




FEMA

**Grant Programs Directorate
Information Bulletin No. 530
July 28, 2025**

MEMORANDUM FOR: All State Administrative Agency Heads
All State Administrative Agency Points of Contact
All Urban Area Security Initiative Points of Contact
All State Homeland Security Directors
All State Emergency Management Agency Directors
All Eligible Regional Transit Agencies
All Private Sector Transportation Security Partners
All Public and Private Sector Port Security Partners
All Tribal Nation Points of Contact

FROM: Stacey N. Street 
Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator
Grant Programs Directorate

SUBJECT: Updated Guidance to Recipients and Subrecipients of FEMA Non-Disaster Preparedness Grants Regarding the Policy on Prohibited and Controlled Equipment

I. Purpose

This Information Bulletin (IB) provides updated guidance for the acquisition of previously prohibited and controlled equipment for certain FEMA non-disaster preparedness grants as a result of Executive Order (EO) 14148 “[Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions](#),” signed on January 20, 2025.

II. Applicability

This IB is applicable to all open non-disaster preparedness grants awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

III. Guidance

1. On January 20, 2025, the President signed EO 14148 “Initial Rescissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions.”
2. EO 14148 revoked [EO 14074 “Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices To Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety,”](#) dated May 25, 2022.

3. Since FEMA Policy 207-22-002, “[Prohibited or Controlled Equipment Under FEMA Awards](#)” was issued to comply with EO 14074, FEMA Policy 207-22-002 is rescinded, effective immediately.
4. Unless noted below, all items that were previously “controlled” are now allowable without the need for any further review and determination by FEMA, provided that acquisition of the items is consistent with the terms of the award, including the applicable Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and/or Preparedness Grants Manual (PGM).
 - a. Weapons of any kind (including firearms; firearm silencers as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(24); grenades and grenade launchers; bayonets, etc.); ammunition; and weaponized aircraft, vessels, and vehicles of any kind **remain unallowable** under any FEMA preparedness grant.
 - b. Tracked armored vehicles ([AEL #12VE-00-MISS - Vehicle, Specialized Mission](#)) and urban camouflage uniform items ([AEL #01LE-02-BDUS - Specialized Clothing, NFPA 1975 or NFPA 2112](#)) **remain unallowable** under any FEMA preparedness grant.
 - c. Explosive material ([AEL #02EX-00-EXEN - Equipment, Explosive Entry](#)) **remains unallowable** and must be purchased separately.
 - d. Purchase of fixed or rotary wing aircraft ([AEL #18AC-00-ACFT - Aircraft, CBRNE](#)) will continue to require prior approval from FEMA, and recipients should contact their assigned FEMA Preparedness Officer for further guidance.

Recipients must provide a detailed justification to acquire equipment in this category and receive prior approval before obligating funding. A detailed justification must address the following key areas:

1. The need for the aircraft and how the requested platform best meets that need as compared to other options;
2. How the requested aircraft fits into the State/Urban Area's integrated operational plans;
3. Types of terrorism incident response and prevention equipment with which the requested aircraft will be outfitted, if purchased using Homeland Security Grant Program funds;
4. How the aircraft will be used operationally, and which response assets will be deployed using the requested aircraft;
5. How the aircraft will be utilized on a regular, non-emergency basis; and
6. A copy of the requesting agency’s standard operating policy/procedure for the aircraft.

Note: Licensing, registration fees, insurance, and all ongoing operational expenses will continue to be the responsibility of the grantee or the local units of government and are not allowable under the grant.

- e. Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems ([AEL #03OE-07-SUAS - System, Small Unmanned Aircraft](#)) are considered aircraft and are required to meet the requirements in Section III, 4, d, above consistent with EO 14035 "[Restoring American Airspace Sovereignty](#)," dated June 6, 2025.
 - f. Equipment intended to be used for riot suppression including riot batons, riot helmets, and riot shields **remain unallowable** under any FEMA preparedness grant program.
5. Questions
- a. Recipients should contact their assigned FEMA Preparedness Officer with any questions before acquiring equipment that may require prior FEMA approval or be unallowable under FEMA's preparedness grant programs.
 - b. Questions regarding this IB may be directed to your assigned FEMA Preparedness Officer or the FEMA Grants News at fema-grants-news@fema.dhs.gov or (800) 368-6498, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET.

IV. Review Date

This IB will be reviewed, updated or rescinded as needed.