FEMA

# Program Information Mitigation

HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE HMA GRANT PROGRAMS

## Hazard Mitigation Assistance

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs present a critical opportunity to reduce the risk to individuals and property from natural hazards while simultaneously reducing reliance on Federal disaster funds.

### A COMMON GOAL

While the statutory origins of the programs differ, all share the common goal of reducing the risk of loss of life and property due to natural hazards.

### FUNDING DISASTER RECOVERY EFFORTS

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) may provide funds to States, Territories, Indian Tribal governments, local governments, and eligible private non-profits following a Presidential major disaster declaration .

## The Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs

### Authorities and Purpose

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (**HGMP**) is authorized by Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (the Stafford Act), Title 42, United States Code (U.S.C.) 5170c. The key purpose of HMGP is to ensure that the opportunity to take critical mitigation measures to reduce the risk of loss of life and property from future disasters is not lost during the reconstruction process following a disaster. HMGP is available, when authorized under the Presidential major disaster declaration, in the areas of the State requested by the Governor. The amount of HMGP funding available to the Applicant is based upon the total Federal assistance to be provided by FEMA for disaster recovery under the major disaster declaration.

HMGP HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (**PDM**) program is authorized by Section 203 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5133. The PDM program is designed to assist States, Territories, Indian Tribal governments, and local communities to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures from future hazard events, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from future major disaster declarations.

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (**FMA**) program is authorized by Section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended (NFIA), 42 U.S.C. 4104c, with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The Repetitive Flood Claims (**RFC**) program is authorized by Section 1323 of the NFIA, 42 U.S.C. 4030, with the goal of reducing flood damages to individual properties for which one or more claim payments for losses have been made under flood insurance coverage and that will result in the greatest savings to the National Flood Insurance Fund (NFIF) in the shortest period of time.

The Severe Repetitive Loss (**SRL**) program is authorized by Section 1361A of the NFIA, 42 U.S.C. 4102A, with the goal of reducing flood damages to residential properties that have experienced severe repetitive losses under flood insurance coverage and that will result in the greatest amount of savings to the NFIF in the shortest period of time.

PDM PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION | FMA FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE | RFC REPETITIVE FLOOD CLAIMS | SRL SEVERE REPETITIVE LOSS

Additional HMA resources, including the HMA Unified Guidance may be accessed at www.fema.gov/government/grant/hma/index.shtm

# program comparisons

## Cost Share Requirements

COST SHARE

In general, HMA funds may be used to pay up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. The remaining 25 percent of eligible costs are derived from non-Federal sources.

The table to the right outlines exceptions to the 75 percent Federal and 25 percent non-Federal share.

| Programs | Mitigation Activity Grant (Percent of Federal/Non-Federal Share) |
|---|---|
| **HMGP** | 75/25 |
| **PDM** | 75/25 |
| **PDM—subgrantee is small impoverished community** | 90/10 |
| **PDM—Tribal grantee is small impoverished community** | 90/10 |
| **FMA** | 75/25 |
| **FMA—severe repetitive loss property with Repetitive Loss Strategy** | 90/10 |
| **RFC** | 100/0 |
| **SRL** | 75/25 |
| **SRL—with Repetitive Loss Strategy** | 90/10 |

## Eligible Subapplicants

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND SUBAPPLICANTS

States, Territories, and Indian Tribal governments are eligible HMA Applicants. Each State, Territory, and Indian Tribal government shall designate one agency to serve as the Applicant for each HMA program.

All interested subapplicants must apply to the Applicant. The table to the left identifies, in general, eligible subapplicants. For specific details regarding eligible subapplicants, refer to 44 CFR Part 206.434(a) for HMGP and 44 CFR Part 79.6(a) for FMA and SRL. For HMGP and PDM see 44 CFR Part 206.2(16) for a definition of local governments.

✓ Subapplicant is eligible for program funding

| | HMGP | PDM | FMA | RFC | SRL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| State agencies | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Tribal governments | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Local governments/communities | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Private non-profit organizations (PNPs) | ✓ | | | | |

Individuals and businesses are not eligible to apply for HMA funds, however, an eligible subapplicant may apply for funding to mitigate private structures. RFC funds are only available to subapplicants who cannot meet the cost share requirements of the FMA program.

## Available Funding

HMA programs are subject to the availability of appropriation funding or funding based on disaster recovery expenditures, as well as any directive or restriction made with respect to such funds.

HMGP funding depends on federal assistance provided for disaster recovery, while PDM, FMA, RFC, and SRL funding is appropriated annually by Congress.

# program comparisons (continued)

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The table to the right summarizes eligible activities that may be funded by HMA programs. Detailed descriptions of these activities are found in the HMA Unified Guidance.

