



**FEMA**

## **Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program COVID-19 Supplemental Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

- **What is the purpose of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG-S) COVID-19 Supplemental?**

The FY 2020 EMPG-S program, as funded by *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* (Pub. L. No. 116-136, Div. B), assists states, territories, tribes, and local governments with their public health and emergency management activities supporting the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency. Through this grant program, FEMA will award funding to support planning and operational readiness for COVID-19 preparedness and response; development of tools and strategies for prevention, preparedness, and response; and ongoing communication and coordination among federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial partners throughout the response.

- **What legislation authorizes funding for the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program?**

*Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act* (Pub. L. No. 116-136, Div. B); Section 662 of the *Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006* (PKMRA), as amended, (Pub. L. No 109-295) (6 U.S.C. § 762); Title VI of the *Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act*, as amended (Pub. L. No. 93-288) (42 U.S.C. §§ 5121 *et seq.*) the *Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977*, as amended (Pub. L. No. 95-124) (42 U.S.C. §§ 7701 *et seq.*); and the *National Flood Insurance Act of 1968*, as amended (Pub. L. No. 90-448) (42 U.S.C. §§ 4001 *et seq.*).

- **How much funding is available under the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program?**

The total amount of funds to be distributed under the FY 2020 EMPG-S program will be \$100 million.

- **Where is the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program Notice of Funding Opportunity located?**

The FY 2020 EMPG-S Program NOFO is located online at <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

- **Who is eligible to apply for FY 2020 EMPG-S funds?**

All 56 States and territories are eligible to apply for FY 2020 EMPG-S funds. Either the SAA or the EMA is eligible to apply directly to FEMA for EMPG funds on behalf of each state or territory. However, only one application will be accepted from each state or territory.

- **How will FY 2020 EMPG-S funds be allocated?**

EMPG-S allocations are based on Section 662 of the *Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006*, as amended, (6 U.S.C. § 762). All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico each receive a base amount of 0.75 percent of the total available funding appropriated for the EMPG-S Program. Four territories (American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) receive a base amount of 0.25 percent of the total available funding appropriated for the EMPG-S Program. The remaining balance of the funds appropriated for the EMPG-S funds are distributed on a population-share basis. The FY 2020 EMPG-S NOFO provides the allocation amount for each state and territory.

- **What are the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program application requirements?**

Due to the exigent nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, DHS/FEMA has streamlined the application process, requiring submission of minimal information at the time of application. Unlike the standard requirement for EMPG, a Work Plan is not required at the time of application and no holds will be placed on awarded funds following recipient acceptance of the award. However, by July 30, 2020, recipients will be required to provide an interim EMPG-S Work Plan to DHS/FEMA in order to document how funds have been and/or will be used. Details on what must be included in the Work Plan are found in Appendix B of the FY 2020 EMPG-S NOFO.

The following forms or information are required to be submitted in either Grants.gov or the Non-Disaster Grants System (ND Grants). The Standard Forms (SFs), submitted either through Grants.gov, through forms generated in ND Grants, or as an attachment in ND Grants, are available at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html>.

- **SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance**, submitted through Grants.gov
- **Grants.gov Lobbying Form, Certification Regarding Lobbying**, submitted through Grants.gov
- **SF-424A, Budget Information (Non-Construction)**, submitted via the forms generated by ND Grants
- **SF-424B, Standard Assurances (Non-Construction)**, submitted via the forms generated by ND Grants
- **SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**, via the forms generated by ND Grants
- **Indirect Cost Agreement or Proposal**, submitted as an attachment in ND Grants if the budget includes indirect costs and the applicant is required to have an indirect cost rate agreement or proposal. Additional information is provided in the EMPG-S NOFO regarding allowability of indirect costs and documentation requirements.

- **How will the FY 2020 EMPG-S applications be submitted?**

Please refer to the FY 2020 EMPG-S NOFO for more details. Applying for an award under EMPG-S is a multi-step process. Eligible applicants must submit their initial application through the Grants.gov portal at <http://www.grants.gov> no later than one day before the final application deadline. Applicants needing Grants.gov support should contact the Grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 519-4726. Eligible applicants will be notified by FEMA

and asked to proceed with submitting their complete application package in the [Non-Disaster \(ND\) Grants System](#). Applicants needing technical support with the ND Grants System, please contact [ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov) or (800) 865-4076, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 6.p.m. Eastern Time (ET). **Completed applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on April 28, 2020.**

- **What are the key dates associated with the FY 2020 EMPG-S?**

- **April 13, 2020:** Release date for the FY 2020 EMPG-S NOFO and opening of application period.
- **April 28, 2020, 5 p.m. EDT:** Applications due to FEMA.
- **May 8, 2020:** Anticipated award date.

- **What is the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program period of performance?**

The period of performance is 24 months.

- **Does the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program include a cost share requirement?**

Yes. The FY 2020 EMPG-S program requires a 50 percent cost match as required by EMPG's authorizing legislation. The recipient contribution can be cash (hard match) or third-party in-kind (soft match).

- **Is there a cost-share waiver provision?**

No. EMPG's authorizing legislation does not provide FEMA with the authority to waive the cost match. The supplemental EMPG funding provided in the CARES Act did not modify these statutory provisions.

- **Are territories exempt from cost share match?**

As authorized by 48 U.S.C. § 1469a, cost-match requirements are waived for the insular areas of the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

- **What other resources are available to address programmatic, technical and financial questions?**

- FEMA Regional offices manage, administer, and close out awards, as well as conduct cash analysis, financial and programmatic monitoring, and audit resolution for the EMPG-S program. This includes review and approval of Work Plans. The Regions also provide technical assistance to EMPG-S awardees. FEMA Regional Office contact information is available at <https://www.fema.gov/fema-regional-contacts>.
- The FEMA Program Office conducts the initial application budget review, creates the award package and approves the awards. Additionally, the Program Office provides support in addressing specific programmatic questions regarding the FY 2020 EMPG-S Program. The Program Office can be reached by e-mail at: [FEMA-EMPG-S@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-EMPG-S@fema.dhs.gov).

- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or by e-mail at [AskCSID@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:AskCSID@fema.dhs.gov) , 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.
- For support regarding financial grant management and budgetary technical assistance, applicants may contact the DHS/FEMA Grant Operations Help Desk via e-mail at [ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov).