



## Planning-Related Activities Using Hazard Mitigation Grant Program 7-Percent Funding

To strengthen hazard mitigation across the country, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) supports a variety of *planning-related activities* through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). In addition to hazard mitigation planning grants, this funding is available for *planning-related activities* and provides flexibility to State, tribal and local governments to reduce risk and integrate hazard mitigation principles into planning for resilience.

The funding for *planning-related activities* falls under Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 201.3(c)(4), where up to 7 percent of a recipient's HMGP funding can be used for mitigation planning in accordance with 44 CFR Section 206.434. Within this percentage, there are no limits on the dollar value of the *planning-related activity* or the number of planning activities that can be submitted on behalf of a community.

A State, tribal, or local government with a current FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan is eligible to apply for *planning-related activities* grants. The grant application will need to describe the deliverable for the proposed activity. Normal grant management and closeout procedures apply. Examples of *planning-related activities* that may be eligible under HMGP include the following:

1. Updating or enhancing sections of the current FEMA-approved mitigation plan, such as:
  - a. Enhancing the risk and vulnerability assessment based on new information, including supporting studies, such as economic analysis or from Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP);
  - b. Strengthening the mitigation strategy by incorporating actions to reduce vulnerabilities over the long-term as well as linking proposed actions to available funding, such as Public Assistance (PA), Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA), U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) loans and funds, State assistance, and/or private investments;
  - c. Incorporating green building, smart growth principles, housing, infrastructure, historic preservation, habitat protection or cultural resource considerations into the risk assessment and/or mitigation strategy;
  - d. Incorporating diverse and/or underserved populations that have unique needs into the planning process, risk assessment, and/or mitigation strategy;
  - e. Incorporating information into the mitigation plan to gain certification under the Emergency Management Accreditation Program; and/or

### Planning-related activities that are eligible for funding under HMGP:

- Update the mitigation strategy to reflect current mitigation and/or disaster recovery goals
- Update or enhance sections of the current FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan
- Develop and deliver planning-related training
- Provide technical assistance to subrecipients on mitigation planning
- Evaluate the adoption and/or implementation of ordinances that increase resilience
- Integrate information from the current mitigation plan to enhance other planning efforts

- f. Integrating mitigation planning with flood management planning to gain credit under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS).
2. Integrating information from mitigation plans, specifically risk assessment or mitigation strategies, with other planning efforts, such as:
  - a. Disaster recovery strategy (pre- or post-), preparedness, or response plans; including disaster recovery plans to protect local cultural, artistic, and historic resources;
  - b. Comprehensive (e.g., land use, master) plans;
  - c. Capital improvement or economic development plans;
  - d. Resource management/conservation plans (e.g., stormwater, open space); and/or
  - e. Other long-term community planning initiatives (e.g., transportation, housing, recreation, landmark and heritage, redevelopment, drought, and/or wildfire).
3. Building capability through delivery of technical assistance and training by:
  - a. Introducing officials, leaders, staff, residents, cultural stewards, and other stakeholders to hazard mitigation and disaster recovery planning, including train-the-trainer activities;
  - b. Increasing understanding of financial tools that can be used to implement mitigation measures and develop a financing strategy (e.g., tax increment financing, coordinated infrastructure financing, or historic tax credits);
  - c. Helping communities incorporate nature-based/green approaches into mitigation actions; and/or
  - d. Providing communities with information on viable adaptation approaches to prevent future losses to homes, businesses, and infrastructure as well as preserve historic and cultural resources.
4. Evaluating adoption and/or implementation of codes and ordinances that reduce risk and/or increase resilience to future hazards by:
  - a. Promoting flexibility and adaptation approaches to protect historic and cultural resources;
  - b. Evaluating current and future built environment to assess risks and vulnerabilities; and/or
  - c. Determining if building codes are consistent with hazard-resistant provisions in International Code Series, State-model, or State-mandated building codes.

## Resources and Additional Information

**Hazard Mitigation Planning:** Information is available from the [Hazard Mitigation Planning website](#). Further information on planning requirements can be found in the [State](#), [Tribal](#), and [Local](#) Mitigation Plan Review Guides as well as the [Local Mitigation Planning Handbook](#). Additional resources include [Plan Integration: Linking Local Planning Efforts \(2015\)](#) and [Integrating Hazard Mitigation Into Local Planning: Case Studies and Tools for Community Officials \(2013\)](#).

**Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA):** [HMA](#) provides information on grant policy and resources that can assist with the development of planning grant applications and *planning-related activities*. See the [Application Development](#) page and [HMA Guidance](#).

**Building Codes:** Additional resources are available from FEMA's [Building Code Resources](#) page

**National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):** FEMA's [Floodplain Management Ordinances](#) page provides a definition, NFIP requirements, and guidance that would be applied to a [Floodplain Ordinance](#).

**Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation:** Additional resources are available from FEMA's [Office of Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation](#) page.