

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION

A Staff Agency of the North Carolina General Assembly

Hurricane Helene State Funding Fall 2024

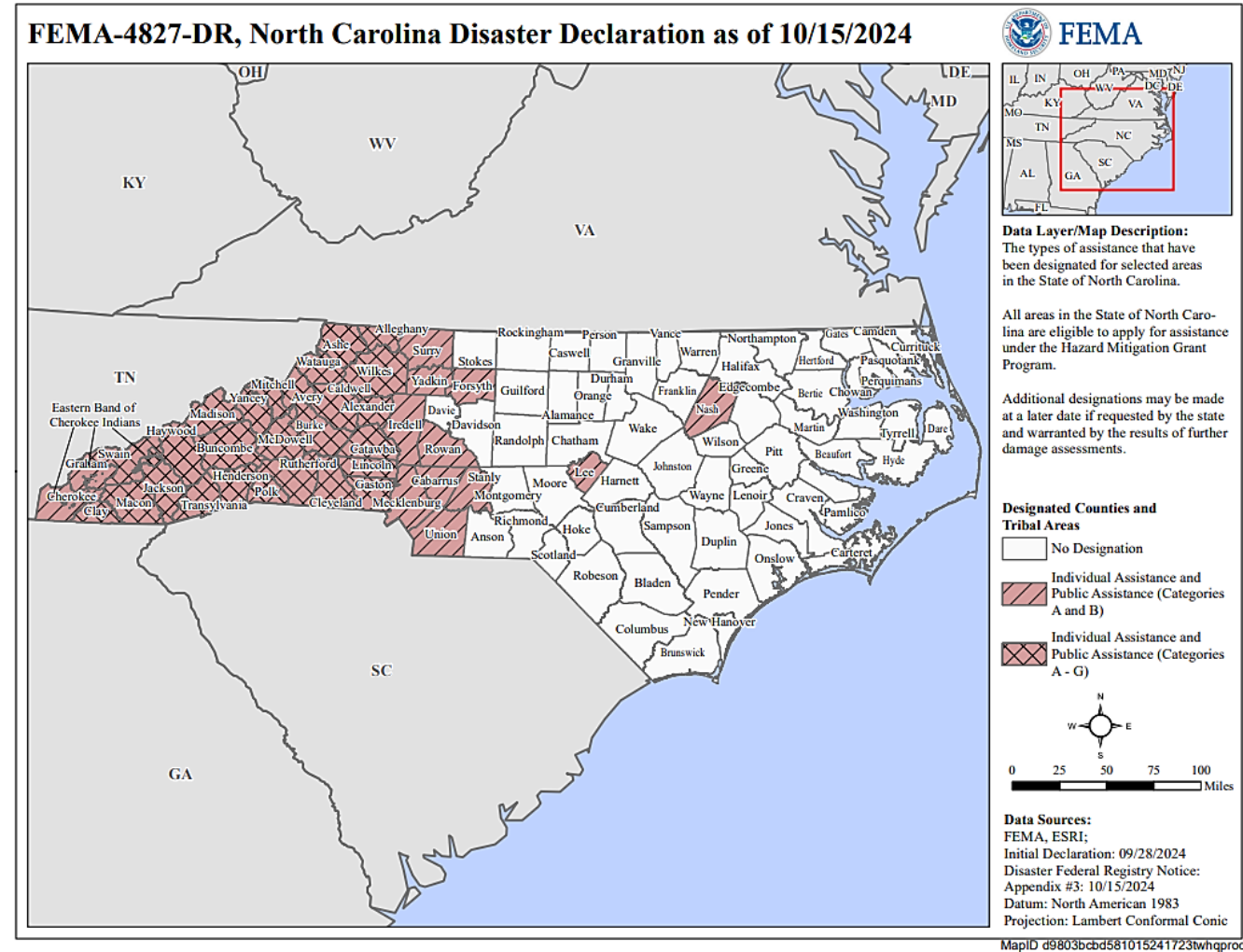
Mark White

Fiscal Research Division

12/11/24

Hurricane Helene Legislative Actions, Fall 2024

- North Carolina received a federal Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Helene on September 28, 2024
- NC General Assembly has passed three major bills related to Helene response and recovery
 - In total, \$1.13 billion dedicated to Helene (\$904.15m appropriated) across three pieces of legislation



