



## Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

### FY 2016 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program

As appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-113); the Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program provides resources to assist states, tribal governments, territories and local communities in their efforts to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program, as authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5133).

*In Fiscal Year 2016, \$90,000,000 is available to assist State, Tribal Territorial and local governments reduce overall risk to the population and structures from future hazard events, while also reducing reliance on federal funding from future disasters.*

The Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Unified Guidance applies to the FY 2016 PDM Grant Program application cycle. Applicants are encouraged to review the Notice of Funding Opportunity announcement and the HMA Guidance for detailed information regarding eligibility and to contact their FEMA Regional Office for additional information.

### Funding

- In FY 2016, the total amount of funds distributed under the FY 2016 PDM Grant Program will be \$90,000,000.
- All 50 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to receive an allocation of \$575,000 in accordance with Section 203(f)(1) of the Stafford Act.
  - Ten percent of the appropriated PDM funding, or \$10 million, will be set aside for Federally-recognized Native American Tribal applicants to receive an allocation of \$575,000 per tribe.
  - The balance of PDM Grant Program funds will be distributed on a competitive basis to all eligible applicants.
  - No applicant may receive more than 15 percent, or \$15 million, of the appropriated PDM funding per Section 203(f)(2) of the Stafford Act.

### Eligibility

All 50 States, the District of Columbia, Federally-recognized Native American Tribal governments, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to apply for the FY 2016 PDM Grant Program. Local governments are considered sub-applicants and must apply to their applicant state/territory.

Either the state Emergency Management Agency or the office that has primary emergency management responsibility is eligible to apply directly to FEMA for PDM Grant Program funds as an applicant; however, only one application will be accepted from each state, tribe or territory.

### Funding Guidelines

The maximum federal share for PDM sub-applications is as follows:

- \$4 million for mitigation projects
- \$400,000 for new mitigation plans
- \$300,000 for state/territory and multi-jurisdictional local/tribal plan updates
- \$150,000 for single jurisdiction local/tribal mitigation plan updates

A maximum of 10 percent of the total of mitigation planning and project grants can be used for dissemination of information about the activity in accordance with the Stafford Act. Additionally, a maximum 10 percent of grant funds awarded can be used by the state EMA for management costs, and a maximum of 5 percent of grant funds awarded can be used by the local EMA for management costs, per HMA Guidance.

Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. Small, impoverished communities may be eligible for up to a 90 percent Federal cost share in accordance with the Stafford Act. The remaining eligible activity costs must be derived from non-Federal sources.

A small, impoverished community must:

- i. Be a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals identified by the State as a rural community that is not a remote area within the corporate boundaries of a larger city;
- ii. Be 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. For the most current information, go to the Bureau of Economic Analysis website at <http://www.bea.gov>;
- iii. Have a local unemployment rate that exceeds by 1 percentage point or more the most recently reported, average yearly national unemployment rate. For the most current information, go to the Bureau of Labor Statistics website at <http://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.us.htm>; and
- iv. Meet other criteria required by the applicant in which the community is located.

The period of performance for the PDM Grant Program begins with the opening of the application period and ends no later than 36 months from the date that FEMA announces selected sub-applications.

### Key FY 2016 PDM Grant Program Changes

- FEMA revised the application limits from FY 2015 to allow a maximum of 8 project sub-applications out of 19 sub-applications per applicant: 18 for mitigation planning and projects, plus 1 management cost sub-application for applicant management costs
- The mitigation project cap was increased from FY 2015 to \$4,000,000 federal share
- The mitigation planning cap for state/tribal and multi-jurisdictional plan updates was increased to \$300,000
- FEMA will prioritize competitive mitigation planning sub-applications from applicants without Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) planning funds available and competitive project sub-applications from applications without HMGP project funding available before competitive sub-applications from applicants with HMGP planning and project funds available.
- FEMA will use the majority of the funding for mitigation projects, as directed by the appropriations language.

