



Who Is eligible to apply?

- States, territories, federally-recognized tribes, and local governments
- Certain private nonprofit organizations and institutions

Additional Grant Programs

FEMA has two additional Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs which provide funding for similar activities on an annual basis, regardless of disaster activity:

- Pre-Disaster Mitigation
- Flood Mitigation Assistance

Projects may also be eligible for assistance under these programs.

Resources for More Information

For more information about HMGP, visit <https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program>



OR SCAN HERE

For specific criteria for each HMA program, visit <http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance>

To find your State Hazard Mitigation Officer, visit <http://www.fema.gov/state-hazard-mitigation-officers>

To plan, prepare, and mitigate a disaster, visit <http://www.fema.gov/plan-prepare-mitigate>

Learn more about flood risks and flood insurance at <http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart>

To register for disaster assistance call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or visit <http://www.disasterassistance.gov>

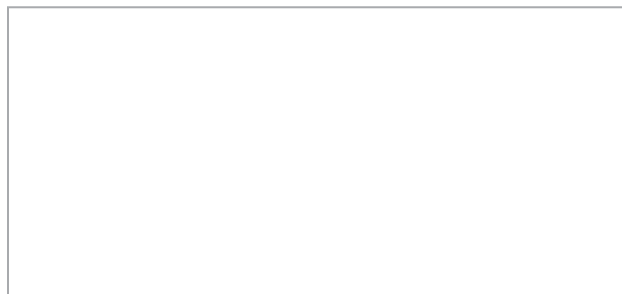
HMA Helpline: 1-866-222-3580

FEMA eGrants Helpdesk: 1-855-228-3362

Benefit-Cost Analysis Helpline:
BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov

For HMA independent study and classroom training courses, visit <http://training.fema.gov>

For information about the HMA programs, contact your community officials.



Hazard Mitigation Grant Program



FEMA

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

What is the purpose of the HMGP?

The HMGP assists States, territories, federally-recognized tribes, and local communities by:

- Significantly reducing or permanently eliminating future risk to lives and property from natural hazards
- Providing funds to implement projects in accordance with priorities identified in State, tribal, or local hazard mitigation plans
- Enabling mitigation measures to be implemented during the recovery following a major disaster declaration

How is HMGP funding determined following a major disaster?

Federal funding under the HMGP is available if requested by the Governor. HMGP funding is allocated using a “sliding scale” formula based on the percentage of funds spent on Public and Individual Assistance for each Presidentially declared disaster.

Federal law requires States, territories, federally-recognized tribes and local jurisdictions to have a mitigation plan prior to receipt of HMGP funds. The plan identifies hazards, assesses community needs, and describes a community-wide strategy for reducing risks associated with natural disasters.

For States/territories/federally-recognized tribes with a FEMA-approved Standard State or Tribal Mitigation Plan, the formula provides for up to 15% of the first \$2 billion of estimated aggregate amounts of disaster assistance, up to 10% for amounts between \$2 billion and \$10 billion, and 7.5% for amounts between \$10 billion and \$35.333 billion.

For States/territories with a FEMA-approved Enhanced Mitigation Plan, up to 20% of the total of Public and Individual Assistance funds authorized for the disaster (up to \$35.333 billion of such assistance) are available.

What types of projects can be funded?

The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, as long as the project fits within State/territorial/federally-recognized tribal, and local government mitigation strategies to address areas of risk and complies with HMGP guidelines.

Eligible Activities

Mitigation Projects
Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition
Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation
Structure Elevation
Mitigation Reconstruction
Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures
Dry Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures
Generators
Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
Non-Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
Non-Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
Safe Room Construction
Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences
Infrastructure Retrofit
Soil Stabilization
Wildfire Mitigation
Post-Disaster Code Enforcement
Advance Assistance
5 Percent Initiative Projects*
Miscellaneous/Other**
Hazard Mitigation Planning
Planning-Related Activities
Management Costs

* FEMA allows increasing the 5% Initiative amount up to 10% for a Presidential major disaster declaration under HMGP. The additional 5% Initiative funding can be used for activities that promote disaster-resistant codes for all hazards. As a condition of the award, either a disaster-resistant building code must be adopted or an improved Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule is required.

** Miscellaneous/Other indicates that any proposed action will be evaluated on its own merit against program requirements. Eligible projects will be approved provided funding is available.

How much will FEMA pay for a project under the HMGP?

Typically projects are funded by a combination of Federal and non-Federal funds. HMGP funds may be used to pay up to 75% of the eligible costs. The non-Federal match does not need to be cash; in-kind services or materials may be used.

