

FEMA Releases Updated Guide to Help Communities with Resilience Grants Process

Release Date: March 23, 2023

Hazard Mitigation Guide Now Explicitly Addresses Key FEMA Priorities like Climate Change and Equity

WASHINGTON -- FEMA released an updated and consolidated guidance to help grant applicants successfully navigate our mitigation grant programs to enhance climate resiliency.

Following a multi-year effort and robust community engagement, FEMA updated the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#) to reduce complexities and increase stakeholder accessibility to resilience grant programs.

This is the first update to the guide since 2015, and it now incorporates climate change and future conditions, equity, building codes, capability and capacity building, nature-based solutions and community lifelines as key principles for its grant programs. It also covers a new program created since the last version, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC).

“Our best defense against the immediate impacts of climate change is to harden communities and arm our stakeholders with the resources they need to build with climate resilience in mind,” said FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell. “We remain focused on ensuring that every community who wants to take the next step in mitigating future threats is able to do so, and this updated guide is a critical tool in supporting that mission.”

State, local, tribal and territorial governments can use the guide to help them through the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance](#) (HMA) grant lifecycle process. FEMA’s mitigation grant programs provide funding for actions that address risks to and reduce disaster suffering from events like wildfires, drought, extreme heat,



FEMA

Page 1 of 2

hurricanes, earthquakes and flooding.

FEMA remains focused on further simplifying its programs and processes to help the whole community become more climate resilient aligning with FEMA's [people first](#) initiative, the updated guide reduces program complexities to help catalyze community partnerships and promote equitable investments to reduce risk.

In addition to BRIC, other programs included in the HMA Guide are the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, the HMA Program and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire. Several of these programs have seen historic levels of funding in [2021](#) and [2022](#).

FEMA will also be offering several webinars and materials that offer more information about the updated guide. Anyone interested in attending may register [here](#).

For more information about the guide update visit [FEMA.gov](#).

