

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Overview

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Overview

- Overview of mitigation and MDEM Hazard Mitigation Branch
- FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs
- Project and Subrecipient Requirements
- Eligible Project Activities
- Grants Management Cycle



Hazard Mitigation Branch

- The Hazard Mitigation Branch implements long-term solutions to disaster risk through structural and non-structural mitigation projects.
- The Branch works with partner agencies and local jurisdictions to identify areas of vulnerability, develop solutions, and implement projects that break the cycle of disaster.
- The Branch focuses on broad community-based projects that have significant impacts throughout Maryland.



Programs

- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** - Post-disaster mitigation funding available after presidential disaster declarations
- **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)** – or its successor; competitive pre-disaster funding
- **Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)** – flood-focused & linked to NFIP
- **Congressionally Directed Spending (PDM)** – Federal funds available to plan for and implement sustainable cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from future natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on federal funding from future disasters.

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

- Funds available after a Presidential Disaster Declaration
- Application due approximately 1 year from Declaration date
- Most flexibility for eligible activities
- Local HMP must be adopted and approved by the date funds are obligated
- Cost Share: 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal



Presidential Disaster Declaration

- A disaster declaration allows public officials to exercise emergency powers to preserve life, property, and public health following a disaster.
- States with standard hazard mitigation plans get 15% of the first \$2 billion of estimated aggregate amounts of disaster assistance in HMGP.
- HMGP funds are flexible and can be used to mitigation risks that have no relation to the disaster declaration that provides them.



Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Funds available annually
- National competitive
- Projects and Plans limited to flood mitigation activities
- Local HMP must be adopted and approved by the Application due date
- Cost Share
 - 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for small and impoverished communities
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for Repetitive Loss
 - 100% Federal / 0% Non-Federal for Severe Repetitive Loss



FMA (cont.)

Communities must also be in good standing with NFIP and properties must carry NFIP policy in perpetuity.

- [National Flood Insurance Program](#) aims to reduce the impact of flooding on private and public structures.
- There is an [official site](#) of the National Flood Insurance Program.
- We have a partnership with the Maryland Department of the Environment and work closely with the State NFIP Coordinator and the Community Assistance Program Manager.



Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC)

- Funds available annually
- National competitive
- Local HMP must be adopted and approved by the Application due date and at time of award.
- Cost Share
 - 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for small and impoverished communities



Non-Disaster Subapplicant Eligibility

- Local governments, including cities, townships, counties, special district governments, state agencies and federally recognized tribal governments (who choose to apply as subapplicants) are considered subapplicants. They must submit subapplications to their state, territory or tribal applicant agency.
- Homeowners, business operators and nonprofit organizations cannot apply directly to FEMA. However, they can be included in a subapplication submitted by an eligible subapplicant.
- Subapplicants must have a FEMA-approved local or tribal HMP in accordance with Title 44 Code of Federal Regulations Part 201 by the application deadline.

Additional Project Requirements

Projects Must:

- Be cost-effective
- Reduce or eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards
- Align with the applicable hazard mitigation plan (HMP)
- Meet all Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) requirements

Congressionally Directed Spending

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)

- Funds available annually
- National Competitive
- Local HMP must be adopted and approved by the application due date
- Cost Share
 - 75% Federal / 25% Non-Federal
 - 90% Federal / 10% Non-Federal for small and impoverished communities

Navigating the Grants Management Cycle

Stakeholders Roles and Responsibilities

Individual

Individual homeowners, business and private non-profits may apply through an eligible subapplicant.

Sub Applicant

Subapplicants apply through the applicant (MDEM). Eligible subapplicants include local governments and communities, private non profit organizations, state agencies, and federally recognized tribes.

MDEM

MDEM compiles subapplicants and submits one application to the funding agency (FEMA). Eligible applicants: States and federally recognized tribes, and territories.

FEMA

Determines eligibility and reviews project, Makes determination to award or not award activities for each subapplication.

Pre-Award Phase

01

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

- A NOFO for BRIC & FEMA grants will be published on **grants.gov**
- A 30-day and 6-month estimate is provided for HMGP. Available funding is established through a 12-month lock-in.
- Provides an outline of the opportunity, including the funding amount, application timeline, and match amounts.

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Solicit & Evaluate Notice of Interest (NOI)

- Helps determine which potential projects should have subapplications prepared.
- Publicizes subaward opportunities.
- Collect, evaluate, and prioritize NOIs

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Preparation of Subapplications

- MDEM Mitigation Branch provides technical assistance to potential subrecipients in preparing their subapplications.
- Scope of Work (SOW), budget, schedule, Benefit Cost Analysis are created.
- Effort follows application requirements within NOFO.

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Review & Ranking of Subapplications

- Subapplications prioritized based on federal funding priority.
- Ranking by Mitigation Advisory Committee based on state priorities.
- Governor's Authorized Representative determines which to submit to FEMA as part of MDEM's application.

Award Phase

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Final Application to FEMA

- MDEM submits BRIC and FMA application via **FEMA Go**.
- MDEM submits HMGP subapplications into **NEMIS**.
- FEMA may send a Request for Information (RFI) to seek additional supporting documentation.

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Award to MDEM

- Award notice shared with MDEM Mitigation Branch, Grants team, and Finance team.
- This MDEM stage ensures appropriate grants management, monitoring, and reporting processes can get started internally ASAP.

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Subawards to Subrecipients

- MDEM's awards are passed-through as subawards.
- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed with subrecipient.
- Subaward brief "kick-off meeting" is held.

08

Monitoring

- Monitoring & evaluation of progress of mitigation activities in accordance with approved SOW, budget, admin. requirements.
- Includes project management, site visits, technical oversight, record keeping, review & approval, etc.