What are the roles of local communities, federally-recognized tribes, territories, States, and FEMA?

During the recovery phase of a disaster, local jurisdictions select projects that could reduce property damage from future disasters, and submit applications to the State, territory, or federally-recognized tribe. Certain nonprofit organizations may also apply.

The States, territories, and federally-recognized tribes administer the HMGP by establishing their mitigation priorities, facilitating the development of applications, and submitting applications to FEMA based on funding criteria and available funding. They also manage the projects, monitor progress, and evaluate the effectiveness of projects implemented.

FEMA conducts a final eligibility review to ensure compliance with Federal regulations. HMGP projects must comply with Federal environmental laws and regulations, be cost-effective, and be technically feasible.

What are the roles of property and business owners?

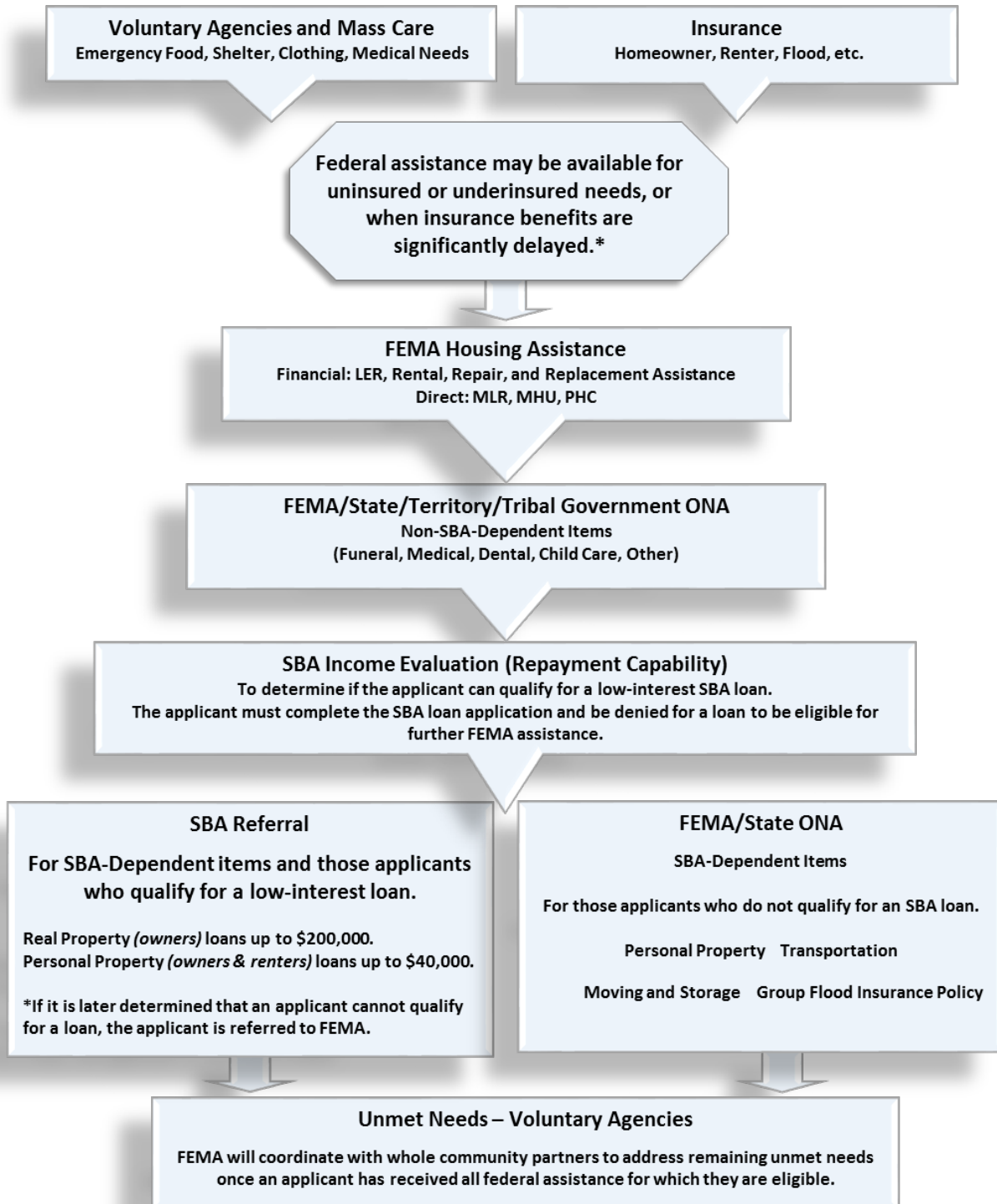
Individuals, property and business owners may not apply directly to the State, territory, or FEMA, but eligible local governments or private nonprofit organizations may apply on their behalf.

