FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance

BRIC & FMA FY 2024

HMGP DR-4780

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
January 2025

What is Hazard Mitigation?

- Providing increased level of protection that will reduce or eliminate risk
- Adapting to natural hazards
- Protecting people, structures and infrastructure from future hazards
- Maintaining consistency with resiliency and sustainability principles
- Minimizing the costs of disaster response and recovery
- Saving lives and money!

SMART INVESTING
MITIGATION SAVES

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- Hazard mitigation funding for states, tribal governments, and local communities/special district governments
- Initiated in 2020 (under the Disaster Recovery Reform Act)
- Establishes an annual national competitive award
  - Qualitative and quantitative evaluation criteria
  - Between $500 Million - $2 Billion in grant funding awarded annually
  - Funds projects up to $50 Million (Federal Share)
  - Projects can be up to 36 months - longer durations may be possible
  - State allocation per FEMA NOFO
- Announced by an Annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
  - Statement of Interest due on Monday, February 10, 2025
  - Subapplications due to MEMA Monday, March 10, 2025

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- Funding for projects that reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to structures that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
- Community must participate in NFIP
- Nationwide Competitive Review Process
- Same timeline as BRIC
- Announced by an Annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- Statement of Interest due February 10, 2025
- Subapplications due to MEMA March 10, 2025

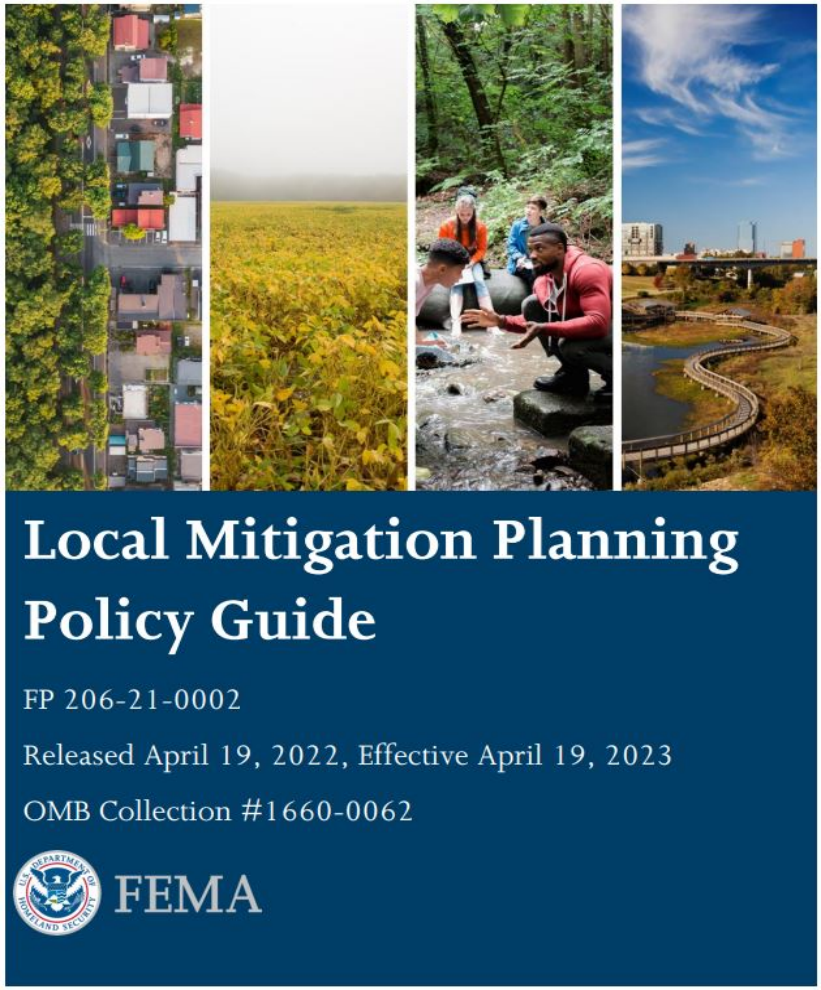
HMGP 4780 – September 2023 Flooding

- ~$1 Million for hazard mitigation projects in Massachusetts
- Rolling Statement of Interest (SOI) and application process
- Final application deadline March 10, 2025
- Funding available to update local hazard mitigation plan
- Technical assistance available