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Modifications

- Amendments can include modifications to SOW, budget; period of performance or liquidation extensions, key personnel changes
- When requesting amendments, MDEM should receive prior approval from FEMA before proceeding.

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Closeout

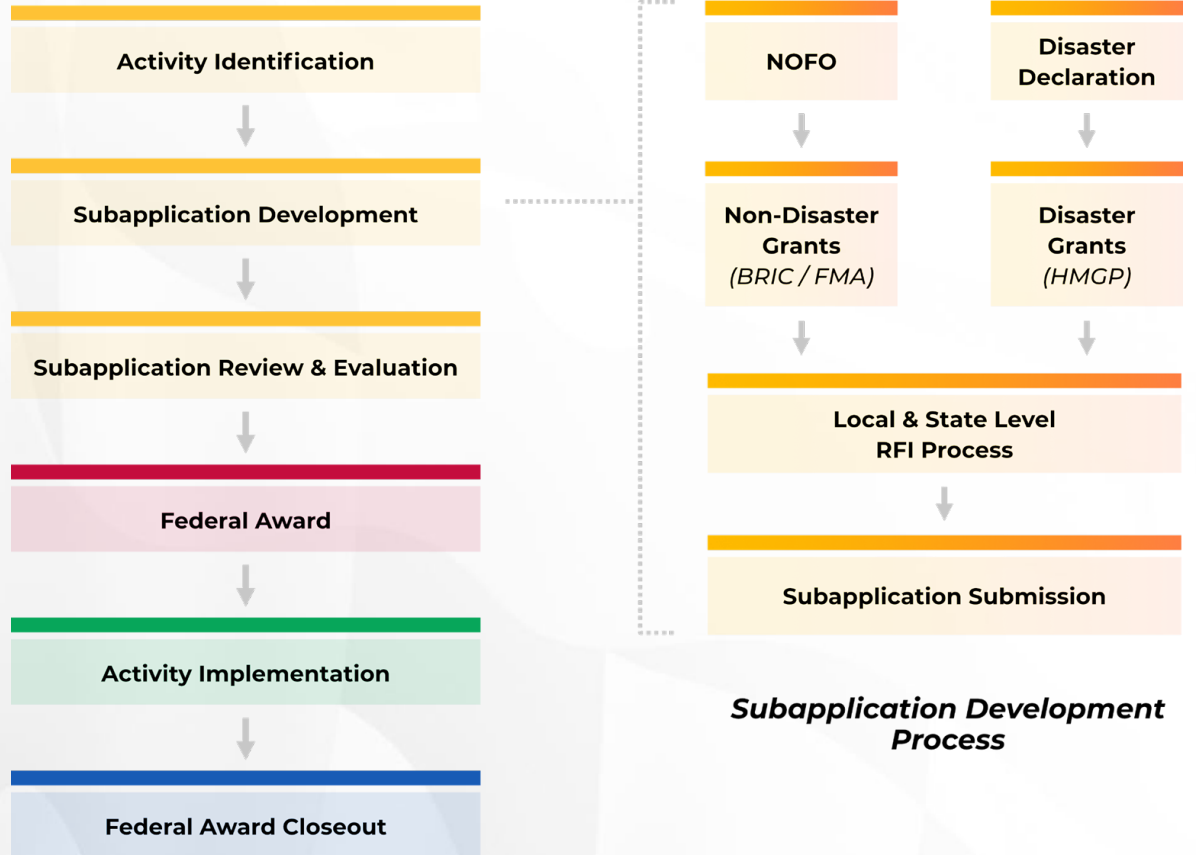
- Verify all admin. actions and requirements of eligible work activities have been completed.
- Reconciliation of programmatic & financial records.
- MDEM must close out each grant-funded project.

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Post-Closeout Monitoring & Records Retention

- Federal law requires certain monitoring activities even after project closeout.
- MDEM & subrecipients must EACH maintain grant records for at least 3 years post-closeout of a grant. However, retention for 8 years is recommended.

Subapplication Timeline



Eligible Activities

Eligible Activities	HMGP	BRIC	FMA
1. Mitigation Projects	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Structure Elevation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mitigation Reconstruction	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dry Floodproofing of Structures	Yes	Yes	Yes
Generators	Yes	Yes	No
Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects	Yes	Yes	Yes

Eligible Activities	HMGP	BRIC	FMA
1. Mitigation Projects (Continued)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non-Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects	Yes	Yes	No
Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings	Yes	Yes	Yes
Non-Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings	Yes	Yes	Yes
Safe Room Construction	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences	Yes	Yes	Yes
Infrastructure Retrofit	Yes	Yes	Yes
Soil Stabilization	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wildfire Mitigation	Yes	Yes	No
Building Codes	No	Yes	No

Eligible Activities	HMGP	BRIC	FMA
1. Mitigation Projects (Continued)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Building Codes	No	Yes	No
Partnerships	No	Yes	No
Post-Disaster Code Enforcement	Yes	No	No
Project Scoping	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 Percent Initiative Projects	Yes	No	No
3. Management Costs	Yes	Yes	Yes

Community Lifelines

- Through HMA grants, FEMA will continue to invest in a variety of mitigation activities with an added focus on infrastructure projects, and community lifelines.
- A [lifeline](#) provides essential services which enable the continuous operation of a community during an emergency.



Key Takeaways

1. The goal of hazard mitigation is to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from natural disasters.
2. FEMA administers three programs that provide funding for eligible mitigation planning and projects
 - a. *Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)*
 - b. *Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)*
 - c. *Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)*
3. MDEM serves as the Applicant and Recipient for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs.



The Maryland Department of Emergency Management

Proactively reducing disaster risks and reliably managing consequences through collaborative work with Maryland's communities and partners.

Mitigation Branch
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Thank You!

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