



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**



MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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To Potential Hazard Mitigation Grant Applicants:

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is pleased to announce the availability of three Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs:

- **FY 2021 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program** [\[FEMA Fact Sheet\]](#)
- **FY 2021 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program** [\[FEMA Fact Sheet\]](#)
- **Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)** [\[4496 - Covid Disaster Declaration\]](#)

These Federally funded Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) programs provide significant opportunities to reduce, minimize, or eliminate potential damages to property and infrastructure from natural hazard events, while also reducing the reliance on taxpayer-funded federal assistance for disaster recovery. An official state Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will be issued later in August on the [MEMA Website](#) and on [COMMBUYS](#).

FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Programs are not intended as a source of funding for repair, replacement, or deferred maintenance activities. HMA funds are designed to be used to implement long-term, cost-effective improvements that will reduce, minimize, or eliminate risk to people and property from the effects of natural hazards. Projects that are not designed to increase the level of protection for structures, facilities, or infrastructure are not eligible mitigation grant activities.

What type of work is eligible?

Projects must result in an increase in level of protection from natural hazard damages. Eligible activities include:

Mitigation Projects	HMGP	BRIC	FMA
Property Acquisition	X	X	X
Structure Elevation	X	X	X
Mitigation Reconstruction	X	X	X
Flood Risk Reduction Measures	X	X	X
Stabilization	X	X	X
Dry Floodproofing (Non-Residential Buildings)	X	X	X
Tsunami Vertical Evacuation	X	X	
Safe Rooms	X	X	
Wildfire Mitigation	X	X	
Retrofitting	X	X	X
Generators	X	X	
Earthquake Early Warning Systems	X	X	
Innovative Mitigation Projects	X	X	X

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Capability and Capacity Building Projects		HMGP	BRIC	FMA
	New Hazard Mitigation Plans	X	X	
	Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates	X	X	
	Planning Related Activities	X	X	X
	Project Scoping / Advance Assistance	X	X	X
	Financial Technical Assistance			X

Who is eligible to apply?

State agencies, Tribal organizations, local governments with an approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and certain private non-profits are eligible to apply. Local governments may apply on behalf of the community, homeowners, and private colleges and universities.

What is the grant application deadline?

These grant programs have several important dates and deadlines depending on your project type, complexity, and specific HMA grant program. [“Statements of Interest”](#) will be accepted on a rolling basis.

Are there other conditions?

- All construction projects must be cost-effective. This is demonstrated by conducting a formal Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA), using [FEMA BCA v6.0 \(Excel based\)](#), to document the project’s cost-effectiveness. Community participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) may also be a requirement for sub-applicants and project eligibility.
- Sub-applicants must commit to the non-Federal cost share. This is generally a minimum of 25% of the total estimated project cost. In-kind services are allowable as part of the non-Federal share.
- To be eligible for project grants, sub-applicants must have a locally adopted and FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 201) at the time of application and at the time of award.

How do I learn more?

HMA Grant Information Sessions will be held virtually. All potential applicants are invited and strongly encouraged to participate or view the recording. These sessions will provide an overview of three HMA programs, available funding amounts, relevant application process and deadlines. Webinar sessions will be held:

- **Tuesday, August 31: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM** [\[Link to join webinar\]](#)
- **Thursday, September 9: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM** [\[Link to join webinar\]](#)

How do I apply for funding?

If you are interested in applying, the first step is to submit a [“Statement of Interest \(SOI\)”](#) via the MEMA website. You will be providing us with general information on your project, so that we can better understand your project and guide you towards the appropriate grant program, and other considerations that you may need as you develop your full application package. Information and instructions on how to submit a full application will be provided to each applicant and will vary depending on the grant program.

All sub-applicants who submit an SOI will be contacted for a Technical Assistance meeting. During this meeting, MEMA staff will discuss the following:

- Proposed project (including eligibility of proposed activities)
- Status of your local hazard mitigation plan
- Specific questions regarding grant application procedures and/or requirements
- Which FEMA mitigation grant program(s) (HMGP, BRIC, or FMA) may be most appropriate based on the type of activity/project proposed and FEMA ranking criteria/priorities
- Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA), environmental/historic or other technical issues associated with project proposals

For more information, please visit our website at or contact us at mitigation@mass.gov.