BRIC & FMA versus HMGP

BRIC & FMA	HMGP
Annual/Non-Disaster	Post Disaster
Nationally Competitive / State Allocation	Allocated by State
National Review Committee	Reviewed by FEMA Region 1
$50 Million Project Cap	Project Cap Based on $ Available
FEMA GO Subapplication	Application from MEMA
Showcase FEMA Priority, Building Codes, Benefit NFIP Properties	Mitigation Projects Generally
Identifies Project Phasing	May be Eligible for Project Phasing
Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB)	5% Initiative and 7% Set Aside
BCA REQUIRED (for projects); note additional considerations in FEMA NOFOs	

Hazard Mitigation Planning



- First phase in the mitigation process
- Helps establish mitigation strategies and outline priorities for identifying mitigation activities
- Identifies potential projects relative to hazard risk
- **An approved Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) is required in order to apply for BRIC or FMA funding (at application deadline and at award)**

Hazard Mitigation Program and Policy Guide

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities, and Flood Mitigation Assistance

Effective July 30, 2024

Version 2.0

Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA) Number: FP-206-21-0001

FEMA

Eligible Activities (project types)

(see 2024 HMA Program and Policy Guide for full list)

Mitigation Projects	BRIC	FMA	HMGP
Property Acquisition, Demolition or Structure Relocation	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
Secondary Power Source	X		X
Early Warning Systems	X		X
Aquifer Recharge, Storage and Recovery	X	X	X
Innovative Mitigation Projects	X	X	X
Capability and Capacity Building Projects	BRIC	FMA	HMGP
New Hazard Mitigation Plans	X		X
Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates	X		X
Planning Related Activities	X	X	X
Advance Assistance			X
Project Scoping	X	X	
Financial Technical Assistance		X	
Direct Non-Financial Technical Assistance	X		
Partnerships	X	X	
Codes & Standards	X		X
Innovative Capability and Capacity Building	X	X	X

Eligible Building Code Activities

Adopt and/or implement codes, specifications, and/or standards that incorporate hazard-resistant designs and establish minimum acceptable criteria for the design, construction, and maintenance of residential and nonresidential structures

Enhance existing adopted codes, specifications, and/or standards to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards

Develop professional workforce capabilities through technical assistance and training that capitalize on the use of virtual/electronic submission methods

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Building Code Activities (fema.gov)

What is NOT Eligible for HMA?

(see 2024 HMA Program and Policy Guide for full list)

- Projects that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure.
- Projects that are dependent on another action to be effective.
- Projects which are considered repair, deferred maintenance, or replacement of existing infrastructure.
- Preparedness measures and response equipment.
- Projects where actual physical work has already started.
- Projects located in Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) Units or in otherwise protected areas (OPAs), other than property acquisition.
- Projects that involve land that is contaminated with hazardous waste.
- Projects that primarily address ecological or agricultural issues.

HMA Project Requirements

Mitigate a Natural Hazard

Demonstrates an increase in Level of Protection (LOP)

Feasible to Implement *- Regulatory - Design - Construction*

Cost-Effective (BCA)

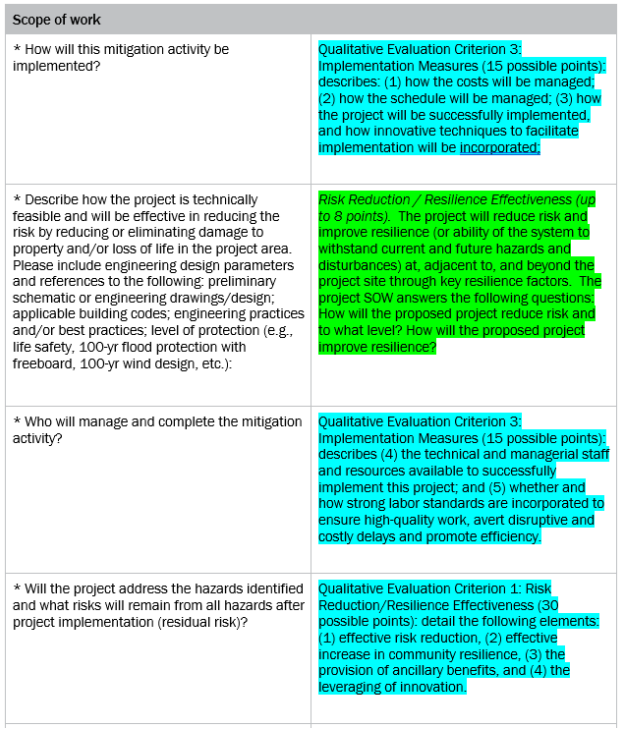
Must comply with Environmental & Historic Preservation (EHP)

