

City of Norman  
Frequently Asked Questions  
Shelter Rebate Program

**Introduction**

There have been many inquiries to the City of Norman regarding recent news accounts concerning a Shelter Rebate Program available to the citizens in the Oklahoma City metro area. The jurisdictions receiving those funds applied through a hazard mitigation grant from the State of Oklahoma and did not receive the funding based on the recent storms. Rather they received funding through a previous program with the process beginning over a year ago.

The City of Norman has previously participated in programs that were administered by the State of Oklahoma Office of Emergency Management. These programs provided over 200 families in Norman the opportunity to have a severe weather shelter or safe room installed and a portion of their total cost reimbursed by the state.

The following are some common questions regarding the rebate program:

**1. Is there a Shelter Rebate program currently available for City of Norman residents?**

No, at this time the City of Norman does not have a rebate program in place.

**2. Has the City of Norman applied for a grant from FEMA to provide private shelters?**

The City of Norman has submitted a Notice of Intent to apply for a rebate program to the Oklahoma State Office of Emergency Management. The process to apply for a grant does not go to FEMA. It is submitted to the Oklahoma State Office of Emergency Management's Hazard Mitigation Office. It begins with a Notice of Intent indicating the City is interested in administering a program. Quarterly, the State Hazard Mitigation Committee meets to review the Notice of Intents. When funding becomes available and the Notice of Intent is approved, the State will notify the City they are authorized to apply for a grant. An average time for a City to complete the process of application, gaining approval for a grant to being able to assist the first citizen is 18 to 24 months.

**3. Can I get a rebate if I already have my unit installed? Are there tax credits available if I have a unit installed?**

No, currently there are no rebate programs or tax credits available that will retroactively provide for a shelter reimbursement.

**5. Can I get my name on a list for the program?**

Currently the City of Norman does not have a program designed to maintain a list of citizens interested in participating in a rebate program. Until the program is available any rules changes for the City to follow in determining a selection process of citizens to receive the benefit will be unknown. Maintaining a list of interested citizens would not qualify or guarantee their participation in any future program.

**6. What if I was on the list for the past programs, am I still on a list to get a reimbursement?**

No, there are no current waiting lists for shelter reimbursements for the City of Norman.

**7. If a process to create a waiting list begins and I install a shelter or safe room while I am waiting will I get any reimbursement?**

No, currently there are no programs available that will retroactively provide for a shelter reimbursement, even if you are on a waiting list.

**8. How will I be notified when a program is available?**

When the City of Norman has been approved to apply for a grant and the guidelines are established for any available funding, the City will post notice of the program and the guidelines through multiple media outlets.

**9. If I am approved how much will the reimbursement be?**

The City of Norman does not have any current information on the guidelines of any available program. Historically, the program has been a 75/25 share which means that the grant would provide 75% of the cost with a maximum of \$2,000 available to each participant.