

New Jersey Department of Health

Public Evacuation/Medical Needs Sheltering Checklist

What is a Medical Needs Shelter (MNS)?

The Medical Needs Shelter is a location in a shelter area or stand-alone location for evacuees with chronic health and/or minor medical condition(s) requiring oversight by a medical professional.

The purpose of the MNS is to support **basic, short-term health and/or minor medical condition(s)** when people evacuate their home due to a disaster. These people cannot be accommodated in a General Population Shelter due to a specific minor medical need(s).

If a disaster requires evacuation and sheltering, the Medical Needs Shelter will provide a **safe sheltering environment** and basic medical assistance/care for the support or maintenance of chronic health or minor medical condition(s) based on an individual's level of health.

Caregivers (home health care, visiting nurses and family support members) are allowed and encouraged to come to the Medical Needs Shelter in order to continue to provide care for their clients.

Service animals are allowed in the Shelter. The owner is responsible for the conduct of the service animal.

What Should I Bring With Me? (Checklist)

- Personal identification, medical cards, health & prescription insurance cards (including Medicare & Medicaid).
- Any/All** prescription medications you are currently taking in the original bottles with prescription labels; these include insulin and all your over-the-counter medications.
- All parents/caretakers of infants and children with specialized medical care needs should bring formulas as well as disposable diapers and wipes.
- Any blood glucose monitoring devices.
- Eyeglasses, dentures/denture cleaner and hearing aids.
- Any portable medical equipment including wheelchairs, walkers or canes.
- Your oxygen cylinder and an oxygen concentrator.
- Your cell phone and charger.
- A list of personal contacts and phone numbers for your emergency contact(s), family members, doctors, pharmacy, and medical equipment supply company.
- Your medical appointment calendar.
- Clothing and footwear for several days, including night garments and undergarments.
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, lotion, toothpaste).
- Incontinence supplies (liners, briefs and pads) and personal hygiene supplies (toothbrush, razor, comb).
- Any non-perishable food or snacks that support a special diet (liquid-nutrition, gluten-free, casein-free, etc.).

Join Today:



Preparing is Caring Are You Register Ready?

Register Ready is a free, voluntary and confidential web-based program designed to identify the needs of people who may find it difficult to get to safety in the event of an emergency.