Hurricane Helene Legislative Actions, Fall 2024

S.L. 2024-51

Passed on October 9th and signed into law
October 10th

- \$273 million transferred from the Savings Reserve to the Helene Fund and appropriated

S.L. 2024-53

Passed on October 24th and signed into law
October 25th

- \$604.15 million transferred from the Savings Reserve to the Helene Fund and appropriated

S.B. 382

Passed on November 20th, vetoed on November 26th.
Senate voted to override veto on December 2nd

- \$225 million transferred from the Savings Reserve to the Helene Fund but not appropriated
- \$2 million transferred from the Savings Reserve to the Helene Fund and appropriated
- \$25 million transferred from the State Emergency Response and Disaster Relief Fund (SERDRF) to the Helene Fund and appropriated
- Some clarifying and technical changes to existing Helene-related appropriations



S.L. 2024-51 Helene-related Appropriations

Agency	Funding	Purpose	Status
NC Emergency Management (NCEM), Dept. of Public Safety	\$250,000,000	State match for federal disaster assistance programs	\$67 million spent to-date; millions obligated under FEMA programs
Dept. of Public Instruction (DPI)	\$16,000,000	Supplement/replace school nutrition employees' lost compensation due to school closures	\$2.44 million allocated to date
NC League of Municipalities (LoM), NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), NC Association of Regional Councils of Governments (CoGs)	\$2,000,000	Grants for technical assistance with local recovery funds, prioritizing counties with populations under 250,000	Fully disbursed by OSBM equally to the three entities.
NC State Board of Elections (NC SBE)	\$5,000,000	Funds to support multiple electoral accommodations listed in Section 9.1 of the Act	Applications open for reimbursement to local county boards
Total, S.L. 2024-51 (Helene-Related)	\$273,000,000		



S.L. 2024-53 Helene-related Appropriations

Agency (Total Funding)	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
NC Emergency Management (NCEM), Dept. of Public Safety (\$130 million)	\$75,000,000	Additional state matching funds (same purpose as in S.L. 2024-51; total of \$325 million between the two bills)	\$67 million spent to-date; millions obligated under FEMA programs
	\$50,000,000	State and local government unmet needs	Program in development
	\$5,000,000	Floodplain mapping updates in Helene-impacted counties	Program in development
NC League of Municipalities (LoM), NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC), NC Association of Regional Councils of Governments (CoGs) (\$5.5 million)	\$5,500,000	Technical assistance grants for local governments (same purpose as in S.L. 2024-53)	Fully disbursed by OSBM equally to the three entities



S.L. 2024-53, Continued

Agency (Total Funding)	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
Dept. of Public Instruction (DPI) (\$65 million)	\$50,000,000	Capital recovery funds	Request forms distributed
	\$5,000,000	Replacement of school technology	Application in development
	\$5,000,000	Replacement of school nutrition equipment, food, and food nutrition supplies	Application in development
	\$5,000,000	Mental health services	All funds allotted
NC Community College System (\$16.75 million)	\$10,500,000	Emergency grants for affected community college students	Applications open to students
	\$5,000,000	Tuition grants for students attending impacted community colleges	All funds allotted
	\$1,250,000	Expanded mental health support for community college students	All funds allotted



S.L. 2024-53, Continued

Agency (Total Funding)	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
UNC System (\$15.5 million)	\$5,500,000	Tuition grants for students attending UNC Asheville in Spring 2025	Information provided to UNCA Students
	\$5,000,000	Emergency grants for affected students (inc. tuition, fees, and emergency expenses)	Applications open to students
	\$5,000,000	UNC Capital Recovery Funds	Funding not yet allocated
State Education Assistance Authority (SEAA) (\$4.5 million in new funds; \$18.1 million in repurposed unobligated funds)	\$3,500,000	Need-based scholarships for disaster-impacted students attending public colleges and universities. Agency also directed to use an additional \$15.6m in unobligated funds for this same purpose.	All funds distributed
	\$1,000,000	Emergency grants for affected private college and university students. Agency also directed to use \$2.5m in unobligated funds available for need-based scholarships.	Applications open to students



