The conditions in a shelter are austere and might be stressful. A shelter is a place of last resort, it is a life boat not a cruise ship.

Before an emergency threatens the state, have a plan in place. Preregistration for a Special Needs Shelter is important and very strongly encouraged to help ensure necessary resources are available. Go to FloridaDisaster.org/planprepare/Shelters for special needs registration by county. Use this items checklist to help prepare for your time at the shelter. A caregiver is to accompany and remain with special needs client. Bring enough of items for both special needs client and caregiver to last for five days.

**Medical Supplies and Equipment**
- List of current medications (prescription and over the counter) and a seven-day supply
- Documentation of medical information and service providers, including provider’s contact information
- Diabetes equipment and supplies
- Catheter supplies
- Ostomy supplies
- Nebulizer and supplies
- Oxygen supplies
- CPAP/BiPAP machine and supplies
- Wound care supplies
- Incontinence supplies
- Any other specialized medical items you may need

**Entertainment Items**
- Cell phone with charger
- Radio and compatible headphones/ear buds
- Flashlight and batteries
- Books, quiet games, magazines or etc.
- Small personal entertainment devices

**Personal Items**
- Body wipes or washcloth and towels
- Toiletries
- Shoes—especially specialty ones
- Extra clothing, including undergarments and socks
- Sheets and blanket or sleeping bag and pillow
- ID with current address
- Important papers and emergency contacts
- Insurance card

**Assistive Devices and Supplies**
- Dentures
- Hearing aids with extra batteries
- Extra pair of glasses or dark glasses
- Cane, walker, wheelchair, electric wheelchair/scooter or any other mobility device
- Extra batteries and chargers for electrical equipment such as a wheelchair, scooter, etc.
- Any other specialized assistive items you may need

**Service Animal Supplies**
- Food and dishes
- Plastic bags and other similar items
- Crate and leash
- Medicine(s)

**Pet Supplies**
- Not all shelters allow pets, check with your county for pet friendly locations near you
- Food and dishes
- Plastic bags and other similar items
- Crate and leash
- Medicine(s)

**Food**
- Non-Perishable snacks
- No-Perishable drinks
- Special dietary foods if you require them

**Items not allowed in the shelter**
- Firearms or weapons
- Alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs
- Perishable food items