

# FY 2021 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT (EMPG) PROGRAM KEY CHANGES – UPDATE

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## Latest Updates

- The fiscal year (FY) 2021 EMPG Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has been revised to incorporate the supplemental funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2. The following updates were made to the FY 2021 EMPG Program NOFO:
- The state/territory EMPG Program funding allocation table has been revised to incorporate the EMPG-ARPA allocations. (See page 10 of the NOFO.)
- The application instructions have been updated. For fund tracking and accountability purposes, DHS/FEMA is requiring applicants to submit two separate applications: one for the original FY 2021 EMPG Program allocation and one for the EMPG-ARPA supplemental allocation. (See page 16 of the NOFO)
- Applicants are required to account for the supplemental EMPG-ARPA allocation in a work plan. (See pages 18-19 of the NOFO). Applicants can choose to only submit the work plan for FY 2021 EMPG funding at time of application and submit the EMPG-ARPA funding at a later date; however, **a hold will be placed on the supplemental EMPG-ARPA funding until the required work plan is approved by the Regional Administrator.**
- For applicants that choose to submit work plans for both the FY 2021 EMPG and EMPG-ARPA by the application deadline, they can choose to either:
  - Submit two separate work plans – one that addresses the original FY 2021 EMPG funding and the other to address the supplemental EMPG-ARPA funding; or
  - Submit a single work plan that covers both funding sources provided the budget details account for the funding source (FY 2021 EMPG or EMPG-ARPA) and associated dollar amount for each EMPG- and EMPG-ARPA-funded project or activity.

The key changes associated with the original FY 2021 EMPG Program announcement are outlined below.

## Identifying Priorities

States/territories are required to prioritize grant funding to demonstrate how fiscal year (FY) 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program-funded investments support closing capability gaps or sustaining capabilities identified in the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)/Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) process and other relevant information



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sources, such as: 1) after-action reports following exercises or real-world events; 2) audit and monitoring findings; 3) Hazard Mitigation Plans; and/or 4) other deliberate planning products. In advance of issuing the FY 2021 EMPG Program awards, FEMA Regional Administrators will identify regional priorities based on their unique knowledge of the region's preparedness and emergency management needs, and will share those priorities with the states and territories within their region. The final priorities will be identified and mutually agreed to by the state/territory and the Regional Administrator through a collaborative negotiation process. The identified priorities will be captured in the required state/territory's EMPG Work Plan submission.

## Linking EMPG Program-Funded Projects to Identified Priorities

The EMPG Program Work Plan requirements, and the Work Plan Template, have been updated to support the collection of objective information and quantitative data that will allow FEMA to more effectively measure program effectiveness and investment impacts. This also enables compliance with [2 C.F.R. § 200.301](#), which requires federal awarding agencies to measure recipient performance to show achievement of program goals and objectives, share lessons learned, improve program outcomes, and foster adoption of promising practices. To this end, the new EMPG Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and Work Plan template requires recipients to link EMPG Program-funded investments to THIRA/SPR results and other relevant materials that inform capability priorities and needs, and to include specific performance measures that will allow FEMA to measure the impact of those investments based on the core capabilities that are being addressed.

Consistent with previous years, submission of an EMPG Program Work Plan is mandatory, as it is a required component of the EMPG Program application. The Work Plan outlines the state/territory's emergency management sustainment and enhancement efforts, including new and ongoing activities and projects, that are driven by identified preparedness priorities and proposed for the EMPG Program period of performance. An EMPG Program Work Plan Template (available on the [Grants.gov](#) EMPG Program application page and on the [Fema.gov website](#)) has been provided to facilitate the work plan development process. The EMPG Program Work Plan must address all information requirements included in the Work Plan Template, supplemental guidance included in FY 2021 EMPG NOFO, and [Preparedness Grants Manual](#). Therefore, EMPG Program applicants are strongly encouraged to use the available EMPG Program Work Plan Template.

## EMPG-Funded Planning, Training, and Exercise Projects

At least 87.5 percent of all projects that include Planning, Training, and/or Exercise deliverables must align with closing capability gaps identified and documented in the state/territory's most recent THIRA/SPR submission and other relevant information sources, as explained above.