FY 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program

In fiscal year (FY) 2021, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is providing $355.1 million to assist state, local, tribal and territorial governments in developing their emergency management capabilities and for all-hazards preparedness activities.

Overview

The FY 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program is one of the grant programs that constitute the DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) focus on all-hazards emergency preparedness. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by DHS. Among the goals noted in the DHS Strategic Plan, the EMPG Program supports the goal to Strengthen Preparedness and Resilience.

Funding

In FY 2021, the EMPG Program provides $355.1 million to assist state, local, tribal and territorial governments in preparing for all hazards, as authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Pub. L. No. 93-288). This funding amount includes $100,000 from the Disaster Relief Fund, which FEMA must make available to the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands pursuant to Article X of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement of the Compact of Free Association Act (Pub. L. No. 108-188).

Eligibility

All 56 states and territories, as well as the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia (collectively “state or territory”), are eligible to apply for FY 2021 EMPG Program funds. Either the State Administrative Agency (SAA) or the state’s Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is eligible to apply directly to FEMA for EMPG Program funds on behalf of each state or territory. However, only one application is accepted from each state or territory. Please refer to page 10 of the FY 2021 EMPG Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for more information on eligibility.

Funding Guidelines

EMPG Program awards 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 receive a base amount of 0.75 percent of the total available funding appropriated for the EMPG 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 Program. The remaining balance of funds appropriated for the EMPG Program are distributed on a population-share basis.

Pursuant to Article X of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement of the Compact of Free Association Act (Pub. L. No. 108-188), a set amount of funds ($100,000 total) is also available from the Disaster Relief Fund for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Application Process

Applying for an award under the EMPG Program is a multi-step process and requires time to complete. Applicants are encouraged to register early as the registration process can take four weeks or more to complete. Therefore, registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact an applicant’s ability to meet required submission deadlines. Please refer to Section D in the FY 2021 EMPG Program NOFO for detailed information and instructions.

Eligible applicants must submit their initial application at least seven days prior to the May 14, 2021 application deadline through the Grants.gov portal at www.grants.gov. Applicants needing Grants.gov support should contact the Grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726 24 hours per day, 7 days per week except federal holidays.

Eligible applicants will be notified by FEMA and asked to proceed with submitting their complete application package in the Non-Disaster (ND) Grants System by the application deadline. Applicants needing technical support with the ND Grants System should contact ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov or (800) 865-4076, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. ET.

Completed applications must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. ET on May 14, 2021.

EMPG Program Resources

There are a variety of resources available to address programmatic, technical, and financial questions, which can assist with the EMPG Program:

- The FY 2021 EMGP Program NOFO is located online at www.fema.gov/grants as well as on www.grants.gov.
- The FEMA Preparedness Grants Manual is located online at www.fema.gov/grants.
- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or AskCSID@fema.dhs.gov. CSID hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.
- For support regarding financial grants management and budgetary technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Award Administration Help Desk via e-mail to ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov.
- The FEMA Regions also provide technical assistance to EMPG Program primary recipients. A list of contacts in the FEMA Regions is available at www.fema.gov/fema-regional-contacts.