## Eligible Activities

| Eligible Activities | HMGP | PDM | FMA | RFC | SRL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1. Mitigation Projects** | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition or Relocation | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Structure Elevation | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Mitigation Reconstruction | | | | | ✓ |
| Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Dry Floodproofing of Non-residential Structures | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Minor Localized Flood Reduction Projects | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Safe Room Construction | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Infrastructure Retrofit | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Soil Stabilization | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Wildfire Mitigation | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Post-disaster Code Enforcement | ✓ | | | | |
| 5% Initiative Projects | ✓ | | | | |
| **2. Hazard Mitigation Planning** | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| **3. Management Costs** | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

✓ Mitigation activity is eligible for program funding

## Management Costs

For HMGP only: The Grantee may request 4.89 percent of HMGP allocation for management costs. The Grantee is responsible for determining the amount, if any, of funds that will be passed through to the subgrantee(s) for their management costs.

Applicants for PDM, FMA, RFC, or SRL may apply for a maximum of 10 percent of the total funds requested in their grant application budget (Federal and non-Federal shares) for management costs to support the project and planning subapplications included as part of their grant application.

Subapplicants for PDM, FMA, RFC, or SRL may apply for a maximum of 5 percent of the total funds requested in a subapplication for management costs.

## General Requirements

All mitigation projects must be cost-effective, be both engineering and technically feasible, and meet Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation requirements in accordance with HMA Unified Guidance. In addition, all mitigation activities must adhere to all relevant statutes, regulations, and requirements including other applicable Federal, State, Indian Tribal, and local laws, implementing regulations, and Executive Orders.

# program information

NFIP INFORMATION

In 1968, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to help provide a means for property owners to financially protect themselves. The NFIP offers flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners if their community participates in the NFIP. Participating communities agree to adopt and enforce ordinances that meet or exceed FEMA requirements to reduce the risk of flooding.

Find out more about the NFIP and how it can help you protect yourself.

http://www.floodsmart.gov

MITIGATION ELECTRONIC GRANTS SYSTEM

For PDM, FMA, RFC, and SRL, FEMA has developed a web-based, Electronic Grants (eGrants) management system to allow States, Federally-recognized Indian Tribal governments, territories, and local governments to apply for and manage their mitigation grant application processes electronically.

## National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Participation

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

### NFIP Participation Requirement

There are a number of ways that HMA eligibility is related to the NFIP.

- **Subapplicant eligibility**: All subapplicants for FMA, RFC, or SRL must currently be participating in the NFIP, and not withdrawn or suspended, to be eligible to apply for grant funds. Certain non-participating political subdivisions (i.e., regional flood control districts or county governments) may apply and act as subgrantee on behalf of the NFIP-participating community in areas where the political subdivision provides zoning and building code enforcement or planning and community development professional services for that community.
- **Project eligibility**: HMGP and PDM mitigation project subapplications for projects sited within a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are eligible only if the jurisdiction in which the project is located is participating in the NFIP. There is no NFIP participation requirement for HMGP and PDM planning subapplications or project subapplications located outside of the SFHA.
- **Property eligibility:** Properties included in a project subapplication for FMA, RFC, and SRL funding must be NFIP-insured at the time of the application submittal. Flood insurance must be maintained at least through completion of the mitigation activity.

## Mitigation Plan Requirement

All Applicants and subapplicants must have hazard mitigation plans meeting the requirements of 44 CFR Part 201.

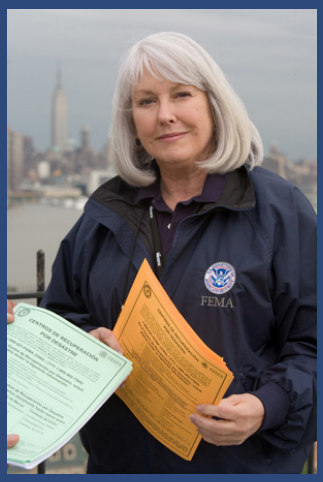
## Application Process

Applications for HGMP are processed through the National Emergency Management Information System (NEMIS). Applicants use the Application Development Module of NEMIS, which enables each Applicant to create project applications and submit them to the appropriate FEMA Region in digital format for the relevant disaster.

Applications for PDM, FMA, RFC, and SRL are processed through the Electronic Grants (*e*Grants) system. The *e*Grants system encompasses the entire grant application process and provides the means to electronically create, review, and submit a grant application to FEMA via the Internet. Applicants and subapplicants can access *e*Grants at https://portal.fema.gov.

eGrants
Electronic Grants System

# program information



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Email Updates

## Application Deadline

The PDM, FMA, RFC, and SRL application period is from June 1, 2009, through December 4, 2009. Applicants must submit an FY10 grant application to FEMA through the *e*Grants system by December 4, 2009, at 3:00:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

The HMGP application deadline is 12 months after the date of the disaster declaration date and is not part of the annual application period.

Details can be found in the Unified HMA Guidance.

## FEMA Review and Selection

All subapplications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness, cost-effectiveness, engineering feasibility and effectiveness, and for Environmental Planning and Historical Preservation compliance. Subapplications that do not pass these reviews will not be considered for funding.

FEMA will notify Applicants of the status of their subapplications and will work with Applicants on subapplications selected for further review.

## Contact Information

HMA Helpline: (866) 222-3580
hmagrantshelpline@dhs.gov

Contact information for FEMA Regional Offices is provided at:
http://www.fema.gov/about/contact/regions.shtm

Contact information for each State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) is provided at:
http://www.fema.gov/about/contact/shmo.shtm

Mitigation Works