

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
FY 2024-2025 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

(Posted: 4/6/2026)

1. **Program Overview:** Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) is a Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant program that makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, federally recognized Tribal Nations, and local governments for hazard mitigation activities. It does so by recognizing the need to upgrade and modernize the nation's infrastructure against the growing risks to communities and the need for natural hazard risk mitigation activities that promote resilience with respect to natural hazards. BRIC empowers states, local governments, Tribal Nations, and territories to make smart investments in resilient infrastructure. BRIC aims to save lives, protect property, and reduce the cost of future disaster response and recovery.

2. **Funding Availability**

Through this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will be accepting subapplications for the following federal grant:

FY 2024-2025 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities

(Federal Award ID/Funding Opportunity# DHS-25-MT-047-00-98);

Assistance Listings Number: 97.047

Amount of funding available: \$1,000,000,000 available nationwide.

➤ [Link to Federal Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#)

- Activity Caps for FY 2024-2025 BRIC:
 - Massachusetts may apply for up to **\$2,000,000** in the State Allocation.
 - Funding may be used for capability and capacity-building activities that are directly tied to infrastructure, such as building code adoption and enforcement and/or hazard mitigation projects. Please note that Hazard Mitigation Plan development or updates, and other project scoping activities not directly supporting infrastructure are not eligible.
 - Massachusetts may apply for up to **\$1,000,000** in the State Building Code Plus-Up Allocation.
 - May be used to carry out eligible building code adoption and enforcement activities such as
 - Evaluate adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk
 - Enhance existing adopted codes to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards (excluding construction)
 - Develop professional workforce capabilities relating to building codes through technical assistance and training
 - National Competition Cap – Applicants may submit an unlimited number of hazard mitigation project subapplications, each valued up to \$20,000,000 federal share, to the national competition.

3. **Priorities**

The BRIC program prioritizes investments in infrastructure and construction projects that deliver immediate, measurable risk reduction to public infrastructure and communities vulnerable to natural hazards. The program's primary focus is on supporting projects ready for implementation and incentivizing the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of hazard-resistant building codes.

Additional State priorities include: projects that are clearly permissible and have been vetted through

permitting and advisory agencies (including MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), MA Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), MA Department of Environmental Protection (DER), Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP), etc.); projects with strong local commitment; projects with a well-developed/well-defined benefit-cost analysis (not applicable to non-construction subapplications); projects that are advanced further along in design & clear scope; projects that are consistent with the 2023 ResilientMass Plan and local hazard mitigation plan; projects that promote utilization of nature-based approaches and provides environmental benefits; leveraging partnerships; and community/public engagement.

4. **Subapplicant Eligibility**

Eligible subapplicants: State agencies, Tribal Nations, and local governments (including cities, townships, counties, and special district governments). For municipalities, the Subapplicant must be the “City/Town of,” not a specific municipal department. The organization must have a current Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued with the same name and legal address as the sub-applicant.

To be eligible for project grants, sub-applicants (except state agencies which are covered under the Standard State Plan) must have a current, non-expired FEMA-approved Local or Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan by the state application deadline (**6/8/2026**) and at the time of obligation of grant funds (award). Subapplicants are exempt from the hazard mitigation plan requirement in limited circumstances.

Please see **FEMA Notice of Funding Opportunity** for additional sub-applicant eligibility requirements.

5. **Grant Deadlines**

SUBAPPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATE-ESTABLISHED DEADLINES IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING.

Important Dates:

- FEMA BRIC grant availability announcement date: 3/25/2026
- State Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) posting date: 4/6/2026
- State Grant Briefing: 4/15/2026 at 11:00AM (Recording will be posted on MEMA Website)
- FEMA BRIC application start date (first date subapplications may be submitted): 3/25/2026
- **Statement of Interest deadline: 4/21/2026 - REQUIRED**
- **Register for the FEMA GO application portal: 4/21/2026**
- **Submission of BCA: 5/22/2026**
- **Subapplication final STATE deadline for BRIC: 6/8/2026**
- FEMA Funding Selection Date: Will vary by award
- Anticipated FEMA Award Date: Will vary by award

6. **Cost Share**

A non-federal cost share is required for all subapplications funded under the BRIC program. The cost share under BRIC is 75% federal / 25% non-federal, unless noted otherwise in the [FEMA FY24-25 NOFO](#).

The non-federal cost share may consist of cash (including local, state, or private cash payments such as general funds, MassWorks or Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grants, Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office matching funds, etc. subject to review, approval, and the availability of funds), donated or third-party in-kind services, materials, or any combination thereof. In-kind or force account labor may be from staff salary and fringe. Subapplicants cannot apply other federal award funds toward the BRIC non-federal cost share. The MEMA Mitigation Unit can provide clarification on exemptions.