S.L. 2024-53, Continued

Agency (Total Funding)	Division	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) (\$71.4 million)	Central Management and Support	\$25,000,000	Mental health crisis supports and supports for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities	Finalizing plans with stakeholders, inc. LME/MCOs
	Public Health	\$12,000,000	Local Health Department support, including temp. staffing	Guidance issued to eligible LHDs
	Child and Family Well-Being	\$10,000,000	Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) matching funds	Program has ended; reimbursement costs being calculated
	Child Development and Early Ed.	\$10,000,000	NC Partnership for Children to distribute funds to Smart Start local partnerships	Program in planning stages



S.L. 2024-53, Continued

Agency (Total Funding)	Division	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS) (\$71.4 million)	Social Services (\$14.4 million)	\$9,000,000	Utility assistance	Funds should be available to counties by end of 2024
		\$3,000,000	Child welfare essential services	Guidance and allocations by county issued
		\$1,400,000	Essential services for vulnerable adults	Guidance and allocations by county issued
		\$1,000,000	Rental assistance	Guidance and allocations by county issued



S.L. 2024-53, Continued

Agency (Total Funding)	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
Golden LEAF (\$50 million)	\$50,000,000	Small business recovery bridge loans	\$18.5m awarded (314 loans)
Economic Development Partnership of NC (EDPNC) (\$6 million)	\$5,000,000	Visit NC tourism promotion via a targeted media campaign	Program underway
	\$1,000,000	Business loss assessments in disaster declared counties	Program in development
Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) (\$139 million. S.L. 2024-51 also allowed DEQ to use \$59 million in unobligated funds for emergency bridge loans to local governments)	\$100,000,000	Emergency bridge loans for water and wastewater infrastructure repairs	\$43.7m awarded (18 loans)
	\$7,000,000	Technical assistance for water and wastewater infrastructure damage assessment and repairs	Will be available to towns of <10,000
	\$22,000,000	Emergency bridge loans for underground storage tank infrastructure testing and repair	Potential recipients contacted
	\$10,000,000	Weatherization services in disaster declared counties	Program in development; RFIs issued



S.L. 2024-53, Continued

Agency (Total Funding)	Program Funding	Purpose	Status
Local Government Commission* (LGC) (\$100 million) <i>*(S.B. 382 would move this program from the LGC to the Dept. of State Treasurer.)</i>	\$100,000,000	Cash flow loan program to support local governments with disaster recovery	Program on hold pending S.B. 382
Dept. of State Treasurer	\$500,000	Line of duty death benefit payments in disaster declared counties	Funding anticipated to be sufficient for this fiscal year's needs
Total, S.L. 2024-53 (Helene-Related)	\$604,150,000		



S.B. 382, Helene-related Appropriations

- S.B. 382 has not yet become law
 - \$225,000,000 transferred from the Savings Reserve to the Helene Fund and not appropriated
 - Funding is not appropriated and therefore would require further action from the General Assembly before it can be spent
 - \$2,000,000 transferred from the Savings Reserve to the Helene Fund and appropriated
 - Technical support to soil/water conservation districts through Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACs)
 - \$25,000,000 transferred from the State Emergency Response and Disaster Relief Fund (SERDRF) to the Helene Fund and appropriated
 - Funds to support the existing Streamflow Rehabilitation Assistance Program (StRAP) at DACs



Total Helene-related Appropriations Summary

Agency	Total Funding	Funding Share
NCEM	\$380,000,000	43%
DEQ	\$139,000,000	16%
LGC	\$100,000,000	11%
DPI	\$81,000,000	9%
DHHS	\$71,400,000	8%
Golden LEAF	\$50,000,000	6%
NC Community College System	\$16,750,000	2%
UNC System	\$15,500,000	2%
LoM, NCACC, & CoGs	\$7,500,000	1%
EDPNC	\$6,000,000	1%
NC SBE	\$5,000,000	1%
SEAA	\$4,500,000	1%
Dept. of State Treasurer	\$500,000	0%
Total*	\$877,150,000	100%

