

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Fiscal Year 2016 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs

Date Issued: **March 3, 2016**

Pre-Application Activity Form/ eGrants Access Requests Due: **March 11, 2016**

eGrants Applications Due: **May 13, 2016**





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FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs provide funding for eligible mitigation activities that reduce disaster losses and protect life and property from future disaster damages. Currently, FEMA administers the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program, and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Program.

As appropriated by the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-4); the FY 2016 PDM Grant Program provides resources to assist states, tribal governments, territories and local communities to reduce overall risk to the population and structure from future hazard events, while also reducing the reliance on federal funding from future disasters. Additionally, the FY 2016 FMA Grant Program provides resources to assist states, tribal governments, territories and local communities in their efforts to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insurable under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

FEDERAL OBJECTIVES

For FMA

- Reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the NFIP.

For PDM

- Minimize risk to the population and structures from future hazard events
- Reduce reliance on Federal funding from future disasters

FEDERAL PRIORITIES

For FMA

FEMA will select eligible planning and project sub-applications in order of the agency's priorities for the FY 2016 FMA Grant Program:

- **1st priority:** Projects that will mitigate flood damage to at least 50 percent of structures included in the sub-application that meet definition part (b)(ii) of a Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) property: At least two separate NFIP claim payments have been made with the cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the market value of the insured structure.
- **2nd priority:** Projects that will mitigate flood damage to at least 50 percent of structures included in the subapplication that meet the definition of a Repetitive Loss (RL) property:



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Have incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25% of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.

- **3rd priority:** Projects that will mitigate flood damage to at least 50 percent of structures included in the subapplication that meet definition part (b)(i) of a SRL property: four or more separate NFIP claims payments have been made with the amount of each claim exceeding \$5,000, and with the cumulative amount of claims payments exceeding \$20,000.
- **4th priority:** Projects that will mitigate flood damage for the largest number of NFIP-insured properties at the neighborhood level.

For project sub-applications in priority categories 1 through 3 above, FEMA will prioritize projects as follows:

- The highest percentage of structures included in the subapplication that meet the definition from 100 to 50 percent;
- The largest number of structures included in the subapplication that meet the definition; and
- FEMA-validated Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR).

For project sub-applications in priority category 4, FEMA will further prioritize as needed by the highest FEMA-validated BCR.

For PDM

FEMA will select eligible planning and project sub-applications in order of the agency's priorities for the FY 2016 PDM Grant Program:

- **3rd priority:** Planning sub-applications consistent with Title 44 CFR Part 201 from Applicants that do not have Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) planning funds available.
- **4th priority:** Project sub-applications from Applicants that do not have HMGP regular project funds available in order as follows:
 - i. Climate Resilient Mitigation Activities (CRMA), including Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR), Floodplain and Stream Restoration (FSR), and Flood Diversion and Storage (FDS); and pre- or post- wildfire mitigation activities or any mitigation action that utilizes green infrastructure approaches
 - ii. Non-flood hazard mitigation projects (e.g., seismic, wildfire, landslide and wind) and non-acquisition/elevation/mitigation reconstruction flood mitigation activities (e.g., stormwater management and flood control measures)
 - iii. Acquisition, elevation and mitigation reconstruction projects



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- iv. Generators for critical facilities as identified in a FEMA-approved Mitigation Plan

For the competitive sub-applications in priority categories 3 through 4 above, FEMA will further prioritize sub-applications as follows:

- Small, impoverished community status;
- FEMA-validated residential or commercial Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating, as appropriate to the activity type, from a grade of 1 to 10; and
- FEMA-validated Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) for projects.

FUNDING AVAILABLE

- For FMA, the total allotment is \$199,000,000. There is no state specific set aside.
- For PDM, the total allotment is \$90,000,000 with a Rhode Island set aside of \$575,000.

STATE PRIORITIES

For FMA

- Projects that will mitigate flood damage to a Repetitive Loss (RL) or Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) structure with active NFIP policy. Definitions for these property types are available in the Federal NOFO.

For PDM

- Local or multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans
- Floodplain and Stream Restoration (FSR) projects
- Projects that acquire and remove flood prone structures from the floodplain. These structures are not required to meet the as RL or SRL definition from the Federal NOFO.

ELIGIBLE SUB-APPLICANTS

Local, State and Tribal governments

Sub-applicants must have a FEMA approved local hazard mitigation plan in place no later than June 1, 2016 to be eligible to apply for project funding.

COST SHARE

Grant Program	Federal/ Non-Federal Share
FMA – insured properties and planning grants	75/25
FMA – repetitive loss property	90/10
FMA – severe repetitive loss property	100/0
PDM	75/25



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APPLICATION PROCESS

While not required, Pre-Application Activity Form(s) should be submitted no later than **March 11, 2016** so that RIEMA can expedite sub-applicant access to eGrants, FEMA's online application system. Please note which grant program the activity is proposed for and, if submitting multiple proposals, the priority.

Sub-applicants who file complete Pre-Application Activity Form(s) will be contacted by RIEMA Mitigation staff to discuss their proposals. Eligible sub-applicants will be invited to submit a full eGrants sub-application only after their Pre-Application Activity form has been submitted and only after RIEMA has contacted them to discuss the proposal's eligibility. RIEMA will provide an eligible sub-applicant with eGrants access instructions following the eligibility determination is made. Once a sub-applicant's access is granted to the eGrants system, they are encouraged to submit early in order to receive technical assistance from RIEMA.

The deadline to submit a complete sub-application for State review to eGrants is **May 13, 2016**. Applications submitted after May 13, 2016 will not be reviewed or submitted to FEMA for funding consideration. The State will review the sub-application for eligibility, completeness and cost-effectiveness. RIEMA Mitigation staff will also work with sub-applicants to make sub-applications as competitive as possible.

As the Applicant for this cycle, RIEMA is permitted to submit a maximum of 19 sub-applications, including one (1) management cost sub-application for Applicant management costs. Of the 19 submissions, only eight (8) may be project sub-applications. The State's top-ranked project must be no more than \$575,000 federal share.

Please email Pre-Application Activity Form(s) to jessica.stimson@ema.ri.gov or via USPS to:
Jessica Stimson
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
645 New London Avenue Cranston, RI 02920

The programmatic guidance, Federal NOFO announcement and further explanation of federal objects can be found on the RIEMA website at www.riema.ri.gov.