Warning Sirens and Systems: Overview

*The following information is intended for guidance only and is not a request for information. The following template is only intended to help the reader understand the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) application process.

Purpose: Application templates have been developed to provide step-by-step instructions for specific project types. This application can be used for projects intended to alert the nearby population of an imminent risk of natural hazards, such as tornado, tsunami, flash flooding, wildfire or any eligible hazard mitigation project that requires an emergency response. Activities covered under this application may include warning signs and systems, fire cameras, alert systems, electric signs and signals for hazard warning systems, and hazard-identification-related equipment. The general intent of these systems is to provide warning of risk and/or evacuation orders for people in the area. Warning sirens and systems projects are a long-term effort and require multiple steps. Figure 1 shows the general process flow and decision points from a Major Presidential Disaster Declarations to grant award.



Figure 1: Warning Sirens and Systems Project Process Overview Notes:

(1) These activities may also occur prior to the Disaster Declarations and/or the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Prior to starting an application, it is recommended that you review the summary of data requirements (**Table 1**) needed to complete the application. Early submissions of accurate and complete eligibility and pre-award information will facilitate FEMA's review process and the release of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds.



Key Resources

WARNING SYSTEMS AND SIRENS PROJECT APPLICATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

This application form is designed specifically for warning systems and sirens projects. The accompanying instructions provide definitions, explanations, and clarification on the information requested in each section of the application. This step-by-step guidance references additional FEMA resources to help direct you to more detailed information, if needed.

Table 1: Summary of Data Requirements

Location and Scope of Work Information	Required Eligibility Data ¹	Required Pre- Award Data ²	Application Section and Number
Applicant/subapplicant contact information	\checkmark		А
List of siren locations	✓		B1, Additional Siren Location Details Spreadsheet
Site maps, including a radius/ service map, and a FIRMette	×		Ι
Photographs that represent the location where each siren will be installed/affixed, showing all sides of each structure if the sirens are to be affixed to existing structures	v		I, D2
Project narrative describing the natural hazard risks in the area and the population the project will benefit	×		B2
Detailed scope of work including details on other warning systems, signs, supporting equipment, power source and system components, installation processes, site access, staging, construction activities, and system operation	~		B3
Description of project useful life and maintenance requirements	×		В4
Description of alternatives (no action, alternative action, proposed project)	•		С
Schedule (schedule must be for 3 years or less)	\checkmark		E
Project cost estimate with line items and supporting documentation	*		F
Narrative describing project cost effectiveness	\checkmark		Н
Additional Environmental Planning and Historic potential impacts considerations include:	Preservation (EHP) Docum	entation: Needs	vary based on
Description of ground disturbance	\checkmark		D1
Structure information for siren attachment locations	\checkmark		D2
Provide construction sequencing and site-specific considerations for each siren	✓		D3
Description of public outreach that has occurred.		✓	D4
Description of any federal, state, or local agency coordination, and permitting		\checkmark	D5
Description of any environmental and/or cultural studies that have been conducted in the area		\checkmark	D6
Is the project in a known floodplain?			D7
Are there nearby surface waters or wetlands?	If yes, additional documentation and		D8
Are their known hazardous or contaminated materials at the project site?	documentation and discussion of impacts and potential mitigation measures will be required		D9
Does the project involve the use of imported fill?			D10
Will the project remove vegetation?			D11
List any best management practices that will be used during construction	✓		D12

Location and Scope of Work Information	Required Eligibility Data ¹	Required Pre- Award Data ²	Application Section and Number
Other Required Documents			
Fund commitment letters	✓		I
Applicable signed SF-424 forms and Assurances	✓		I
Designated authorized agent documentation	✓		I

Notes:

¹ Eligibility: Items that must be included in the grant application to fully evaluate eligibility. ² Pre-Award: Information that FEMA will need to review prior to award.