# Federal Emergency Management Agency

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- FEMA will prioritize the competitive projects for selection up to the available funding as follows:
  - 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
  - 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)
  - Acquisition, elevation and mitigation reconstruction projects
  - Generators for critical facilities as identified in a FEMA-approved Mitigation Plan
- FEMA will further prioritize competitive sub-applications as needed to make selection decisions as follows:
  - Small, impoverished community status;
  - FEMA-validated residential or commercial Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating from a grade of 1 to 10;
  - FEMA-validated Benefit Cost Ratio for projects.

## Application Submission and Review Process

Applications and sub-applications for the PDM Grant Program must be submitted via the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal: <https://portal.fema.gov>. If a sub-applicant does not use the eGrants system, then the applicant must enter the paper sub-application(s) into the eGrants system on the sub-applicant's behalf.

Applicants may submit a maximum of 19 sub-applications, including 1 management cost sub-application for Applicant management costs. Of the 18 sub-applications for mitigation activities, a maximum of 8 projects may be included. Applicants must rank their sub-applications in priority order. If any applicant submits more than 18 sub-applications for mitigation activities, FEMA will only consider the 18 highest ranked sub-applications. If any Applicant submits more than 8 project sub-applications, FEMA will only consider the 8 highest ranked projects. The Applicant's highest ranked planning and/or project sub-applications must not exceed \$575,000 Federal share to be eligible for the State/Territory or Tribal allocations. If an Applicant's highest ranked planning or project sub-application exceeds \$575,000 Federal share, then the Applicant will not receive an allocation. Instead, all of the Applicant's eligible sub-applications will be considered on a competitive basis only.

PDM Grant Program applications will undergo a complete eligibility review within their respective FEMA Region. FEMA will review planning and project sub-applications plus one management sub-application submitted by each applicant through the Mitigation eGrants system to ensure compliance with the HMA Guidance, including eligibility of the applicant and sub-applicant; eligibility of proposed activities and costs; completeness of the sub-application; cost effectiveness and engineering feasibility of projects; and eligibility and availability of non-federal cost share.

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> priority: Mitigation planning and project sub-applications up to \$575,000 Federal share per states/territories/District of Columbia consistent with Section 203 (f)(1) of the Stafford Act
- 2<sup>nd</sup> priority: Up to \$10 million for mitigation planning and project sub-applications up to \$575,000 Federal share per tribal applicant
- 3<sup>rd</sup> priority: Mitigation planning sub-applications from applicants that do not have HMGP planning funds available
- 4<sup>th</sup> priority: Projects from applicants that do not have HMGP project funds available:
  - i. CRMA projects and pre- or post-wildfire mitigation activities or any mitigation action that utilizes green infrastructure approaches
  - ii. Non-flood hazard mitigation projects and non-acquisition/ elevation/mitigation reconstruction flood mitigation activities
  - iii. Acquisition, elevation and mitigation reconstruction projects
  - iv. Generators for critical facilities
- 5<sup>th</sup> priority: Planning activities from applicants that have HMGP planning funds available
- 6<sup>th</sup> priority: Projects from applicants that have HMGP project funds available:
  - i. CRMA projects and pre- or post-wildfire mitigation activities or any mitigation action that utilizes green infrastructure approaches
  - ii. Non-flood hazard mitigation projects and non-acquisition/ elevation/mitigation reconstruction flood mitigation activities
  - iii. Acquisition, elevation and mitigation reconstruction projects
  - iv. Generators for critical facilities

FEMA will further prioritize competitive planning and project activities within the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> categories as needed by small, impoverished community status; the FEMA-validated BCEGS rating from a grade of 1 (exemplary commitment to building code enforcement) to 10; and highest FEMA-validated Benefit Cost Ratio for projects.

### For Additional Information

Please see the Notice of Funding Opportunity announcement posted on [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and the HMA Guidance available on the FEMA Internet: <http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance> for more detailed information regarding eligibility.