7. **Overview of Program**

Statement of Interest (SOI)

Interested subapplicants must fill out and submit a completed Statement of Interest. The Statement of Interest will include information on the potential project and allow determination of basic eligibility for BRIC, and to initiate access to FEMA GO's Application Portal.

[The SOI form is available online at our MEMA Website.](#)

Subapplication Development and Submission

Subapplicants who have SOIs that are recommended by the MEMA Mitigation Unit to continue on in the process, will be asked to create and submit a full subapplication. Subapplication types include Project or Capability & Capacity Building (each described in more detail below). MEMA will provide technical assistance and subapplication development guidance for the recommended subapplications.

Review & Ranking

After the subapplication deadline, the Interagency Review Panel, comprised of representatives and subject matter experts from state agencies, will convene to review and then rank the sub-applications based upon BRIC Project Evaluation Criteria.

Grant Award

Following the State review, ranking, and submission of HMA subapplications, FEMA will review subapplications submitted by each applicant (state or Tribal Nation) to ensure compliance with HMA guidance, including eligibility of the applicant and sub-applicant, eligibility of proposed activities and costs, completeness of the subapplication, cost-effectiveness, engineering feasibility (mitigation projects), and eligibility and availability of the non-federal cost share. Projects identified for further review for BRIC transfer from the FEMA Headquarters level to the FEMA Region 1 office in order to conduct Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) compliance and additional technical reviews. Upon receipt of an award for a specific grant, MEMA will notify the sub-applicant, work to develop a state contract, and hold a kickoff meeting. All sub-applicants are required to submit quarterly reports on both the performance and financial aspects of the grant to MEMA.

8. Eligible Project Types

Mitigation Projects are cost-effective projects designed to increase resilience and public safety; reduce injuries and loss of life; and reduce damage and destruction to property, critical services, facilities, and infrastructure. Projects are eligible if they result in a reduction to future natural hazard damage. FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Programs are not intended as a source of funding for repair, replacement, or deferred maintenance activities, but are designed to assist sub-applicants in implementing long-term, cost-effective improvements that will reduce, minimize, or eliminate risk to people and property from the effects of natural hazards. Projects that address operation, deferred or future maintenance, repairs or replacement (without an increase in the level of protection provided) of existing structures, facilities, or infrastructure (e.g., dredging, debris removal, replacement of obsolete utility systems, bridges and facility repair) are not eligible mitigation grant activities.

- Activities can include but are not limited to: stormwater drainage and culvert improvements; floodplain and stream restoration; flood control, diversion, and storage; property acquisition; slope stabilization; infrastructure protection; aquifer storage; seismic and wind retrofits; structure elevations; resilient infrastructure projects; and emergency generators for critical facilities. A complete list and details on eligible projects can be found below and in the [2025 FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#).
- All mitigation project subapplications must include a FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA),

using the [FEMA BCA Toolkit](#) to document the project’s cost-effectiveness. Subapplicants are required to submit a FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis to MEMA by **5/22/2026** to ensure the project meets this fundamental eligibility requirement.

- Subrecipients can apply for up to 5% for management costs. This is financial assistance to reimburse the subrecipient for eligible and reasonable indirect costs, direct administrative costs, and other administrative expenses.
- Pre-award costs directly related to developing the subapplication that are incurred are allowed subject to FEMA’s written approval. Pre-award costs, if included, must be listed separately in the budget as a clearly defined line item, and also included in the BCA project cost. Applicants who are not awarded grants will not receive reimbursement for the corresponding pre-award costs.

A list of example eligible activities is listed below:

Mitigation Projects	
	Property Acquisition
	Structure Elevation
	Mitigation Reconstruction
	Flood Risk Reduction Measures
	Stabilization
	Floodproofing
	Tsunami Vertical Evacuation
	Safe Rooms
	Wildfire Mitigation
	Retrofitting
	Secondary Power Source
	Early Warning Systems
	Aquifer Recharge, Storage and Recovery
	Innovative Mitigation Projects
Capability and Capacity Building Projects	
	Project Scoping
	Direct Non-Financial Technical Assistance
	Partnerships
	Codes & Standards
	Innovative Capability and Capacity Building

Capability- and Capacity-Building (C&CB) Activities Subapplications (BRIC) include:

Activities that directly support infrastructure resilience, such as the adoption, enforcement, and implementation of hazard-resistant building codes. Only capability and capacity-building activities that are directly tied to infrastructure projects such as building code adoption/enforcement, related technical training and project scoping activities for specific infrastructure are eligible. Hazard Mitigation Plan development or updates, and project scoping activities not directly supporting a specific infrastructure project are not eligible under BRIC.

