

Special Needs Eligibility Requirements

Who is eligible for the Special Needs Program?

Residents of Alachua County with Special Needs and who:

- *Do not have any local family assistance* for transportation and sheltering in a disaster
- Have no other option but to request public transportation and shelter
- *Live alone* or with another person with Special Needs
- Reside in *unsafe housing* during a storm, such as a mobile home
- *Cannot drive* or access any transportation to a safe shelter

Who is NOT eligible?

- *People requiring hospital care* to treat severe or advanced medical conditions are NOT eligible, and should make prior arrangements with their doctors for transportation and evacuation.
 - Examples: Alzheimers (advanced), Bedbound (permanent), Cardiac (unstable), Comatose, Contagious Condition (severe), Cystic Fibrosis (late stage), Psychosis (uncontrolled), Seizures (uncontrolled), Terminal Illness (final stage)
- Residents of *Assisted Living Facilities* such as *nursing homes, group homes, or retirement facilities*. These facilities have their own emergency plans, and should be able to assist their residents with transportation and shelter.
- Persons with *manageable conditions*
 - Examples: Arthritis/Osteoporosis (able to walk), Asthma, Bronchitis, Common Cold or Flu, Diabetics (self-managed), Edema, Emphysema (non-oxygen-dependent), Bone Fracture, High Blood Pressure, Hypoglycemia, Knee Replacement, Medication Maintenance, Migraine Headaches, Sleep Apnea

If you have any questions about the Special Needs Program, please contact Alachua County Emergency Management at (352) 264-6500.