

Osceola County Special Needs Shelter Application

There are several shelter options that will be used in the event of an emergency:

1) Regular Shelters

This type of shelter is for residents who are able to perform normal activities of daily living and can manage their own medical care. There is no need to apply for space in a regular shelter.

2) Special Needs Shelter

You may be eligible for a special needs shelter if you require assistance with medical care. Some examples:

- You need some assistance with the administration of medicines
- You are oxygen or are electricity dependent
- You suffer from incontinence, partial paralysis, heart problems, Parkinson's Disease, dementia, or require dialysis

3) Hospital Admittance

If you suffer from an unstable medical condition or are receiving on-going treatment, then a special needs shelter may not meet your needs. You are encouraged to talk to your doctor now about being admitted to a hospital during an emergency.

Please Note:

- *It is required to apply for a special needs shelter annually.*
- *Special needs shelters are for clients and their designated care giver.*
- *Final special needs shelter admittance will be made upon arrival at the shelter based on your current medical condition.*
- *Please bring your medication, necessary medical equipment, and at least 24 hours of oxygen. Current medical information will be required.*
- *Animals are not allowed in a special needs shelter, with the exception of registered service animals. If you are unable to make private arrangements for your pets, please let us know. Transportation will be provided to take your pet to be sheltered by Osceola County Animal Services. Please have your animal's vaccination records available.*

Please Complete and Return Your Special Needs Registration Form To:

Osceola County Emergency Management
Attention: Special Needs Registration
2586 Partin Settlement Road
Kissimmee, FL 34744
Fax: (407) 742-9022

Questions: email specialneeds@osceola.org or call (407) 742-9001

Special Needs Shelter Evacuation Checklist

Listed below are steps you should take to be prepared for an evacuation:

1. Pack a bag and be ready to go with:
 - One week supply of medication
 - List of current medications with pharmacy name and telephone number
 - Medical Provider's name and telephone number
 - Required medical equipment including a walker, wheelchair, or cane
 - If oxygen dependent, bring necessary equipment including portable tanks
 - Clean clothes for three days
 - Eye glasses, contacts, hearing aids, and/or dentures
 - Flashlight with batteries
 - Blankets and pillows for cot
 - Personal hygiene items to include towel & wash cloth
 - House keys and car keys
 - Personal phone book or list of important numbers
 - Important papers, including identification and insurance, in zip-lock bags
 - Folding chair or lawn chair
 - Reading materials
 - Non-perishable snack items and bottled water
 - Non-perishable food items if you require a special diet
 - Medical orders, including "Do Not Resuscitate" order if applicable
2. Call caretaker and family members including those out of state, to inform them of your evacuation plans.
3. It is important to secure your home. Be sure any household appliances that could possibly cause a hazard are off prior to your departure.
4. If possible, take care of all medical needs prior to evacuation

Please Note:

- If you require evacuation transportation assistance, you and your caregiver **MUST** be ready prior to transportation arrival.
- Osceola County Emergency Management, Florida Department of Health in Osceola County and/or Osceola County Council on Aging may call to give you an estimated time of your transportation pick-up.