Questions

Lessons Learned

Based on feedback from FY23 subapplications

- Need for benefitting area maps Creating a Benefitting Area Map for a BRIC or FMA Application or Subapplication
- Cite sources, assumptions, and models used in subapplication development
- Application Organization & Scoring Criteria
  - MEMA developed a FEMAGO matrix where Federal & State Scoring Criteria should be addressed in the subapplication
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Qualitative Evaluation Criteria
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Technical Evaluation Criteria



Scope of work	
* How will this mitigation activity be implemented?	Qualitative Evaluation Criterion 3: Implementation Measures (15 possible points): describes: (1) how the costs will be managed; (2) how the schedule will be managed; (3) how the project will be successfully implemented, and how innovative techniques to facilitate implementation will be incorporated;
* Describe how the project is technically feasible and will be effective in reducing the risk by reducing or eliminating damage to property and/or loss of life in the project area. Please include engineering design parameters and references to the following: preliminary schematic or engineering drawings/design; applicable building codes; engineering practices and/or best practices; level of protection (e.g., life safety, 100-yr flood protection with freeboard, 100-yr wind design, etc.):	*Risk Reduction / Resilience Effectiveness (up to 8 points).* The project will reduce risk and improve resilience (or ability of the system to withstand current and future hazards and disturbances) at, adjacent to, and beyond the project site through key resilience factors. The project SOW answers the following questions: How will the proposed project reduce risk and to what level? How will the proposed project improve resilience?
* Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?	Qualitative Evaluation Criterion 3: Implementation Measures (15 possible points): describes (4) the technical and managerial staff and resources available to successfully implement this project; and (5) whether and how strong labor standards are incorporated to ensure high-quality work, avert disruptive and costly delays and promote efficiency.
* Will the project address the hazards identified and what risks will remain from all hazards after project implementation (residual risk)?	Qualitative Evaluation Criterion 1: Risk Reduction/Resilience Effectiveness (30 possible points): detail the following elements: (1) effective risk reduction, (2) effective increase in community resilience, (3) the provision of ancillary benefits, and (4) the leveraging of innovation.

Success Stories

Tied 2nd nationally for BRIC FY23 in number subapplications submitted

4th nationally for BRIC FY23 number of subapplications identified for further review

~ $17.5 Million identified for further review FY23 BRIC

In 2024, secured nearly $40 Million in new mitigation grant awards

MEMA Mitigation Unit currently manages over $360 Million total project costs (both in review and active)

Culvert Upgrade: Merrimac

This project included the upgrade of an undersized culvert with a precast box culvert which meets the Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Completed Summer 2022.

Before

During

After

Drainage Improvement: Montague

The Montague City Road Flooding Relief Project combined nature-based solutions and traditional stormwater engineering methods to provide flood relief to this emergency evacuation route.

This project was funded through the PDM program.

Completed Spring 2024.

Before

After

Bank Stabilization: Leominster

The Nashua River Bank Stabilization project focuses on the protection of a critical sewer line and wastewater treatment facility.

This project was recently completed using HMGP funding.

Shelter Microgrid: Chappaquiddick

The Chappaquiddick Community Center Shelter Microgrid project provides emergency power for residents on Chappaquiddick Island in the event of severe weather.

This project is the first of its type to be funded by FEMA in Region 1 and was recently completed using HMGP funding.

Generators:
Greenfield

Well pump station generators purchased and installed to ensure potable water access during power outages.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Project completed in Spring 2024.