9. Subapplication Elements

- Applicant information
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan information
- Scope of Work
- Project Schedule (including Go/No-Go Milestones for projects under the BRIC National

Competition category) – Project must identify a series of milestones throughout the work schedule that FEMA will review and approve. Maximum of 36 months is allowed. The applicant may submit a request for a longer POP in the subapplication for FEMA to review and approve. A longer POP must be requested, documented, reasonable, and justified.

- Detailed Budget
- Budget Narrative
- Source of local cost share
- Benefit-cost analysis (BCA) - (construction projects only)
- ResilientMass: [Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool](#) completed for the proposed project or activity.
- Environmental & Historic Preservation Considerations – Detailed information must be provided describing the potential impacts to environmental resources or historic properties and any consultations or permitting that has already occurred.
- FEMA Assurances
- MEMA Assurances Document
- Qualitative Criteria Document
- Additional documentation may be required depending on the specific project type. Please refer to the FEMA NOFO for more information.

10. Sub-Grant Submission

Recommended subapplications for BRIC will submit complete subapplications in FEMA GO for potential award and funding. MEMA will support subapplication development as needed.

Full subapplications for mitigation projects are required to be submitted via FEMA GO by 6/8/2026, at 11:59PM EST (State deadline).

FEMA GO: (<https://go.fema.gov>) is the application portal for this grant. In order to register for FEMA GO, applicants must first be registered in www.sam.gov. The registration process in www.sam.gov and FEMA GO can take up to sixteen business days. Please be sure to register by **4/21/2026** to avoid any delays. Once registered in FEMA GO, MEMA will be responsible for authorizing access to your organization in order to complete the BRIC subapplication in the system.

11. Period of Performance

The Period of Performance (POP) is the period of time during which subrecipients of grant funds may incur costs related to the approved scope of work. The maximum Period of Performance allowed is 36 months from the date of the award unless otherwise specified by FEMA.

12. Briefing

To assist potential sub-applicants who are considering applying for HMA funding, MEMA will conduct a program briefing on **4/15/2026 at 11:00AM**. [Please visit the MEMA Mitigation Website for more information](#). Interested sub-applicants are strongly encouraged to attend this briefing (or view the recording) as requirements regarding the grant programs will be described and discussed in detail.

13. Project Evaluation Criteria

A state interagency review panel will evaluate all eligible and complete proposals on a competitive basis. The review panel reserves the right to request additional, clarifying information from the sub-applicant during the evaluation period, and to reject any or all proposals that do not meet the goals and terms of this NOFO.

In addition to the ranking criteria listed in the [FEMA Notice of Funding Opportunity](#), Massachusetts projects will be reviewed and ranked against state level criteria found in **Appendix A**.

14. Requirements and Conditions for Federal Award

- All FEMA HMA grant project subapplications require a local FEMA-approved ‘Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan’ at the time of the application and at the time of obligation of grant funds (award).
- Mitigation projects must be technically feasible and effective in increasing the level of protection.
- All spending must comply with the federal procurement standards described in [2 CFR 200.317 through 2 CFR 200.327](#). If your project is awarded, you must expend funds (even pre-award costs) under your official, documented procurement procedures, and ensure you comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws & regulations. Federal procurement standards must also be followed for [using contract support](#) for the development of HMA grant subapplications. Please note that federal rules differ from state rules.
- Section 70914 of the **Build America, Buy America Act (BABAA)**, Pub. L. No. 117-58, §§ 70901-52, requires all federal agencies, including FEMA, to ensure that no federal financial assistance for “infrastructure” projects is provided “unless all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.” On April 18, 2022, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued OMB Memorandum M-22-11, Initial Implementation Guidance on Application of Buy America Preference in Federal Financial Assistance Programs for Infrastructure (OMB Memo M-22-11). This memo provides implementation guidance for federal agencies on the application of a domestic preference to federal financial assistance programs for infrastructure and a transparent process to waive such preference, when necessary.
- Mitigation projects must solve a problem independently or constitute a functional portion of a long-term solution for which there is assurance that the project as a whole will be completed, or there is a reasonable plan and available funding for completion.
- Please see **FEMA Notice of Funding Opportunity** for any additional sub-applicant eligibility requirements.

