

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs

Brenna Humphrey, FEMA Region X
Hazard Mitigation Assistance Specialist



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Hazard Mitigation Grant Basics

- FEMA HMA grants are *pass-through* grants
 - » FEMA awards the money to the State, who in turn awards it to the county, city, other State agency, etc.
- The State is the grant applicant, the county/city/state agency is the subapplicant
 - » What does this actually mean?
 - The subapplicant works directly with the State who helps prepare and submit the application, and in turn awards the money to the subapplicant
 - The State works directly with your local FEMA office to get the award, answer any Requests for Information (RFI), sends any correspondence (such as closeout documentation)



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FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA)

HMGP – Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

Post-Disaster – allocated to single State or Tribe

PDM – Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program

Nationally competitive - Annual funding cycle appropriated by congress

FMA – Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program

Funded by National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

Nationally competitive – Annual funding cycle



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HMA Project Criteria

- Hazard Mitigation Plan compliance
 - State, Tribe, and Community must all have FEMA-approved HM Plans
 - Project must be “in” the Plan or “consistent” with the Plan
- Project must be “cost-effective” (done using a FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis tool)
- Project must have sound engineering & technically feasible
- Project must provide a long-term solution and be functionally independent
- Project must comply with Environmental requirements
- *Must reduce risk*



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Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA)

- To find if a project is cost effective (BCR over 1.0)
- Must use the FEMA's BCA software
- BCA has modules for standard hazards (floods, tornado, drought, etc) and then a multi-hazard Damage-Frequency Assessment (DFA) module
- Don't forget to attach documentation!
- <https://www.fema.gov/benefit-cost-analysis>
- Helpline: bchelpline@fema.dhs.gov



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Green Infrastructure (GI)

Examples

- Rain Gardens
- Bio-retention Areas
- Bio-swales
- Green Roofs
- Green Streets
- Porous Pavement
- Stream Buffer Restoration
- Constructed Wetlands
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery
- Floodplain and Stream Restoration
- Flood Diversion and Storage



Benefits

- Improved air & water quality
- Local water supply
- Local flood control
- Groundwater replenishment
- Energy reduction
- GHG reduction
- Urban heat island reduction
- Increased open space
- Increased recreation
- Increased/improved habitats
- Deferment of grey infrastructure
- Green jobs
- Public education



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Sea Level Rise (SLR)



- Since 2013, FEMA pays for including Sea Level Rise in the design of HMA Projects
- The extra cost to build to protect for the design life of the structure are **ELIGIBLE COSTS** for the HMA grant
- The extra damages posed by Sea Level Rise are **ALSO** included in the Benefit Cost Analysis



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Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Only available following Presidential Disaster Declaration (authorized under Section 404 of the Stafford Act)
- 15% (*Standard State Plan*) or 20% (*Enhanced State Plan*) of Total Federal Disaster Costs
- Cost share is 75% federal share, 25% local share
 - » Some States will pay the 25%, while others will pass it to the subapplicant
 - » Management cost applications are *for the States only* and is up to 4.89%
 - This means subapplicants won't get reimbursed for costs such as grant reports, etc.



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Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Funding from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
 - Community must participate in the NFIP
- Annually appropriated
- Cost share depends on properties or project
 - Plans and Insured Properties= 75% federal share, 25% local
 - Repetitive Loss Properties= 90% federal share, 25% local
 - Severe Repetitive Loss Properties= 100% federal share
- Types of Projects:
 - Elevations
 - Property acquisition/demolition, property relocation
 - Community Flood Mitigation
 - Flood planning



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Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDMC)

- Nationally competitive unlike HMGP
 - \$235 million has been appropriated for this years funding cycle
 - Priorities are listed every year in the NOFO on grants.gov
- Large scale of projects- from home relocations to seismic retrofits to stream restorations to Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Applicant (State) can receive up to 10% in management costs, subapplicant (community) can receive up to 5%
- Cost share is 75% federal share, 25% local
 - Can be 90% federal, 10% local if community meets Small & Impoverished Status
 - 3,000 or under in population
 - Residents with annual per capita income 80% or less of national per capita
 - Local unemployment rate that exceeds national by 1 percentage point



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FY2018 PDM Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)



- Posted Friday, August 3rd on *grants.gov*
- Application Dates: 10/1/2018 to 1/31/2019
- \$235 Million
 - Maximum \$4 million federal share for Mitigation Projects
 - Maximum \$10 million federal share for Resilient Infrastructure Projects (protective measures for infrastructure, utilities, water/sanitary systems)
 - Maximum \$400,000 for new plans (\$150,00 for single jurisdiction updates)



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How to Move Forward

- Contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO)
 - What funding type is right for your project?
 - When can you apply?
 - How is your project ranked by the State?
- Start looking into what projects would be right for your community
 - *Mitigation Ideas* has a lot of good project suggestions
- Participate in FEMA HQ's webinars on the FY2018 PDM grant!
 - See schedule for dates and times
 - Recommend calling 10-5 minutes before to make sure you can get on the phone line



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Resources

Hazard Mitigation Planning site

<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-planning>

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Site

<https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance>

Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Guidance

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/103279>

Mitigation Ideas publication

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/30627>



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