Flood Resiliency Retrofit:
Hull

This project will elevate critical electrical assets at the Hull Wastewater Pollution Control Facility to an elevation above current flood elevation levels and above future flood elevations with sea-level rise.

Project is underway and being funded through the HMGP program.

Project is scheduled to be completed in Fall 2025.

In-Progress

Urban Drainage Upgrade:

Fall River

This project included partial combined sewer separation and drainage piping upgrades, new tree-box filters and bioswales, reducing neighborhood stormwater & critical facility flooding.

Project was funded through the HMGP program.

Completed Spring 2020.

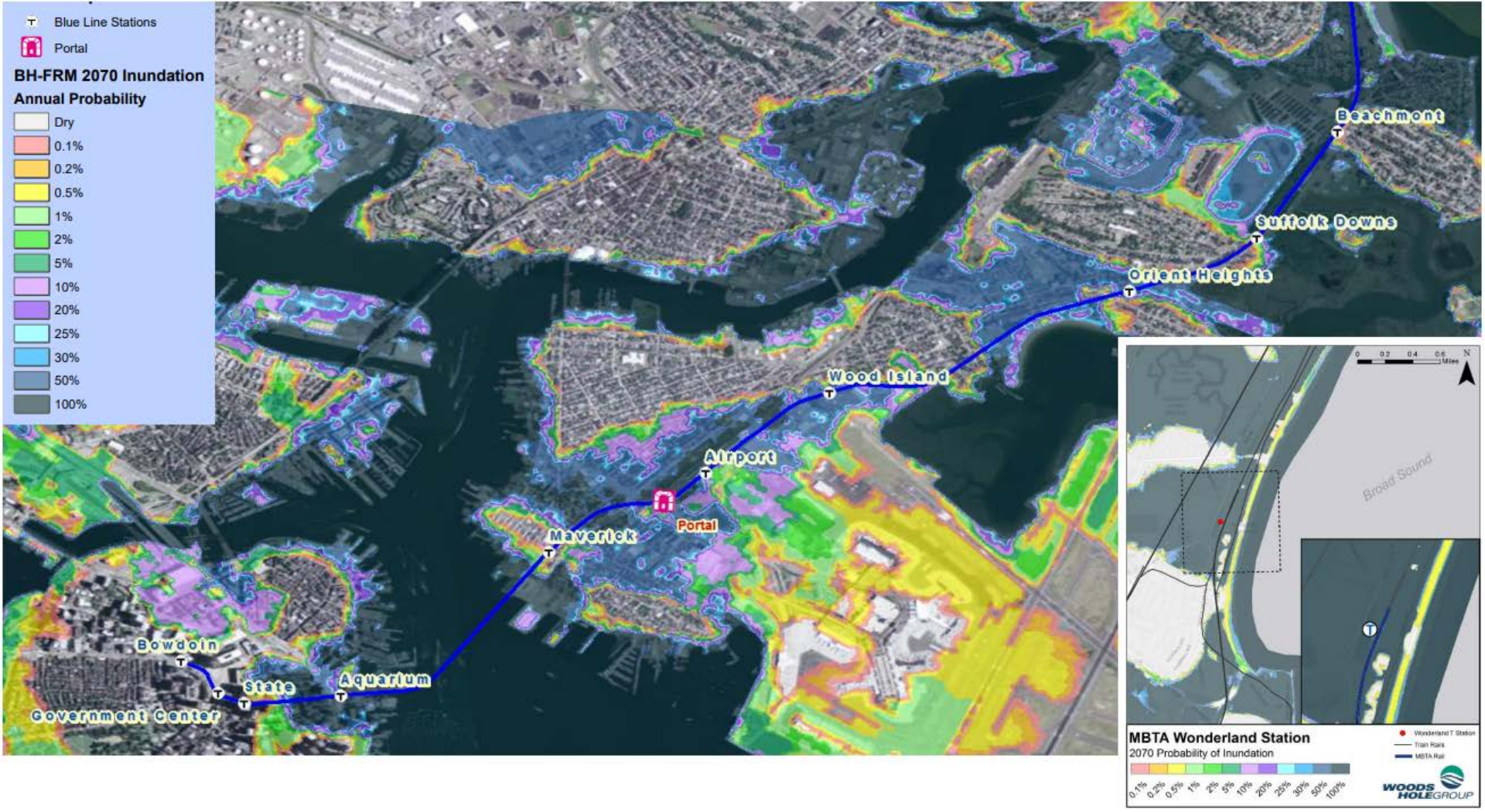
Middle Street Fall River

Structure Elevation: Scituate

- Structure elevation is identified as a hazard mitigation strategy.
- Homes must be structurally sound in order to elevate.
- Must meet NFIP, MSBC & ASCE 24-24 standards.
- Funded through FMA.