14. Contact Information

For general inquiries regarding the programs, please contact MEMA at: mitigation@mass.gov

For specific inquiries:

Elena Kilduff, Hazard Mitigation Grants Coordinator, **MEMA Regions 1&3**, 508-820-1436,
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For more information visit the 'Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs' section of the MEMA website at www.mass.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance-hma-grant-programs.

APPENDIX A

Mitigation Project Review Criteria	Max Points
<i>Project Scope, Budget, and Timeline.</i> The project adequately mitigates current hazards by providing a well-defined scope of work and level of protection above what currently exists. The project budget/cost estimate is detailed. The subapplication demonstrates through a clear and realistic work schedule the capability of the applicant to implement and complete the project in a timely manner.	(Up to 20 points)
<i>Project Feasibility, Support and Consistency with Planning.</i> The subapplication includes a description of the project team’s technical, financial, and management capacity. Letters of support are included from landowners, public and or community partners. Letters of support from diverse groups (e.g., community-based organizations, local businesses, nonprofits, neighborhood groups, etc.) are viewed most favorably. The applicant is covered by a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan and clearly ties the proposed project to the plan.	(Up to 8 points)
<i>Critical Infrastructure.</i> If the project is not implemented there will likely be a detrimental impact, loss of essential services, damage to critical facilities, infrastructure, and/or economic hardship. To receive the point allotment for this criterion, the subapplication must explain how the project mitigates natural hazard risk to critical physical structures, facilities, and systems that provide support to a community, its population, and its economy. This includes natural systems.	(Up to 8 points)
<i>Risk Reduction / Resilience Effectiveness.</i> 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?	(Up to 8 points)
<i>Future Conditions.</i> The subapplication describes how the project will enhance resilience, details how the project is being responsive to the effects of future conditions (population/demographic/land use, etc.), and cites data sources, assumptions, and models in alignment with the MA Climate Assessment. Evaluation: What anticipated future conditions are relevant for the project? How is the project responsive to any identified anticipated changes? Does the project integrate the consideration of future conditions into design, planning, and operations workflows? How was the project informed by, or connected to, plans and planning efforts and their assessment of future conditions? What data sources and assumptions are used to guide the project?	(Up to 10 points)
<i>Nature-Based Solutions and Environmental Co-Benefits.</i> Up to 10 points for the degree to which nature-based solutions (i.e., solutions that protect, restore, or manage ecological systems) and environmental co-benefits are incorporated into the overall vision of this project and how the selected strategy/ies will help the community adapt to existing and projected impacts of future conditions. If the project is not nature-based, describe a clear assessment of design alternatives and discussion of why a nature-based solution was not chosen.	(Up to 10 points)
<i>Regulatory Components.</i> The project subapplication includes a detailed plan for obtaining all required permits. Coordination with applicable regulatory agencies is underway, or plan to engage with those agencies is documented. Confident the applicant has a clear understanding of the applicable regulatory requirements and that they will be able to meet the requirements.	(Up to 6 points)

<p><i>Population Impacted.</i> The project subapplication demonstrates community-wide benefits and identifies the proportion of the population that will be impacted. The subapplication also describes how the project was selected and designed to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative impacts to any disadvantaged populations. SOW: What does “community-wide” mean in the context of the proposed project? What quantity (e.g., percent) of the population will directly benefit from the project? Who are the groups that will benefit from the project? Does the applicant provide clear examples of how the project will increase resiliency? What community co-benefits will the project provide (e.g., social, economic, public health, recreational, public access, equity, etc.)?</p>	<p>(Up to 12 points)</p>
<p><i>Leveraging Partners.</i> The project subapplication incorporates partnerships (e.g., state, tribal, private, local community, etc.) that will ensure the project meets community needs and shows the outcome of those partnerships (e.g., leveraging resources such as financial, material, and educational resources, coordinating multi-jurisdictional projects, heightened focus on equity related issues, etc.) Evaluation: What partners will contribute to the implementation of the project? To what extent were non-governmental organizations, universities, private organizations, or other government entities consulted for advice or assistance? To what extent have partners provided funding that increases the non-federal cost share? How have partnerships been used to increase community resiliency?</p>	<p>(Up to 8 Points)</p>
<p><i>Community Engagement.</i> The subapplication describes outreach strategy and supporting activities appropriate to the project and the community that advance mitigation. The subapplication also outlines the types of community planning processes leveraged and describes how input from a diverse range of stakeholders, including overburdened and underserved communities, was gathered and incorporated into project conception and design. Furthermore, the subapplication outlines how such community planning and stakeholder input will continue to be used to help direct project execution.</p>	<p>(Up to 10 Points)</p>

