



Manatee County Special Needs Program

WHAT IS THE MEDICAL SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER?

The Manatee County Special Needs Program is a two-part program: (1) transportation assistance to a shelter and (2) the medical special needs shelter. Transportation assistance is available to any Manatee County resident who needs a ride to a general shelter. You must register before any pending storm for transportation assistance to a general shelter. We recommend that you apply early in the year, before hurricane season, to make sure that you get listed in the program.

The medical special needs shelter is available for people who need medical assistance and cannot stay at a general shelter but do not require hospital or nursing care. Transportation assistance is available to the medical special needs shelter. **You must apply for the medical special needs shelter each year.** Sending the application does not automatically grant entry into the medical special needs shelter. Sometimes your medical needs cannot be handled at the medical special needs shelter and you will need to work with your care team on what is best for you to do during a storm.

Remember that the medical special needs shelter is NOT a hospital. Public school buildings are used for the medical special needs shelter. There are no hospital beds or doctors. You must bring all your medicine, bedding, and medical supplies with you. You must be able to use a cot, chair, or floor mattress. Because shelter life can be very difficult, you should try to make plans to stay with family or friends before applying for the medical special needs shelter.

To apply for the medical special needs shelter:

Fill out the printed form and mail it to

Manatee County Emergency Management
PO Box 1000
Bradenton, FL 34206