



Australian Government
Department of Health and Ageing

RELOCATION OF RESIDENTS IN THE EVENT OF A NATURAL DISASTER

In relocating residents to temporary/emergency accommodation it is preferable that the premises are of high standard and meet, or are capable of meeting certification requirements including the 2003 and 2008 requirements for certification, however, it is not a prerequisite. We acknowledge that in some circumstances, particularly in rural and remote areas this may not be possible and the only available alternative accommodation may be for example, a hospital or even a hotel/motel. Our first priority is the continued care and accommodation of residents.

In such circumstances we would first determine whether the building/s offer a safe and secure environment and whether any renovations or improvements are required to bring the premises to a suitable standard and the feasibility of undertaking any work. The authorised certification authority (currently Earthtech) can be asked to assess the building/s and advise on its suitability and compliance with certification standards. As mentioned previously, funding may be available through ACPS to meet the cost of any necessary work.

If satisfied that the building/s provided a safe and secure environment a delegate may decide to exercise his or her authority and certify the service, notwithstanding that current certifications requirement may not be fully met but recognising the temporary and emergency nature of the situation. In this way ensuring that concessional supplements and accommodation charges can continue and the provider is able to draw retention amounts from any bonds held.

Where certification is not a valid option and there is the prospect of the provider being financially disadvantaged, we can consider making a "one off" grant equivalent to the lost revenue to offset the loss. We have provided one off grants in similar circumstances previously.