

Notice of Funding Opportunity for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants

Fiscal Year 2020 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) makes federal funds available through the new Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) grant program to states, local communities, tribes and territories (SLTTs) for pre-disaster mitigation activities. BRIC is a new FEMA pre-disaster hazard mitigation program that replaces the existing Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program. The Disaster Recovery Reform Act, Section 1234; amended Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) and authorizes BRIC. The BRIC priorities are to:

- incentivize public infrastructure projects;
- incentivize projects that mitigate risk to one or more lifelines;
- incentivize projects that incorporate nature-based solutions; and,
- incentivize adoption and enforcement of modern building codes.

FEMA has published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the BRIC grant program. The Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) BRIC NOFO can be accessed at www.Grants.gov. FEMA encourages reviewing the BRIC NOFO before applying, as it provides detailed program information and other grant application and administration requirements.

Available Funding

For FY20, FEMA will distribute up to \$500 million through the BRIC grant program in the following manner:

- **State/Territory Allocation:** \$33.6 million (up to \$600,000 per Applicant). All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories may apply under the State/Territory Allocation.
- **Tribal Set-Aside:** \$20 million. All Indian tribal governments (federally recognized) may apply under the Tribal Set-Aside.
- **National Competition for Mitigation Projects:** \$446.4 million (estimated). Remaining funds which are not awarded from the State/Territory Allocation or Tribal Set-Aside will be included in the national competition.

Total Available BRIC FUNDING \$500 Million			
Uses of Assistance	33.6 M State/Territory Allocations	\$20M Tribal Set-Aside	\$446.4M National Competition for Mitigation Projects
Management Costs.	✓	✓	✓
Capability and Capacity Building Activities.	✓	✓	
Mitigation Projects.	✓	✓	✓



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Funding Caps

The funding caps (federal share) for the BRIC program are as follows:

- **State/Territory Maximum Allocation and Activity Caps:** \$600,000
 - Up to \$300,000 may be used for mitigation planning and planning-related activities per applicant
- **Tribal Set-Aside Activity Caps:** The combined cost of the applicant's capability- and- capacity building activities under the Tribal Set-Aside must not exceed \$600,000 per applicant.
- **National Competition Cap:** \$50 million per subapplication

For additional information on funding caps, visit [FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov).

Cost Share

A cost share is required for all subapplications funded under this program. The non-federal cost share may consist of cash, donated or third-party in-kind services, materials, or any combination thereof. FEMA will provide 100 percent federal funding for management costs. The cost share for BRIC is as follows:

- Generally, the cost share for this program is 75 percent federal/25 percent non-federal.
- Small impoverished communities¹ are eligible for an increase in cost share up to 90 percent federal/10 percent non-federal.
- For insular areas, including American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, FEMA automatically waives the non-federal cost share for the Recipient when the non-federal cost share for the entire award is under \$200,000. The Recipient may request the waiver in its application.

Application and Funding Deadlines

To apply for funding made available for FY20 through the BRIC program, Applicants must adhere to the following Application and funding deadlines:

Application Opening: **September 30, 2020**

- Eligible Applicants must apply for funding using the new FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO), which is now the management system for BRIC. The development of FEMA GO was a multi-year effort to modernize and transform the way FEMA conducts grants management. FEMA GO will streamline the process to apply for, track, and manage FEMA grants.
- To apply, please visit <https://go.fema.gov/>.

Application Deadline: **January 29, 2021 (3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)**

¹ A small impoverished community is a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals identified by the Applicant that is economically disadvantaged, with residents having an average per capita annual income not exceeding 80 percent of the national per capita income, based on best available data.

New system-related issues addressed until **January 27, 2021 (3:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time)**. Applicants experiencing technical problems outside of their control must notify FEMA by this deadline.

Pre-Award Selection Notice: **June 2021**

Period of Performance (POP): **Start Date:** Date of the Recipient's federal Award
End Date: **36 months** from start date for all other subapplications

Any subsequent amendments to the federal award will not extend the POP unless explicitly stated.

For highly complex projects, the Applicants may submit a request for a longer POP in the Application for FEMA to review and approve.

Eligibility Information

To be eligible for BRIC funding, FEMA will require the applicants and subapplicants listed below to have a current FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan at time of application and award. Further, Section 203 of the Stafford Act requires the applicant meet the following criteria:

- **State or territory:** Must have received a major disaster declaration under the Stafford Act in the seven years prior to the annual grant application period start date.
- **Federally recognized tribe:** Must have received a major disaster declaration under the Stafford Act in the seven years prior to the annual grant application period start date or be entirely or partially located in a state that received a major disaster declaration in the seven years prior to the annual grant application period start date. A Federally recognized tribe is eligible to apply for a grant either as an applicant or subapplicant. If a tribe requests to apply through the state, the state must meet the "seven year" declaration criteria.
- FEMA must apply this seven-year requirement for each BRIC grant cycle. As of **January 1, 2020**, all states, federally recognized tribes, and territories satisfy these criteria.

FEMA will fund the following uses of assistance through BRIC:

- **Capability- and Capacity-Building Activities** can be submitted under the State/Territory Allocation and Tribal Set-Aside. These are activities that enhance the knowledge, skills, and expertise of the current workforce to expand or improve the administration of mitigation assistance.
- **Mitigation Projects** can be submitted under the State/Territory Allocation, Tribal Set-Aside, and the national competition. Mitigation projects are cost-effective projects designed to increase resilience and public safety; reduce injuries and loss of life; and reduce damage and destruction to property, critical services, facilities, and infrastructure.
- **Management Costs** can be submitted under the State/Territory Allocation, Tribal Set-Aside, and national competition. Management costs allow FEMA to provide financial assistance to reimburse the recipient and subrecipient for eligible and reasonable indirect costs, direct administrative costs, and other administrative expenses associated with a specific mitigation project or C&CB activity.

FEMA will provide the following assistance through BRIC:

- **Non-Financial Direct Technical Assistance** to communities to build a community's capacity and capability to improve its resiliency to natural hazards and to ensure stakeholders are capable of building and sustaining successful mitigation programs, submitting high-quality applications, and implementing new and innovative projects that reduce risk from a wide range of natural hazards.

For additional information on eligibility, view the full FY20 BRIC NOFO, accessible at www.Grants.gov.

Additional Resources

The resources below provide additional information about the BRIC program and can be found at the [BRIC webpage](#) on FEMA.gov:

- BRIC Infographic
- Mitigation Action Portfolio
- BRIC Building Codes Activities Program Support Material
- BRIC Partnership Activities Program Support Material
- BRIC Project Scoping Activities Program Support Material
- BRIC Mitigation Planning Activities Program Support Material
- BRIC Direct Technical Assistance Program Support Material
- BRIC Technical Criteria Program Support Material
- BRIC Qualitative Criteria Program Support Material
- FY20 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity (fema.gov)

For general questions about the BRIC program can be directed to the appropriate [State Hazard Mitigation Officer \(SHMO\)](#) or [FEMA Regional Office](#) on FEMA.gov. The HMA Helpline is available by telephone at (866) 222-3580.