FEMA encourages property and business owners interested in implementing mitigation activities to contact their local community planning, emergency management, or hazard mitigation office for more information.



INDIVIDUALS AND HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP)

Disaster Assistance Sequence of Delivery



October 2020



Individual Assistance Program

When a state, territorial, or tribal government (STTL) determines an incident exceeds their capability to respond, the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive may request a declaration from the President through FEMA. The President may provide federal assistance when the magnitude or threat of an incident exceeds the affected state, territorial, tribal, or local government's capability to respond or recover. For FEMA to provide supplemental federal assistance, the President must declare that an emergency or major disaster exists.

The Individual Assistance mission ensures disaster survivors have timely access to a full range of authorized programs and services to maximize recovery through partnered coordination of STTL governments, as well as other federal agencies, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Individual Assistance Programs

FEMA assists individuals and households through the coordination and delivery of Individual Assistance programs including:

- **Mass Care and Emergency Assistance (MC/EA):** Mass Care is composed of seven services known as activities: sheltering; feeding; distribution of emergency supplies; support for individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs; reunification services for adults and children; support for household pets, service, and assistance animals; and mass evacuee support. In addition to the seven aforementioned activities, MC/EA also supports the National Mass Care Exercise (NMCE) training program and offers partnerships through the following programs: Blue Roof Program and Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA).
- **Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP):** CCP provides eligible STTLs governments, and non-governmental organizations with supplemental funding to assist disaster-impacted individuals and communities in recovering from the major disasters through the provision of community-based outreach and psycho-educational services. The goal is to aid survivors in recovering from the adverse reactions to disasters and to begin to rebuild their lives.
- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA):** DUA provides unemployment benefits and re-employment assistance services to eligible survivors affected by a Presidentially-declared major disaster. These services are under the responsibility of the U.S. Department of Labor and administered by the state, territorial, tribal, and local government emergency management officials of the affected area(s). DUA is only available to those eligible survivors who are not eligible for regular state unemployment insurance (UI).
- **Disaster Legal Services (DLS):** DLS provides legal aid to survivors affected by a Presidentially-declared major disaster through an agreement with the Young Lawyers Division (YLD) of the American Bar Association. DLS is put into effect during Presidentially-declared disasters and is available to survivors who qualify as low-income.

- **Disaster Case Management (DCM):** DCM is a time-limited process that promotes partnership between a case manager and a disaster survivor in order to assess and address a survivor's verified disaster-caused unmet needs through a disaster recovery plan. This disaster recovery plan includes resources, decision-making priorities, providing guidance and tools to assist disaster survivors.
- **Individuals and Households Program (IHP):** IHP Assistance provides financial assistance and direct services to eligible individuals and households who have uninsured or underinsured necessary expenses and serious needs. IHP Assistance is not a substitute for insurance and cannot compensate for all losses caused by a disaster; it is intended to meet basic needs and supplement disaster recovery efforts. IHP Assistance is not considered income or a resource when determining eligibility for welfare, income assistance, or income-tested benefit programs that the federal government funds, such as Social Security benefits or disability income. IHP Assistance is also exempt from garnishment or seizure, but this exception does not apply to FEMA recovering assistance received in error or fraud.

Individual Assistance Service Delivery Channels

FEMA offers disaster survivors multiple options to access Individual Assistance. Survivors may receive information and services through:

- **Internet or Smartphone Application:** Disaster survivors may apply for IHP Assistance or check their application status on-line at www.disasterassistance.gov. Disaster survivors may also access FEMA via smartphone by downloading the application from www.fema.gov or through their mobile provider's application store.
- **FEMA Toll-Free Helpline:** Disaster survivors may call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362 (TTY: 800-462-7585) to register for assistance or check their application status. Those who use a relay service such as a videophone, InnoCaption or CapTel should update FEMA with their specific number assigned to that service.
- **Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs):** Disaster survivors may apply for assistance in person at DRCs in or near their communities. DRCs are usually opened quickly after a disaster for a limited period of time. They are accessible and equipped to accommodate disaster survivors who need disability-related communication aids. FEMA staff can assist with completing registrations or checking their application status. FEMA coordinates with the state, territorial, tribal, or local government to establish DRC locations.
- **Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Teams:** FEMA may send staff into the affected communities to help disaster survivors apply for IHP assistance. FEMA may also coordinate with the state, territorial, tribal, or local government to send staff into emergency shelters to assist survivors. FEMA staff are equipped with computers or similar devices to assist survivors with registering for IHP Assistance or provide them referrals to other resources.

