

# **Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants Overview and Updates**



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RHODE ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

# Presentation Topics

- Administrative Responsibilities
- Grant Programs
- Eligible Activities
- Ineligible Activities
- Participation Requirements
- Cost Share
- Application Process
- Summary
- Resources



# Mitigation Basics

- Mitigation efforts strive to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of a disaster.
- Supports actions that occur before a disaster to reduce consequences later.
- Encourages actions that are **long-term** cost-effective, and environmentally sound.



# HMA Program Administration



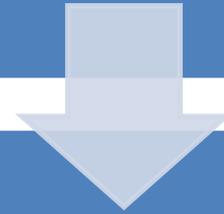
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RHODE ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

# Mitigation Administration

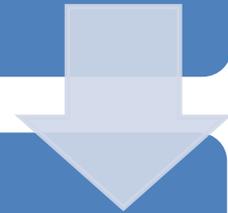
## Federal Partner

FEMA Headquarters, Washington D.C.  
Mitigation Division



## Regional Federal Partner

FEMA Region 1 Boston, Massachusetts  
Risk Analysis Division



## State Partner

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency  
Planning and Mitigation Branch



# Administrative Roles

## Federal

- Direct communication with State
- Notify State of funding availability and limits
- Review and approve Local and State Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Develop, maintain and update relevant HMA guidance
- Review HMA applications submitted by the State
- Prepare and review Environmental documents
- Final decision on grant approval

## State

- Serve as Applicant (pre-award) or Grantee (post-award)
- Conduit between Local and Federal levels
- Maintain State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Provide technical assistance to local partners
- Review and prioritize local project submissions for funding
- Manage project oversight and reporting requirements

## Local

- Serve as sub-applicant (pre-award) or sub-grantee (post-award)
- Maintain Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Identify areas of concern and develop eligible mitigation project concepts
- Manage project oversight and reporting requirements
- Commit to local (non-federal) cost-share



# Types of HMA Grant Programs



# HMA Programs



**Pre-Disaster Mitigation  
(PDM)**

**Flood Mitigation Assistance  
(FMA)**

**Hazard Mitigation Grant  
Program (HMGP)**

## **Hazard Mitigation Assistance Unified Guidance**

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program,  
and Flood Mitigation Assistance Program



**FEMA**

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security  
500 C Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20472



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# Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program

- Funding is offered on an annual basis (as available).
- Non-disaster mitigation grant.
- Provides funds for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster.
- Goal of the program is to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on federal funding from actual disaster declarations.
- Nationally competitive program



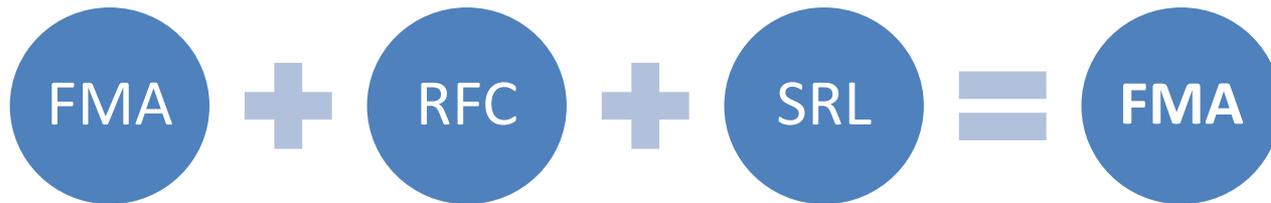
# Flood Mitigation Assistance Program

- Funding is offered on an annual basis (as available).
- Non-disaster mitigation grant.
- Provides funds for measures to reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to buildings insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- Nationally competitive program



# Flood Mitigation Assistance Program

- Multiple flood mitigation programs consolidated into *single* FMA program in newest guidance which seeks to reduce or eliminate claims under the National Flood Insurance Program.
  - Repetitive Flood Claims (RFC) program aimed to reduce flood damages to properties for which one or more flood insurance claim payments had been made.
  - Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) program was designed to reduce flood damages to residential properties that had experienced severe repetitive losses under flood insurance coverage.



# Rhode Island PDM & FMA Awards

PDM Award Year	Number of Sub-Grantees	Open Awards	Activity Type(s)	Total Federal Share
2010	16	2	Hazard Mitigation Plans	\$226,102.71
2011	1	0	Hazard Mitigation Plan	\$28,056.72
2012	3	2	Hazard Mitigation Plans & Residential Acquisition	\$243,302.25
2013	2	2	Utility Elevation Infrastructure Relocation	\$1,394,366.88
2014	3	3	Generators Hazard Mitigation Plan	\$207,375.00

FMA Award Year	Number of Sub-Grantees	Activity Type	Federal Share
2013	1	Residential Elevation	\$190,251.00
2014	1	Residential Acquisition	\$305,250.00



# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program

- Assists in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures *following* Presidential disaster declarations.
- Funding is available to implement projects in accordance with State, Tribal, and local priorities.
- Available for all-hazard mitigation plans and projects.
- Funds available Statewide to eligible sub-applicants.



