
**APPENDIX E: HMGP, PDM, and FMA
Program Descriptions**

**APPENDIX E
Overview**

This appendix describes the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program, and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program and answers some frequently asked questions about each.

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Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	This section describes the policies and procedures for FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
What is the HMGP?	The HMGP was created in November 1988 by Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended. (Amendments include the Hazard Mitigation and Relocation Assistance Act of 1993 and the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.) The HMGP assists States, tribes, and local communities in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration.
What is the purpose of the HMGP?	The program’s objectives are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Significantly reduce or permanently eliminate future risk to lives and property from severe hazards.▪ Provide funds to implement projects previously identified in State, tribal, or local Hazard Mitigation Plans.▪ Enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.
Who is eligible?	Federal funding under the HMGP is activated following a Presidential disaster declaration. Generally, the State is the grantee for the HMGP; however, after a declaration, an Indian tribal government also may choose to be the grantee. The grantee is responsible for selecting projects consistent with the FEMA-approved State or tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan, and for administering the HMGP program consistent with the grantee’s Administrative Plan. Eligible applicants under the HMGP are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ State and local governments.▪ Indian tribal governments.▪ Certain private nonprofit organizations or institutions. Individuals and businesses may not apply directly to the State (grantee) or to FEMA, but applicants may apply on behalf of local citizens.
What types of projects can be funded?	The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, as long as the project is identified in the State’s, tribe’s, or local government’s overall mitigation strategy to address areas of risk and complies with program guidelines. Examples of projects include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Acquiring and relocating structures from hazard-prone areas.▪ Retrofitting structures to protect them from floods, high winds, earthquakes, or other natural hazards.▪ Constructing certain types of minor and localized flood control projects.▪ Constructing “safe rooms” inside schools or other buildings in tornado-prone areas.▪ Developing State, tribal, or local mitigation plans.

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How do I apply?	Eligible applicants must apply for the HMGP through the State, since the State is responsible for setting priorities for funding and administering the program. The applicant should contact the State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) for specific details. If you are an individual or a business or other organization, contact your local government officials and the State for more information.
What is the deadline for applying for funds?	The State must submit all local HMGP applications and funding requests to the FEMA Regional Director within 12 months of the date of the disaster declaration. Check with your SHMO to confirm the specific timeline for each disaster.
How much money is available in the HMGP?	<p>HMGP funds are based on 15 percent of the estimated Federal funds to be spent on the Public and Individual Assistance programs (minus administrative expenses) for each disaster. These grant funds may be used to fund up to 75 percent of the eligible project costs. The non-Federal match does not need to be cash; in-kind services or materials may be used.</p> <p>Effective November 1, 2004, a State must have a FEMA-approved Standard State Mitigation Plan to be eligible for 15 percent of the total estimated eligible Federal assistance provided; a State with an approved Enhanced State Mitigation Plan is eligible for 20 percent of the estimated eligible Federal assistance provided.</p>
How are potential projects identified and selected for funding?	<p>Projects are identified and selected as part of an overall State mitigation strategy or plan.</p> <p>FEMA reviews projects selected by the State to determine eligibility and ensures compliance with environmental laws, Executive orders, and all HMGP criteria. If the application is approved, the State will notify the applicant and provide guidance regarding project implementation.</p> <p>As of November 1, 2004, HMGP projects selected for funding by the State must be consistent with the FEMA-approved Standard or Enhanced Mitigation Plan. HMGP projects submitted to the State must be consistent with the FEMA-approved tribal or local plan.</p>
Where can I obtain further information on HMGP?	<p>For more information on the HMGP, contact your SHMO or the FEMA office in your Region. Detailed information about managing the program can be found in FEMA's HMGP Desk Reference (FEMA-345). To order a copy, call 800-480-2520. You can also access the Desk Reference at FEMA's Web site: http://www.fema.gov (under Federal Insurance & Mitigation).</p> <p>Regulations for the HMGP are published in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 206, Subpart N. Regulations for Mitigation Planning are published in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 201.</p>

**Pre-Disaster
Mitigation**

This section describes the policies and procedures for FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation program.

What is PDM?

The PDM program was authorized by Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C., as amended by Section 102 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

Funding is provided to assist States, tribes, and communities in implementing cost-effective hazard mitigation activities that complement a comprehensive mitigation program and reduce injuries, loss of life, damage, and destruction of property. FEMA provides PDM grants to States which, in turn, provide sub-grants to local governments for mitigation activities such as planning and the implementation of projects identified through the evaluation of natural hazards. Federally recognized Indian tribal governments may choose to apply for PDM grants either through the State or directly to FEMA.

To be eligible for a "brick and mortar" PDM project grant, a FEMA-approved plan is required by November 1, 2003. To determine funding levels and application requirements, please contact your SHMO or FEMA Regional Office.

**Flood
Mitigation
Assistance**

This section describes the policies and procedures for FEMA's Flood Mitigation Assistance program.

**What is the
overall goal of
FMA?**

The FMA program provides funding to assist States, tribal governments, and communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to buildings, manufactured homes, and other structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FMA was created as part of the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 4101) with the goal of reducing or eliminating claims under the NFIP. FMA is a pre-disaster grant program.

**What are the
three types of
grants funded
under FMA?**

Planning Grants: Planning is the foundation of FMA. Approved plans make a community eligible to apply for FMA project grants. Communities that have Flood Mitigation Plans can request approval of their plans from their FMA State Point of Contact (POC) and FEMA. Plans must assess the flood risk and identify actions to reduce the risk.

Project Grants: States, tribal governments, and communities can apply for project grants to implement measures to reduce flood losses. Projects that reduce the risk of flood damage to structures insurable under the NFIP are eligible. Such activities include:

- Elevation of insured structures.
- Acquisition of insured structures and real property.
- Relocation or demolition of insured structures.
- Dry-floodproofing of insured non-residential structures.
- Minor, localized structural projects that are not fundable by State programs or other Federal programs that reduce flood risk to insured structures.
- Beach nourishment activities that reduce flood risk to insured structures.

Technical Assistance Grants: States may apply for these grants to help fund technical assistance to communities in the development of Flood Mitigation Plans, preparation of applications, or implementation of approved project grants.

**Who is
eligible?**

Any State agency, participating NFIP community (including tribal governments), or qualified local organization is eligible to participate in the FMA program. Communities that are suspended or on probation from the NFIP are not eligible. Individuals wishing to participate in the FMA program should contact their community officials.

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What are the project grant eligibility criteria?

A project must, at a minimum, be:

- Cost effective;
- Cost beneficial to the NFIP;
- Technically feasible; and
- Physically located in a participating NFIP community, or must reduce future flood damages in an NFIP community.

A project must also conform with:

- The minimum standards of the NFIP Floodplain Management Regulations;
- The applicant's Flood Mitigation Plan; and
- All applicable laws and regulations, such as Federal and State environmental standards or local building codes.

How does FMA work?

FEMA distributes FMA funds to States, which in turn provide funds to communities. The State serves as the grantee and program administrator for the FMA. The State:

- Sets mitigation priorities.
- Provides technical assistance to communities applying for FMA funds.
- Evaluates grant applications based on minimum eligibility criteria and State priorities.
- Awards planning grants.
- Works with FEMA to approve projects and awards funds to communities.
- Ensures that all community applicants are aware of their grant management responsibilities.

What are the cost-share and funding limits?

FEMA may contribute up to 75 percent of the total eligible costs. At least 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided by a non-Federal source. Of this 25 percent, no more than half can be provided as in-kind contributions from third parties. There are limits on the frequency of grants and the amount of funding that can be allocated to a State or community in any 5-year period.