

General Information FAQs

Who is FEMA?

FEMA is short for Federal Emergency Management Agency, and they are the agency that oversees response and recovery efforts following federal disaster declarations.

Who is PaRR Inspections?

Partnership for Response and Recovery (PaRR Inspections) is a joint venture that has been awarded a contract from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This contract is for the purpose of conducting habitability inspections on residential buildings that have been damaged by natural disasters throughout the United States, its territories, and protectorates. PaRR Inspections utilizes the services of independent inspectors to conduct the inspections. Note: PaRR Inspections is activated ONLY as the result of a presidentially declared disaster.

What does an inspector do?

Disaster housing inspectors conduct room by room inspections of residential buildings. The damages are recorded in a pen-based hand held computer loaded with FEMA software. The average inspection lasts 30-45 minutes.

Will I be a federal government employee?

Inspectors remain independent consultants and are employees of neither PaRR nor the Federal Government. As a self-employed consultant, payroll taxes are not withheld and employee benefits are not paid.

Is this a full-time position?

This is not a full-time position. Because of the unpredictable nature of natural disasters, this work is periodic and on an "as needed" basis.

How am I paid?

Inspectors are paid every week on a per inspection basis. The current rate is \$53.00 per inspection. Based on the type of disaster and its geographical makeup (rural/urban), most inspectors average 10-16 completed inspections per day. Inspectors are paid by check or by direct deposit if requested.

Who would pay my expenses?

PaRR Inspections provides transportation or mileage expenses to and from disaster sites. Since inspectors are independent consultants, all other expenses incurred are the responsibility of the inspector (i.e. lodging, food, rental car, etc).

Do I have to purchase any equipment?

No, the hand held computer and digital camera used by PaRR Inspections is provided to the inspector, at no cost, for the duration of the deployment.

How long will I be away from home?

While we ask our inspectors to sign a 30-day agreement, there is no guarantee that an inspector will be needed the full 30 days. The length of time away from home will be dependent on the needs of the disaster.

Is this work dangerous?

While a certain amount of caution should be exercised in any disaster area, by nature this work is not typically dangerous. Inspectors are neither required to climb on roofs nor under houses.

Who would be a good candidate for this type of work?

Anyone with experience in housing construction trades, real estate, appraisal, or related professional areas. People who have the flexibility to work on an "as needed" basis and can be away from home for extended periods of time. This includes, but is not limited to retired persons, persons who are self employed, and independent contractors.

How do I become a PaRR Inspector? Follow these steps:

1. The first step is to fill out an on-line application.
2. Once your application is on file and your certification account is created, complete "The Big Picture" curriculum on PaRR web.
3. Complete the required forms on the Forms page under the Account Info tab.
4. Begin the background investigation process by completing and submitting your hardcopy SF-85P to PaRR. See background investigation instructions under the Information tab.
5. Next, enroll in and attend a Mock Inspection Class for hands-on training and to have your fingerprints taken.
6. After you complete the above and your background investigation comes back "favorable", CONGRATULATIONS! You are now a certified independent consultant with PaRR Inspections. You are now eligible for deployment to a disaster when needed.