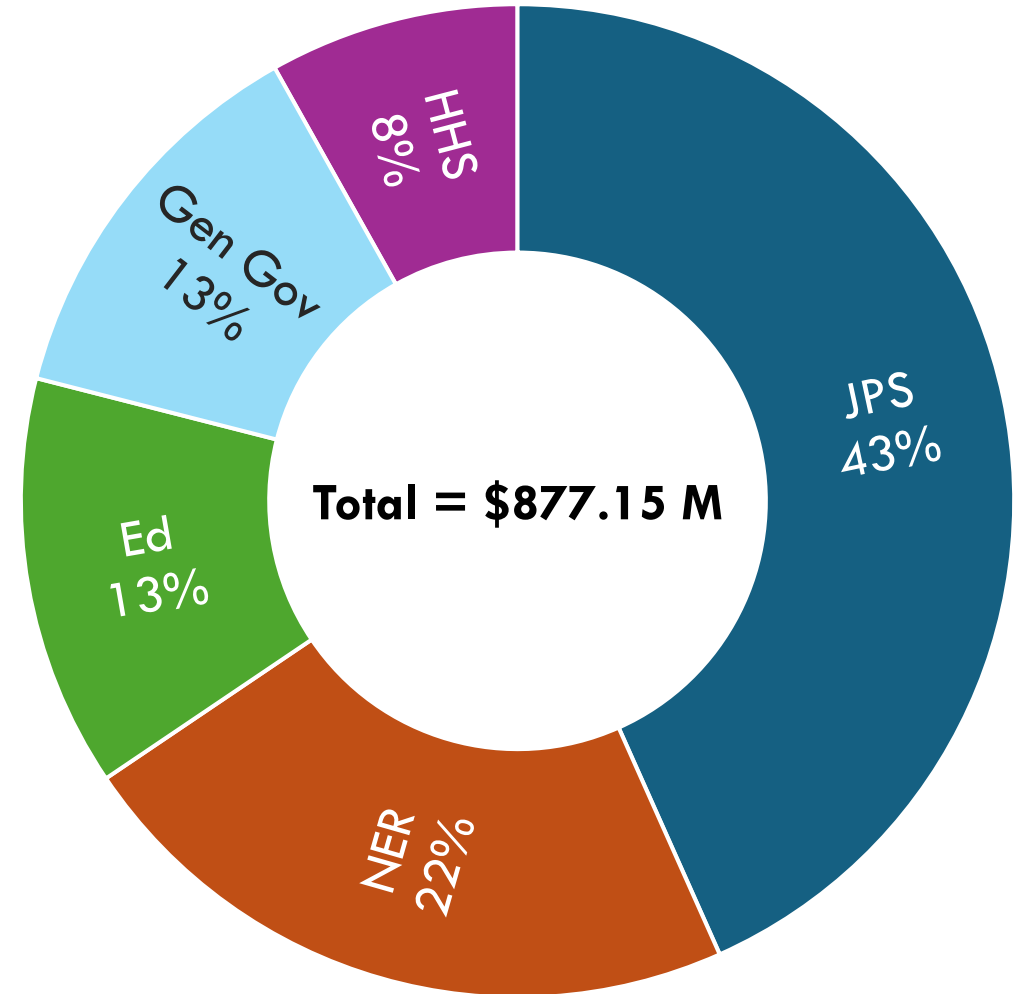
*Does not include S.B. 382



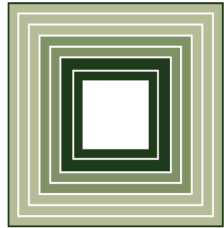
Total Helene-related Appropriations Summary

Budget Area	Total Funding
Justice and Public Safety (JPS)	\$380 M
Natural and Economic Resources (NER)	\$195 M
Education (Ed)	\$117.75 M
General Government (Gen Gov)	\$113 M
Health and Human Services (HHS)	\$71.4 M
Total*	\$877.15 M

*Does not include S.B. 382



Questions



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A Staff Agency of the North Carolina General Assembly

Mark White

Fiscal Research Division

(919) 733-4910

mark.white@ncleg.gov