Boston – Resilient Moakley Park

Phase 1 Awarded– BRIC FY21



MBTA Blue Line Airport Tunnel Flood Mitigation

Awarded– BRIC FY22

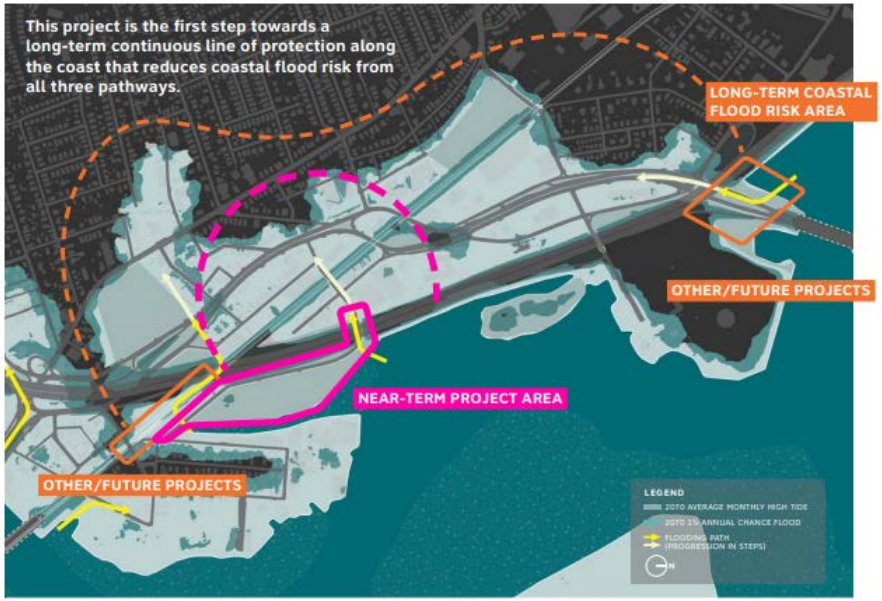


Figure 11: Coastal flooding - 40 inches of SLR (2070s) in the long term

Photo 7: View of the flooded beach and Harborwalk at Tenean Beach during a king tide in February, 2023.

Resilient Waterfront: DCR/ Boston (Identified for Further Review BRIC23)

What you need to know about FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants:

MEMA is the conduit for applications and funding to and from FEMA. MEMA manages the State Contracts/Grant Awards.

The process from grant application to grant award can take several months to a year (or longer) - please be prepared.

It is the sub-applicant's responsibility to maintain, and keep current, their local hazard mitigation plan for eligibility.

It is the subrecipient's responsibility to ensure that proper procurement is undertaken for projects which use federal funds.

Non-Federal Cost Share

- Cost share is typically 25% of the total project for cost.
- Individual Flood Mitigation Projects may have increased Federal funding.
- Non-Federal cost share may include:
  - Local, state, or private cash payments (MVP Funding, Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistance Funding, FFIO, etc.)
  - For private homes, if there is a cost share, it typically comes from the homeowner
  - In-Kind Contributions (labor, equipment, materials, etc.)
  - Other Federal Funding typically not allowed as match

Procurement (2 CFR 200)

Additional Procurement Information

www.fema.gov/grants/procurement

- All applicants must adhere to federal, state, and local procurement standards, whichever is most stringent. Applicants must certify compliance.
- Procurement methods must be documented and submitted to MEMA, along with all contracts between the community and their contractors (reference 2 CFR Part 200 sections 317-327).
- Pre-award costs must also comply in order to be eligible.
- Recipients and subrecipients must comply with the Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA).

