

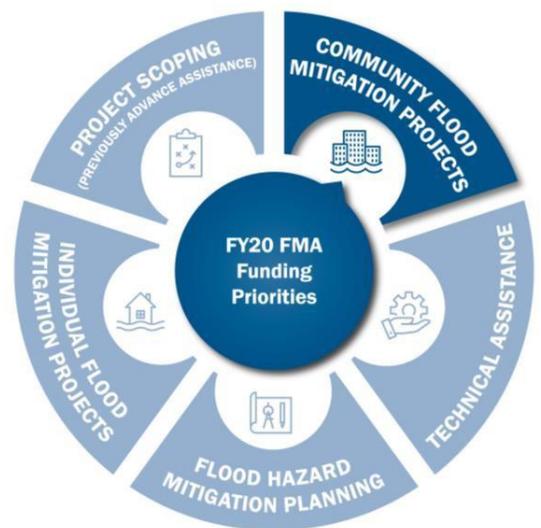
FMA Community Flood Mitigation

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) 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). This fact sheet provides detailed information on community flood mitigation projects eligible under the FMA program.

Overview

Community flood mitigation (CFM) projects are one of five FMA program priorities in fiscal year (FY) 2020. CFM projects, under FMA, address community flood risk for the purpose of reducing NFIP flood claim payments. Out of \$200 million¹ in total funding for FY 2020, FEMA has set-aside \$70 million for the federal cost share of CFM projects.

FEMA will select the highest scored eligible CFM project subapplication(s) based on the FEMA scoring criteria (described below). Each subapplication should not exceed \$30 million in federal cost share. Additionally, projects will be evaluated to ensure they will provide benefits to the NFIP in accordance with Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 79 and the *Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance* (HMA Guidance).



FY20 FMA Funding Priorities

Required Subapplication Elements

All Project Scoping subapplications must:

- Use the Community Flood Control code/activity type within FEMA’s grant application system to be considered,
- Be designated as a community flood mitigation project in the subapplication title, “Community Flood Mitigation Project,” and

¹ The amount of funding for the FY20 FMA NOFO published on August 4, 2020 has increased an additional \$40 million as a result of the identification of recovered funds – available funds for projects from previous grant cycles that were completed under budget or were not implemented, which can now be made available.



FEMA

- Prove that the proposed project benefits NFIP-insured properties by submitting a benefitting area map and associated geospatial file(s) (e.g., shapefile, KML/KMZ, geodatabase, or other geographic information system [GIS]-enabled document) delineating:
 - Proposed project footprint boundary,
 - Area benefitting from project, and
 - Active NFIP policies (if data available).

For more information on developing a benefitting area map, please consult the Geospatial File Eligibility Criteria Job Aid at https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/fema_geospatial-eligibility-criteria-flood-mitigation-grant-applications.pdf.

Eligible Community Flood Mitigation Projects

The following non-exhaustive list represents some eligible CFM projects. Remember, projects must benefit NFIP-insured properties in order to be deemed eligible under the FMA program. Example projects include, but are not limited to:

- Localized flood control
- Floodwater storage and diversion
- Floodplain and stream restoration
- Stormwater management
- Wetland restoration/creation

Community Flood Mitigation Projects Scoring Criteria

For FY 2020, CFM subapplications submitted to FMA will be scored and selected based on FEMA scoring criteria. The following table outlines the specific criteria with a brief description of each. More information on eligibility and scoring criteria can be found within the FY 2020 FMA NOFO.

Table 1: Final Priority Scoring Criteria for Community Flood Mitigation Projects & Project Scoping

Priority	Description	Total Points
NFIP Insured Multiple Loss Communities	Communities with 50 or more Repetitive Loss (RL) or Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) structures and have received NFIP claims in a county that has received an Individual Assistance declaration for flood in the past 10 years.	Up to 200

Priority	Description	Total Points
NFIP Policy Holder	Points will be assessed for every NFIP policy that is active as of the FMA application start date (Section D, Application and Submission Information, Key Dates and Times) and is verified within the benefitting area of the project. (5 per NFIP Policy).	5 x Each NFIP Policy
Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) and Repetitive Loss (RL) Properties	Points will be assessed for SRL or RL structure that is verified within the benefitting area of the project (5 per RL and 10 per SRL property).	5 x each RL 10 x each SRL
Private-Partnership Cost Share	Cost share taken on by private organizations/businesses emphasizing community participation, collaboration, and investment. Points will be assigned based on percentage of private cost share invested.	150
Community Rating System (CRS) Participation	The CRS recognizes and encourages community floodplain-management activities that exceed the minimum National Flood Insurance Program standards. Depending on the level of participation, flood insurance premium rates for policyholders can be reduced up to 45%. Highest weight will be assigned to class 1 and descending through lower classes. (Graded Scale: 1 = 100, 2 = 90, 3 = 80, 4 = 70, 5 = 60, 6 = 50, 7 = 40, 8 = 30, 9 = 10)	10-100
Advance Assistance Generated Project (Projects Only)	Application generated from a previous FEMA HMA Advance Assistance Award.	20
Cooperating Technical Partners Program (CTP) Participation	The CTP is a qualified partnership program in which communities commit to collaborate in maintaining up-to-date flood hazard maps and other flood hazard information. Points will be assigned to CTP participating communities.	30

Period of Performance

Under the FMA program, projects typically have a period of performance of 36 months to achieve project completion. However, given the complexity of the CFM projects, the period of performance for CFM projects is 48 months, starting on the date of the Recipient's federal Award.

More information on the period of performance and other programmatic requirements can be found in the FY 2020 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) or the FMA website at <https://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-grant-program>.

Community Flood Mitigation Projects within FEMA GO

The new FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) grants management system will be used for the FMA program, and is where FMA Applicants and subapplicants will submit, track, and manage all applications. The eGrants system will

not be used to process FMA applications or subapplications. This section provides a brief synopsis on how to submit community flood mitigation subapplications in FEMA GO, including information on selecting the correct activity type and an overview of the required narrative questions. For more information on navigating the new FEMA GO system and the full application process, please reference the FEMA GO guide at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/fema-go>.

The following section offers tips on selecting and submitting a community flood mitigation subapplication within FEMA GO.

- “Subapplication Title”
 - Include “Community Flood Mitigation Project” in the Subapplication title.
- Choose the “Subapplication Type”
 - Select the “Project” Subapplication Type within FEMA GO to begin.
- “Scope of Work” Section
 - Select the Primary Activity Type “Flood control”.
 - Select the sub-activity type “Community flood control”.
 - Select a Primary Community Lifeline; if applicable, select secondary and tertiary lifelines as well.
 - *Q: Geographic areas description*
 - In this section describe the project area and the benefitting area to the best of your ability.
 - Note: Ensure you attach your project area and benefitting area maps to your Subapplication.

Additional Resources

The links below provide additional information related to the FMA Program and resources to assist Applicants and subapplicants in their development of FMA projects.

- HMA Guidance: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/hazard-mitigation-assistance-guidance-and-addendum-fy15>
- FMA Program Homepage: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>
- Job Aide: New Geospatial File Eligibility Criteria in Flood Mitigation Grant Applications https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/fema_geospatial-eligibility-criteria-flood-mitigation-grant-applications.pdf