Because FEMA's programs are not designed to make a survivor whole, we encourage a whole community approach to disaster recovery by engaging the full capacity of non-governmental

organizations and the private sector, including businesses, faith-based and disability organizations, and the general public, in conjunction with the participation of state, territorial, tribal, or local government, as well as other federal agency partners.

FEMA's Mission: Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

October 2020



Public Assistance

Overview

Public Assistance (PA) is FEMA's largest grant program providing funds to assist communities responding to and recovering from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. The program provides funding for emergency assistance to save lives and protect property, and assists with funding for permanently restoring community infrastructure affected by a federally declared incident.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include states, federally recognized tribal governments (including Alaska Native villages and organizations so long as they are not privately owned), U.S. territories, local governments, and certain private non-profit (PNP) organizations.

PNPs must have "an effective ruling letter from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, granting tax exemption under sections 501(c), (d), or (e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or satisfactory evidence from the State that the nonrevenue producing organization or entity is a nonprofit one organized or doing business under State law."¹ Additionally, for a PNP operated facility to be eligible, the PNP must demonstrate the facility provides a critical service or provides a non-critical, but essential government service and is open to the general public. A facility that provides a critical service is defined as one used for an educational, utility, emergency, or medical purpose.²

Project Categories

FEMA processes PA grant funding according to the type of work the applicant undertakes. Eligible work must be required as a result of the declared incident, be located in the designated area, be the legal responsibility of the applicant, and be undertaken at a reasonable cost.

Eligible work is classified into the following categories:

Emergency Work

Category A: Debris removal

Category B: Emergency protective measures

Permanent Work

Category C: Roads and bridges

Category D: Water control facilities

Category E: Public buildings and contents

Category F: Public utilities

Category G: Parks, recreational, and other facilities

Federal funding guidelines for each of these categories are listed in the *Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide*, which is located online [at fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance](http://at.fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance).

Application Process

After a federal declaration, the recipient (i.e. state, tribe, or territory) conducts Applicant Briefings to inform potential applicants (i.e. state, local, tribal, territorial, and PNP officials) of the assistance available and how to apply. Applicants must then file a Request for Public Assistance within 30 days of the date their respective area is designated by the federal declaration.

Following the approved request, FEMA and the applicants will conduct additional meetings to discuss disaster damage and project formulation. Applicants must identify and report damages to FEMA within the 60-day regulatory timeframe. FEMA, the recipient, or the applicant will then prepare project worksheets for eligible work and eligible facilities based on actual or estimated project costs.

¹ 44 CFR 206.221(f)

² Stafford Act § 406(a)(3)(B), 42 U.S.C. § 5172, and 44 CFR §206.221(e)

Grant Administration

The federal share of assistance will not be less than 75 percent of the eligible cost for emergency measures and permanent restoration. The recipient determines how the non-federal share of 25 percent will be dispersed to its applicants.

Recipients are responsible for managing the funds obligated to them by FEMA, including disbursement to applicants. FEMA will continue to monitor the recovery progress to ensure the timely delivery of eligible assistance, and compliance with federal laws and regulations.

Large Projects

Projects above a certain amount are considered “large.” The threshold corresponds to the annually adjusted small project maximum.

Alternative Procedures (428): For large permanent work projects using Section 428 PA Alternative Procedures, funding is made on the basis of a fixed-cost estimate agreed upon by the applicant, recipient and FEMA. PA funding is based on the estimated amount to restore the damaged facility to its pre-disaster design and function, including applicable and federally required codes and standards, and any identified eligible hazard mitigation measures. Once agreement on the fixed amount is made, the funding will not be adjusted. Applicants have the flexibility to use the funding to meet the post-disaster recovery needs, and not just build back what they had before. The applicant may also retain any excess funds for use on certain eligible activities.

Standard Procedures (406): For large permanent work projects using the standard Section 406 process, funding is provided on the basis of actual costs as determined after the project is completed. The applicant’s flexibility in use of the funding is limited, and they do not have the ability to retain excess funds.

Small Projects

Projects falling below a certain threshold are considered "small." The threshold is adjusted annually for inflation. For Fiscal Year 2021, that threshold is \$132,800. For small projects, final funding is based on the estimate at the time of project approval and certification of project completion is required when the project is done. The minimum amount that can be approved for any Project Worksheet under the PA Program for FY 2021 is \$3,320.

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“FEMA’s mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.”