Grant Funding Terms & Conditions

All FEMA HMA grants are managed on a reimbursement basis.

FEMA will award the grant to MEMA, and MEMA will execute a state contract with the subapplicant.

Quarterly reporting is required.

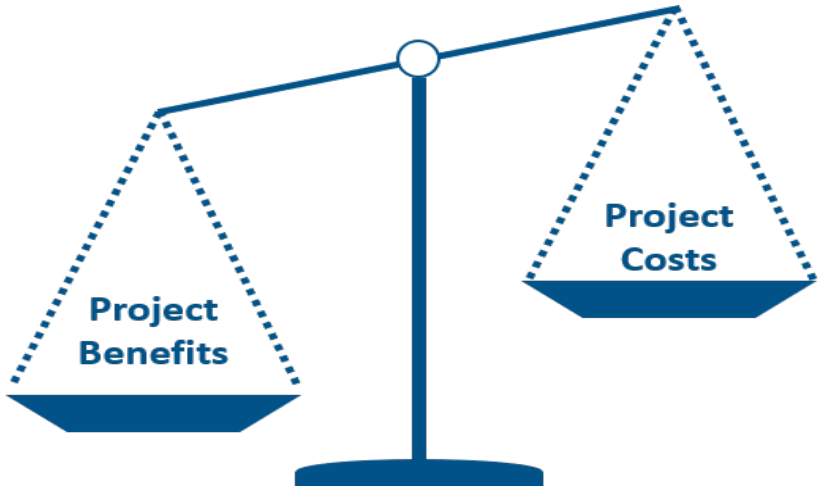
Any changes to the project scope, budget or other components must be approved by MEMA and FEMA prior to implementation.

All environmental conditions imposed by FEMA must be strictly followed.

All bids, specifications, permits, procurement, sub-contracts, and as-built plans must be submitted to MEMA.

What is a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) ?

- Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) is a method that quantifies the benefits (avoided losses) of a mitigation project compared to its costs
- Establishes the project's Cost Effectiveness (requirement is a BCR > 1)
- BCAs involve technical studies that require heavy data collection, supporting documentation development, and in many cases, engineering expertise
- BCAs are required for project subapplications (note additional considerations in FEMA NOFOs)



Expected Project Cycle

Statement of Interest (SOI) Deadline	February 10, 2025
Sub-applicant Register with FEMA GO Deadline	February 24, 2025
Federal Grant Application Period Opens	January 6, 2025
Sub-application **State** Deadline	March 10, 2025
State Review Committee	Late March – April 2025
Submittal to FEMA for National Competitive Review	April 2025
Award Notification for FY24 Cycle	Winter 2025
Project Initiation	TBD: Starting Spring 2026

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance Available

Submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) on MEMA's Website

MEMA Technical Assistance

Multi-Year Project Development Pipeline

- Integration with State and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Coordination with other relevant state and local programs

