

## **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 \$57.50 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. Fill out an Online Application; this will create a new training account for you. (If you have already filled out an application, do not fill out a new one; instead, email [admin@parrinspections.com](mailto:admin@parrinspections.com) with your full name and contact info, and request a training account.)
2. Log on to PaRR Online Training, and complete The Big Picture.
3. Fill out the following online documents located on the Forms page under the Account Info tab: Independent Contractor Agreement (ICA), Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), W-9, Privacy Act, and Code of Ethics.
4. Upon completion of steps 1-3 above, you will be issued your PaRR Inspector ID, which will be sent to you by email.
5. If one is scheduled in your area, attend an Orientation/Fingerprinting Session. Here you will be fingerprinted and provided introductory material. (This step is optional. You do not have to attend an Orientation session in order to become certified, but it will give you a head start on the Background Check Process because your fingerprinting will be done free of charge--saving you the trouble of doing it yourself. In addition, it will give you the opportunity to meet one of our excellent Trainers who will be available to answer your questions. Please see the Fingerprint and Background Check Process page whose link appears in the Information tab for more information.) If you have already completed an e-QIP for another company, please notify our Background Check Department by email at [background@parrinspections.com](mailto:background@parrinspections.com).
6. Once you have a PaRR Inspector ID by completing the steps above, and your e-QIP has come back as Favorable, you will be eligible for deployment as a Disaster Housing Inspector.