# Rhode Island HMGP History

- States are allotted 15% of TOTAL disaster assistance grants provided by FEMA for HMGP.

**Public Assistance + Individual Assistance x 15% = HMGP**

Event	Event Date	Total HMGP Allowance
2010 Floods	March 2010	\$11,033,039
Tropical Storm Irene	August 2011	\$1,608,921
Hurricane Sandy	October 2012	\$1,525,854
Severe Winter Storm	February 2013	\$1,070,651
Severe Winter Storm	January 2015	TBD



# Open Rhode Island HMGP Awards

Declared Disaster	Event	Number of Sub-Grantees	Activity Types	Total Federal Share (to date)
HMGP DR-1894	March 2010 Floods	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Acquisitions</li> <li>•Backflow valves</li> <li>•Drainage</li> <li>•Outreach initiative</li> <li>•Structure Relocation</li> </ul>	\$3,096,964.00
HMGP DR- 4027	TS Irene	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Backflow valves</li> <li>•Elevations</li> <li>•Hazard Mitigation Plans</li> </ul>	\$1,119,240.00
HMGP DR- 4089	Sandy	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Acquisitions</li> <li>•Elevations</li> <li>•Generators</li> <li>•Hazard Mitigation Plans</li> </ul>	\$1,356,368.00
HMGP DR- 4107	Severe Winter Storm	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Acquisitions</li> <li>•Generators</li> <li>•Hazard Mitigation Plans</li> </ul>	\$299,643.00



# Eligible Activities

ACTIVITIES	HMGP	PDM	FMA
Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition	X	X	X
Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation	X	X	X
Structure Elevation	X	X	X
Dry Floodproofing of Historical Residential Structures	X	X	X
Dry Floodproofing of Non-residential Structures	X	X	X
Minor Localized Flood Reduction Projects	X	X	X
Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings	X	X	
Non-structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities	X	X	X
Safe Room Construction	X	X	
Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences	X	X	
Infrastructure Retrofit	X	X	X
Soil Stabilization	X	X	X
Wildfire Mitigation	X	X	
Post-Disaster Code Enforcement	X		
Generators	X	X	
5 Percent Initiative Projects	X		
Advance Assistance	X		
Hazard Mitigation Planning	X	X	X



# Eligible HMA Activity Categories

- Planning
- Projects
- 5% Initiative Projects



# Planning

- Goal is to identify policies and actions that can be implemented at the local or State level to reduce risk and future losses.
- Local, State and Tribal governments develop plans that meet the requirements set by the Stafford Act.
- Once governments receive FEMA approval on a HMP, an entity is eligible to receive HMA project funding to implement mitigation actions.
- Local and State HMPs are approved for five (5) years.



# Mitigation Planning Review Tool

- The Local Mitigation Plan Review Tool demonstrates how the Local Mitigation Plan meets the FEMA regulations.
- Communities must submit completed Review Tool to RIEMA in order to expedite review.

## Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide

October 1, 2011



# Planning Assistance

- The State has developed a template available to municipalities based on FEMA Review Tool standards.
  - Use of template is NOT required but encouraged.
- Technical planning assistance from RIEMA is available for any municipality upon request.
- As available, mitigation planning training opportunities will be provided by FEMA .



# RI Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Status

## As of August 1, 2015

- Approved – 18
- Expired – 15
- No Plan – 6

## Active Planning Awards

- PDM 2010 – 2
- PDM 2012 – 2
- PDM 2014 – 1
- HMGP DR-4027 – 9
- HMGP DR- 4089 – 3
- HMGP DR-4107 – 1



# Projects

- Goal is to fund long-term mitigation efforts that minimize loss and increase resilience after a future event.
- Local, State or Tribal governments with FEMA approved HMPs are eligible to apply for projects.
- Proposed projects should be consistent with Local and State HMP goals and strategies.



# Project Specifics

- Project MUST be cost-effective.
  - If a project requires a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA), the BCA must be 1.0 or greater to be eligible for funding consideration.
- Project MUST be stand-alone (NO phased projects allowed).
- Project's physical work MUST NOT begin until project is awarded.
- Project MUST NOT duplicate efforts of other Federal and/or State funds/ projects.



# 5% Initiative Projects

- Only available during HMGP funding cycles.
- Project category that does NOT require a BCA.
- Sub-applicants must submit a complete general HMGP application with additional narrative describing proposed project's long-term implementation benefits (i.e. vulnerability reduction, cost savings etc.).