Direct Support and Coordination with MEMA Mitigation Point of Contacts

Rolling/Open Statement of Interest (SOI) Process

Interagency Application Review

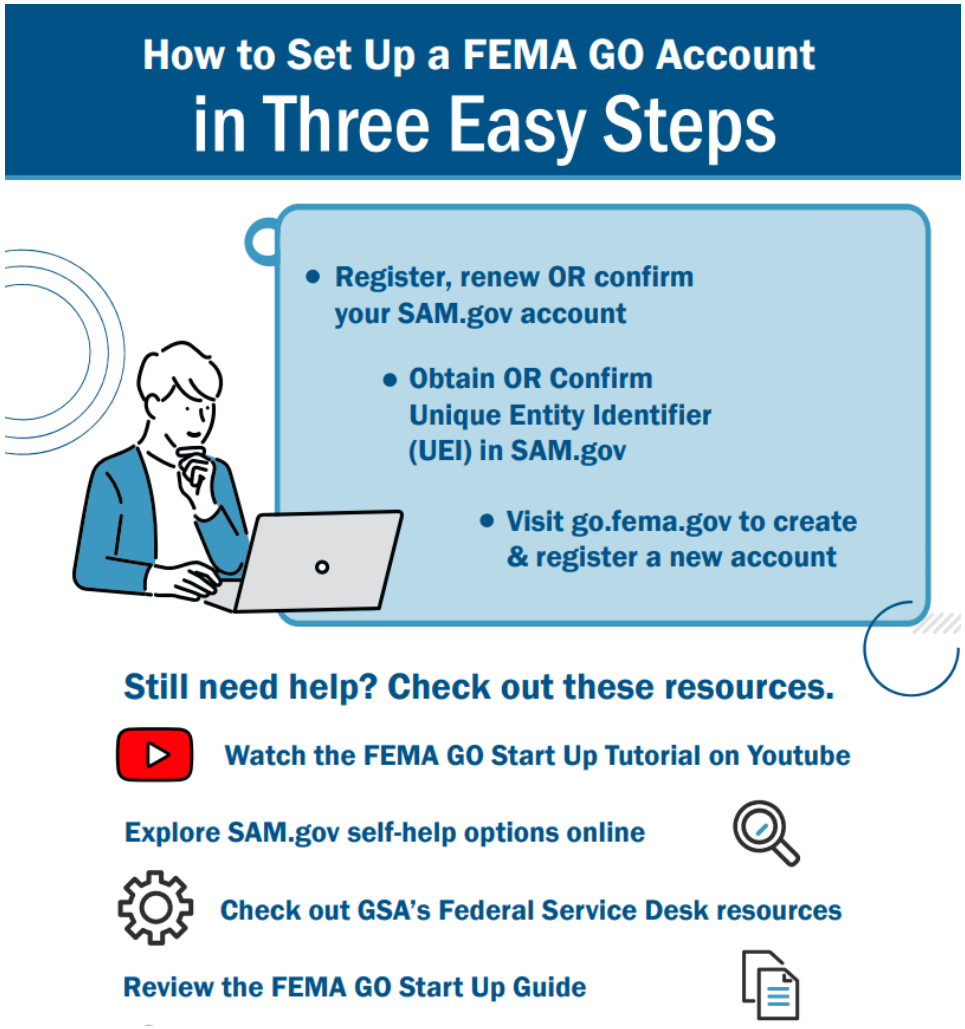
Multi-level Technical Assistance

- Education and Awareness
- Capacity Development
- Application Support
- Direct Technical Support

FEMA Grant Outcomes (FEMA GO)

- Sub-applications must be filed in FEMA Go with the legal name of the municipality (i.e. Town/City of …).
- The UEI registered name and address must match the legal name of the municipality.
- The UEI must be an Active Registration.
- FEMA GO Startup Guide
  - fema-go_startup-guide.pdf

- Follow sub-application process
  - FEMA GO Application and Subapplication Process Guide



Program Support Materials

MEMA Hazard Mitigation Website

Statement of Interest – Construction Projects

Statement of Interest – C&CB, Planning, Scoping

BRIC State Notice of Funding Opportunity

FMA State Notice of Funding Opportunity

Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) Download

HMA Program & Policy Guide

FEMA GO Portal

Sam.gov Registration / Information

Federal Procurement Information

BCA Helpline – bchelpline@fema.dhs.gov

Repetitive Loss (RL) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) Properties & FEMA Flood Insurance

For detailed data on Rep Loss, SRL and NFIP Insurance, please contact at FEMA:

Ryan Fisher (RL & SRL)
Floodplain Management Specialist
FEMA - Region I
ryan.fisher@fema.dhs.gov

General NFIP Inquiries
FEMA - Region I
FEMA-R1-NFIP-Data-Analytics@fema.dhs.gov

Additional Resources (Bldg. Code)

- Additional information related to the BRIC Program FEMA BRIC webpage
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance Mitigation Action Portfolio
- Additional Information about building codes can be found at the following sites:
  - International Code Council Training Program and Certifications
  - U.S. Fire Administration Online Learning Opportunities
  - FEMA Building Science Resources
  - Building Code Adoption Playbook
  - Building Codes Toolkit for Homeowners and Occupants
- For a list of many, but not necessarily all, consensus-based codes, please see Appendix A of Consensus-Based Codes and Standards V2.1 - DRRA 1235(b)
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Building Code Activities (fema.gov)

Contact MEMA

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MEMA Hazard Mitigation Website

Questions?