



# North Carolina Functional Assessment Support Teams (FAST) Resource Request Process for Emergency Managers

## Overview

During disaster responses across the nation, individuals with access and functional needs have come to general population shelters seeking assistance. Most individuals with access and functional needs can be accommodated in general population shelters with appropriate support. North Carolina Emergency Management has developed a Functional Assessment Support Team (FAST) program to assist the local government agencies and their partners in providing appropriate support to individuals with access and functional needs during disasters.

## Who are FAST members?

- FAST members are trained social service professionals who have experience working with people with access and functional needs in one or more of the following areas: geriatrics, chronic health conditions, developmental or other cognitive disabilities, hearing or vision loss, behavioral health, physical concerns, and any other needs people might have in communications, transportation, maintaining independence or personal safety.
- FAST members will assess individuals to determine what types of support – resources and/or services - is needed to maintain their individual independence and safety in the shelter setting. FAST may request wheelchairs or other mobility devices, interpreters, personal care assistants, communication devices, or they may be able to locate assistive devices that are readily available in or around the shelters. FAST is responsible for identifying needs, and then getting the resources to meet those needs.
- When requested by County Emergency Management Coordinators, teams will deploy to affected communities or service sites to work with government and partner agencies ensuring all access and functional needs are met. To begin, FAST will deploy to shelters, but may also deploy to PODs, DRCs, or other sites where they may be needed.
- Resources that FAST may request (through Red Cross or jurisdictional EOCs) may include consumable medical supplies, durable medical equipment, personal care assistants, interpreter services, as well as others.

## How to request FAST

1. Jurisdictions that have identified the need for FAST will submit a resource request via WebEOC for a team. Teams may have 2 to 6 members.
2. When requesting FAST, ensure the following details are included in the resource request:
  - Detailed description of need for resource
  - Location (address of shelter) team is to report to
  - Site POC (name and phone number)
  - Expected duration the team will be needed, and when they should arrive
  - Whether lodging and meals will be provided

## For more information contact:

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