The proposals for Capability and Capacity-Building (C&CB) activities will be reviewed with the following criteria:

Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) Review Criteria	Max Points
<i>Tangible Outcomes.</i> The project has a well-defined and clear scope of work which will result in a resource, strategy, or tangible mitigation project to be pursued in the future. The subapplication demonstrates through a clear and realistic work schedule the capability of the applicant to implement and complete the project in a timely manner.	(Up to 20 points)
<i>Project Feasibility, Support and Consistency with Planning.</i> The subapplication includes a description of the project team’s technical, financial, and management capacity. Letters of support are included from landowners, public and or community partners. Letters of support from diverse groups (e.g., community-based organizations, local businesses, nonprofits, neighborhood groups, etc.) are viewed most favorably. The applicant is covered by a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan and clearly ties the proposed project to the plan.	(Up to 10 points)
<i>Focuses on Critical Infrastructure.</i> If the project is not implemented there will likely be a detrimental impact, loss of essential services, damage to critical facilities, infrastructure, and/or economic hardship. To receive the point allotment for this criterion, the subapplication must explain how the project mitigates natural hazard risk to critical physical structures, facilities, and systems that provide support to a community, its population, and its economy. This includes natural systems.	(Up to 10 points)
<i>Building Institutional Capacity.</i> The subapplication must detail how implementation of this project builds upon existing resiliency policies, projects, or programs, and expands local capacity or capabilities for risk reduction. Examples include funding an activity that is listed in your current approved HMP or MVP report. How will this project serve as a demonstration project that is transferable to other communities?	(Up to 10 points)
<i>Future Conditions.</i> The subapplication describes how the project will enhance resilience, details how the project is being responsive to the effects of future conditions (population/demographic/land use, etc.), and cites data sources, assumptions, and models in alignment with the MA Climate Assessment. Evaluation: What anticipated future conditions are relevant for the project? How is the project responsive to any identified anticipated changes? Does the project integrate the consideration of future conditions into design, planning, and operations workflows? How was the project informed by, or connected to, plans and planning efforts and their assessment of future conditions? What data sources and assumptions are used to guide the project?	(Up to 10 points)
<i>Nature-Based Solutions and Environmental Co-Benefits.</i> Up to 10 points for the degree to which nature-based solutions (i.e., solutions that protect, restore, or manage ecological systems) and environmental co-benefits are incorporated into the overall vision of this project and how the selected strategy/ies will help the community adapt to existing and projected impacts of climate change. If the project is not nature-based, describe a clear assessment of design alternatives and discussion of why a nature-based solution was not chosen. Projects may still receive a maximum of 5 points for a response that demonstrates why an alternative approach was deemed necessary over nature-based approaches and illustrates how environmental conditions will improve with grey infrastructure implementation).	(Up to 10 points)

<p><i>Population Impacted.</i> The project subapplication demonstrates community-wide benefits and identifies the proportion of the population that will be impacted. The subapplication also describes how the project was selected and designed to maximize positive impacts and minimize negative impacts to any disadvantaged populations. SOW: What does “community-wide” mean in the context of the proposed project? What quantity (e.g., percent) of the population will directly benefit from the project? Who are the groups that will benefit from the project? Does the applicant provide clear examples of how the project will increase resiliency? What community co-benefits will the project provide (e.g., social, economic, public health, recreational, public access, equity, etc.)?</p>	(Up to 10 points)
<p><i>Leveraging Partners.</i> The project subapplication incorporates partnerships (e.g., state, tribal, private, local community, etc.) that will ensure the project meets community needs, including those of overburdened or underserved populations, populations, and show the outcome of those partnerships (e.g., leveraging resources such as financial, material, and educational resources, coordinating multi-jurisdictional projects, heightened focus on equity related issues, etc.) Evaluation: What partners will contribute to the implementation of the project? To what extent were non-governmental organizations, universities, private organizations, or other government entities consulted for advice or assistance? To what extent have partners provided funding that increases the non-federal cost share? How have partnerships been used to increase community resiliency?</p>	(Up to 10 Points)
<p><i>Community Engagement.</i> The subapplication describes outreach strategy and supporting activities appropriate to the project and the community that advance mitigation. The subapplication also outlines the types of community planning processes leveraged and describes how input from a diverse range of stakeholders, including overburdened and underserved communities, was gathered and incorporated into project conception and design. Furthermore, the subapplication outlines how such community planning and stakeholder input will continue to be used to help direct project execution.</p>	(Up to 10 Points)