuja
Director

Subject: Emergency Leave Transfer for Federal Employees Adversely Affected by
Hurricane Ian 2022

In the event of a major disaster or emergency as declared by the President that results in severe adverse effects for a substantial number of Federal employees, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), may establish an emergency leave transfer program (ELTP). After coordinating with Federal agencies to assess the impact on employees in the declared disaster area, OPM, in consultation with OMB, has determined that an ELTP program is warranted for Hurricane Ian 2022.

An ELTP permits employees in the executive and judicial branches, or agency leave banks established under 5 U.S.C. 6363, to donate unused annual leave for transfer to employees of the same or other agencies (or the judicial branch) who are adversely affected by a major disaster or emergency, either directly or through adversely affected family members, and who need additional time off from work without having to use their own paid leave. Employees who are adversely affected and seek to become emergency leave recipients must apply in writing to their agencies. An employee who is unable to do so on their own may apply through a personal representative (5 CFR 630.1105). The ELTP will be in place to assist approved leave recipients as the need for donated annual leave becomes known.

Please note that this is the third ELTP that has been established recently. An ELTP for Hurricane Fiona was authorized on September 28, 2022 ([CPM 2022-14](#)), and an ELTP for the Mississippi Water Crisis was established on September 23, 2022 ([CPM 2022-13](#)). Under the ELTP statute at 5 U.S.C. 6391(b), an ELTP must be established for a specific disaster or emergency, and employees' donations of annual leave must be directed to a specific, established ELTP. While donated annual leave cannot be combined into one overarching ELTP for distribution to an agency's emergency leave recipients, OPM has guidance on the administration of the multiple ELTPs that agencies may consider in order to provide the maximum assistance to their affected employees. Please see [CPM 2017-16](#), November 2, 2017, on how best to administer multiple, concurrent ELTPs to ensure that emergency leave recipients receive sufficient amounts of donated annual leave.

Agencies with employees adversely affected by Hurricane Ian 2022 are in the best position to determine whether, and how much, donated annual leave is needed by their employees and which of their employees have been adversely affected by the emergency within the meaning of OPM regulations. They are also in the best position to quickly facilitate the transfer of donated

annual leave within their agencies. Therefore, OPM is authorizing agency and department heads (or their designees) to do the following:

- (1) Determine which employees are affected and, if so, how much donated annual leave they need;
- (2) Determine the period of time for which donated annual leave may be accepted for distribution to approved leave recipients;
- (3) As appropriate, approve leave donors and/or leave recipients in their agencies;
- (4) Facilitate the distribution of donated annual leave from approved leave donors or (with the concurrence of an agency leave bank board) from an agency leave bank to approved leave recipients within their agencies; and
- (5) Educate adversely affected employees that, dependent on agency policy, they may request advanced annual or sick leave, as appropriate (even if they have available annual and sick leave) or leave without pay, so that they are not forced to use accrued leave before donated annual leave becomes available. This is necessary since donated annual leave may not be retroactively substituted for accrued annual or sick leave used because of the emergency; it may only be substituted retroactively for any period of leave without pay or advanced annual or sick leave used because of the emergency.

Agencies are responsible for administering the ELTP for their own affected employees. Therefore, employees who wish to donate annual leave must contact their own agencies, not OPM, to determine if there are any affected employees in their agency and how to donate annual leave to them.

Agencies should contact OPM for assistance in receiving additional donated annual leave from other agencies only if they do not receive sufficient amounts of donated annual leave to meet the needs of emergency leave recipients within the agency. Based on the demand for donated leave, OPM will solicit and coordinate the transfer of donated annual leave among Federal agencies. OPM will notify each agency of the cumulative amount of donated annual leave that will be credited to it for transfer to its approved emergency leave recipients. The agency will determine the amount of donated annual leave to be transferred to each emergency leave recipient.

Guidance

- [Emergency Leave Transfer Program regulations, 5 CFR Part 630, Subpart K](#)
- [Emergency Leave Transfer Program Fact Sheet](#)
- [Guidance on Multiple Emergency Leave Transfer Programs, CPM 2017-16, November, 2017](#)
- [The Supplementary Information to the final 2008 Emergency Leave Transfer Program Regulations](#) provides helpful background information

Florida Tropical Storm Ian

- [EM-3584-FL](#)
- Incident Period: September 23, 2022 and continuing
- Declaration Date: September 24, 2022
- Designated Areas: Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, Desoto, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler,

Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Indian River, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Miccosukee Indian Reservation, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton, Washington

- [Map of affected area](#)

Florida Hurricane Ian

- [DR-4673-FL](#)
- Incident Period: September 23, 2022 and continuing
- Declaration Date: September 29, 2022
- Designated Areas: Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Clay, Collier, Columbia, DeSoto, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Hillsborough, Hollywood Indian Reservation, Holmes, Indian River, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Miami-Dade, Miccosukee-Indian Reservation, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwanee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton, Washington
- [Map of affected area](#)

Seminole Tribe of Florida Hurricane Ian

- [DR-4675](#)
- Incident Period: September 23, 2022 and continuing
- Declaration Date: September 30, 2022
- Designated Areas: Big Cypress Indian Reservation, Brighton Indian Reservation, Fort Pierce Indian Reservation, Hollywood Indian Reservation, Immokalee Indian Reservation, Tampa Reservation
- [Map of affected area](#)

South Carolina Hurricane Ian

- [EM-3585-SC](#)
- Incident Period: September 25, 2022 and continuing
- Declaration Date: September 29, 2022
- Designated Areas: entire state of South Carolina
- [Map of affected area](#)

North Carolina Hurricane Ian

- [EM-3586-NC](#)
- Incident Period: September 28, 2022 and continuing
- Declaration Date: October 1, 2022
- Designated Areas: entire state of North Carolina

Additional Information

Agency headquarters-level human resources offices may contact Pay and Leave at OPM at pay-leave-policy@opm.gov. Because the emergency leave transfer program will be administered by the agencies, employees should contact their servicing agency human resources office for further information on the emergency leave transfer program.

cc: Chief Human Capital Officers (CHCOs), Deputy CHCOs, and Human Resources Directors