# Ineligible Activities

- Maintenance and/or repair projects
- Completed projects or projects that are in-progress
- Major flood control projects such as construction or repair of dams, dikes, levees, seawalls, etc.
- Design, feasibility, and/or drainage studies not integral to project
- Phased or partial projects
- Flood studies or flood mapping
- Response or communication equipment

More information available in FY2015 HMA Guidance



# Eligibility Considerations



# Sub-Applicants

- State or Local Government
  - Municipalities **MUST** apply on behalf of property or business owner. Individual property owners are not to contact State regarding application/ award.
- Tribal Government
- Private Non-Profits (PNPs)

TYPE	PDM	FMA	HMGP
State Agencies	X	X	X
Local Government	X	X	X
Tribal Government	X	X	X
Private Non-Profits (PNPs)			X



# Compliance

- Sub-applicant must have a FEMA approved HMP by the application deadline and time of obligation.
- Projects required to provide BCA must be equal to or greater than 1.0.
- Proposed work must comply with local, State and Federal environmental regulations.



# Compliance Continued

## National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Eligibility

- Sub-Applicants
  - Must be participating in the NFIP
    - All 39 communities and 1 Tribal government are participating
- Projects
  - Community must be participating in the NFIP for HMA projects located in a Special Flood Hazard Area.
- Property (For FMA Only)
  - Must have flood insurance at time of award and maintain coverage in perpetuity (through deed language).



# HMA Grant Cost Share

## Types

- **Cash**
  - local, state, private cash payments, CDBG award
- **In-Kind Match**
  - labor, equipment, materials

GRANT PROGRAM	PERCENT OF FEDERAL/ NON-FEDERAL SHARE
HMGP	75/25
PDM	75/25
FMA – insured properties and planning grants	75/25
FMA – repetitive loss property	90/10
FMA – severe repetitive loss property	100/0



# HMA Grant Cost Share

- Sub-applicants must provide anticipated match source in original application.
- Federal and non-Federal cost shares must be for eligible costs used in direct support of the approved activity.
- Non-federal match for mitigation of private structures is generally provided by individual property owner.



# Types of HMA Applications



# Application Process - PDM & FMA

FEMA announces availability of annual funds and application deadline.

RIEMA rolls out funding cycle announcement and sets Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline.

Once LOIs are received and processed, online application instructions are distributed to eligible sub-applicants.

Completed sub-applications are submitted to State for official FEMA submission.

FEMA reviews and notifies State of eligible projects.



# PDM & FMA Application Details

- Applications are completed using the FEMA e-Grants system.
- New users must request access to website from RIEMA before starting application.
  - Access instructions are provided to sub-applicant after RIEMA reviews LOI for eligibility.
- FEMA established an e-Grants helpdesk to provide technical assistance.
- State acts as Applicant by categorizing and prioritizing submitted projects.



# Application Process - HMGP

FEMA declares disaster and State sets application start date (typically a year after the event).

RIEMA rolls out funding cycle announcement and sets Letter of Intent (LOI) deadline.

Once LOIs are received and processed, online application instructions are distributed to eligible sub-applicants.

Completed sub-applications are submitted to State for official FEMA submission.

FEMA reviews and notifies State of eligible projects.



# Review Strategy

- RIEMA expects sub-applicants to submit complete applications suitable for review.
- Applications should highlight long-term benefits of proposed mitigation actions.
- For project applications, where a BCA is required, supporting documentation must be provided to be eligible for consideration.
- Applications must display sub-applicant's ability to implement proposed work schedule in a timely manner.



# HMA Summary

- FEMA HMA grants are an opportunity to implement mitigation measures and reduce risk.
- Reference the FY2015 HMA Unified Guidance for details on eligibility requirements.
- Develop a complete application that showcases long-term benefits of proposed project/plan.
- Take advantage of State and Federal HMA specific technical assistance opportunities (i.e. bulletins, helpline, trainings, etc.).
- Implement and closeout projects to State and Federal standards as outlined in guidance.



# HMA Reference Materials



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RHODE ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

# HMA Grant Resources

- Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency  
<http://www.riema.ri.gov>
- FY2015 Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance  
<http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/33634>
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation  
<http://www.fema.gov/pre-disaster-mitigation-grant-program>
- Flood Mitigation Assistance  
<http://www.fema.gov/flood-mitigation-assistance-program>
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program  
<http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program>
- Hazard Mitigation Planning  
<http://www.fema.gov/multi-hazard-mitigation-planning>



# Additional Resources

- RIEMA Mitigation Staff
  - Technical assistance is available on HMA program specifics, funding opportunities, and developing successful mitigation strategies.
- State Interagency Hazard Mitigation Committee(SIHMC)
  - Attend the SIHMC quarterly meetings to participate in future updates of the State HMP.



# Questions?



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Web: [riema.ri.gov](http://riema.ri.gov)



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