

FEMA Funding Opportunities Overview

March 2023

1. Typical FEMA Application Components

1.1 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

When competitive grant funding becomes available, a NOFO will be issued from FEMA (or a collaborating agency) which will administer the funds. This notification will include information such as:

- Program description
 - o Funding opportunity title
 - o Program category
 - o Program objectives and priorities
- Federal award information
 - o Available funding
 - o Period of performance
 - o Funding type
- Eligibility information
 - o Eligible applicants
 - o Application eligibility criteria
 - o Cost share of match
- Application and submission information
 - o Key dates and times
 - o How to register and apply
- Application review information
 - o Application evaluation criteria
 - o Review and selection process
- Award information
 - o Notice of award details

1.2 Notice of Interest (NOI)

Some funding opportunities (such as the FEMA BRIC program) may require a NOI to be submitted prior to be eligible for application/subapplication. NOIs are often referred to as “pre-applications” and require information such as:

- Subapplicant entity name & type
 - o A subapplicant is typically defined as a state agency, local government, territorial government, or federally-recognized tribal government. The subapplicant submits a subapplication to an applicant. An applicant is typically a state who applies for funds directly from FEMA.
- Project/plan information
- Problem statement
- Solution description
- Benefit cost analysis
- Activity costs
- Local hazard mitigation plan information

1.3 Application Submittal

[FEMA Grants Outcomes \(GO\)](#) is the official portal for submitting, approving, and managing FEMA grants. All applications for FEMA funding will be started and submitted via this portal.

2. FEMA Funding Programs

2.1 [Prepare California: Match](#) – Cal OES

Background

Cal OES will offer matching funds for the non-federal cost share for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) project scoping activities and competitive mitigation projects for high hazard risk and socially vulnerable communities.

Requirements

- No matched funding requirement
- Limited to \$1 million in state funds per application
- Project must be eligible for funding under applicable program (BRIC, FMA, etc.)
- Eligible applicants must be considered socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community according to [Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance Division’s Vulnerability Map](#)
- Applicants must have a FEMA-approved local or tribal hazard mitigation plan in order to be eligible to apply
 - If eligible applicants do not meet the local hazard mitigation plan requirement, the county in which they are located or where the work is located must have a FEMA approved mitigation plan

Timeframe

Annual program – application due dates vary by year. The following table lists important dates for the 2023 program cycle.

Deadline	Description
June 2, 2023	PrepareCA Match subapplications open
August 4, 2023	PrepareCA Match subapplication due to Cal OES
January 14, 2024	Cal OES submits HMGP and PrepareCA selections to FEMA for further review
2024 - onward	FEMA awards projects after completing programmatic and Environment and Historic Preservation (EHP) reviews

2.2 [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\)](#) – FEMA

Background

Guiding principles of the program are to: (1) support capability- and capacity-building to identify mitigation actions and implement projects to reduce risks; (2) encourage and enable innovation; (3) promote partnerships and enable high-impact investments to reduce risk from natural hazards with a focus on critical services and facilities, public infrastructure, public safety, public health, and communities; (4) provide an opportunity to reduce future losses and minimize impacts on the Disaster Relief Fund; (5) promote equity; (6) support the adoption and enforcement of building codes, standards, and policies that take into account future conditions, including the effects of climate change.

Requirements

- 25% matched funding requirement or 10% for economically disadvantaged rural communities [EDRC]
 - Cal OES Prepare California: Match program eligible to cover this requirement

- Overmatched projects have higher odds for funding award
- Project must reside in a NFIP-participating community (Community Rating System rating preferred)
- Must reduce risk as a primary benefit
 - Multi-benefit projects prioritized
- One or more nature-based solution must be incorporated

Timeframe

Annual program – application due dates vary by year. Specific dates for the 2023 program cycle are TBA.

2.3 [Flood Mitigation Assistance \(FMA\)](#) – FEMA

Background

The grant program makes federal funds available to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It recognizes the growing flood hazards associated with climate change and the need for flood hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation, equity, and resilience.

Requirements

- 25% matched funding requirement – cost share is required for all subapplications funded by the FMA program
 - Cal OES Prepare California: Match program eligible to cover this requirement
 - Local governments must submit subapplications to their respective state’s application; only states/territories can submit “applications”
- Project must reside in a NFIP-participating community (Community Rating System rating preferred)
- Applicants are required to have a FEMA-approved State or Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan

Timeframe

Annual program – application due dates vary by year. Specific dates for the 2023 program cycle are TBA.

2.4 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Background

The HMG program provides funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments so they can rebuild in a way that reduces, or mitigates, future disaster losses in their communities. This grant funding is available after a presidentially declared disaster.

Requirements

- ± 25% matched funding requirement
 - Cal OES Prepare California: Match program eligible to cover this requirement
 - FEMA will provide 100% federal funding for applicant and subapplicant management costs

Timeframe

Annual program – application due dates vary by year. The following table lists important dates for the 2023 program cycle.

Deadline	Description
March 31, 2023	HMGP Notice of Interest (NOI) opens
May 10, 2023	HMGP NOIs due to Cal OES
June 2, 2023	PrepareCA Match subapplications open
August 4, 2023	PrepareCA Match subapplication due to Cal OES
January 14, 2024	Cal OES submits HMGP and PrepareCA selections to FEMA for further review
2024 - onward	FEMA awards projects after completing programmatic and Environment and Historic Preservation (EHP) reviews