



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 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) **2019 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant (PDM) Program, and 2019 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program** funding. The 2019 PDM and 2019 FMA are nationally-competitive annual grant programs. **The deadline for communities to submit a REQUIRED Statement of Interest is Friday, October 11, 2019.** Massachusetts' Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is available on the MEMA Website and on COMMBUYS. FEMA will open the FY 2019 application period on September 30, 2019 and the State deadline is Monday, December 9, 2019.

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. Funding for hazard mitigation plans and projects can reduce overall risks to the population, structures and infrastructure, while also reducing the reliance on taxpayer-funded federal disaster assistance for disaster recovery.

- *Who's eligible to apply?* State, tribal organizations, and local governments are eligible to apply as sub-applicants. For projects that benefit individual home or business owners, the local government must be the sub-applicant. **Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan Requirement:** To be eligible for project grants, sub-applicants must have a locally adopted and FEMA-approved Local Natural Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (in accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 201) by the application deadline.
- *What type of work is eligible?* Projects that result in a reduction to natural hazard damage, such as: stormwater drainage and culvert improvements; floodplain and stream restoration; flood control; property acquisition; slope stabilization; infrastructure protection; aquifer storage; seismic and wind retrofits; structure elevations; emergency power generators for critical facilities; etc. For PDM and FMA this year, FEMA is prioritizing Advance Assistance, all-hazard Resilient Infrastructure projects (PDM), and Community Flood Mitigation projects (FMA).
- *How do I apply for a project?* If you are interested in applying, the first step is to submit a **Statement of Interest via the MEMA website**. Interested sub-applicants must fill out and submit a completed Statement of Interest by 10/11/2019. The Statement of Interest will include information on the potential project and allow the State to rank and select projects to invite to full sub-applications. More information on this new step in the grant process will be provided at the grant briefings and in later email correspondence. The SOI is available online at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/pdm-fma-grants>

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Region II
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Region III / IV
1002 Suffield Street
Agawam, MA 01001
Tel: 413-750-1400 Fax: 413-821-1599

- *How do I apply for a Mitigation Planning Grant?* Communities participate in the ‘Commonwealth’s Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant.’ This is a State application, filed on behalf of eligible cities and towns by MEMA, for funds to update an existing plan or create a new hazard mitigation plan by procuring a consulting firm, regional planning agency, or contract employee. This sub-grant will have a scope of work and budget determine by MEMA. To be considered for this Local Planning Grant under PDM, your municipality must submit a Planning Statement of Interest by October 11, 2019. More information about planning funds and sample letters of intent/funding commitment are available on our grants web page. Eligible sub-applicants (RPA’s and Communities) can apply as a sub-applicant for a local hazard mitigation planning grant separate from the ‘Commonwealth’s Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant’.
- *How much funding is available?* 2019 PDM has \$250 million available nationally; 2019 FMA has \$160 million available nationally. The maximum Federal share for PDM projects is \$4 million and up to \$10 million for Resilient Infrastructure Projects.
- *What is the grant application deadline?* **REQUIRED Statement of Interest is due October 11, 2019.** Statements of Interest will be submitted online. Recommended sub-application for plans, projects, and Advance Assistance State deadline for PDM/FMA: 12/9/2019. Note that the state deadline is an earlier date from the FEMA submission deadline imposed on the State.
- *Are there other conditions?* All proposed full applications for projects (not planning) must include a formal Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA), using FEMA BCA v6.0 software (*new*), 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. See Part III, Section E.1 of the FEMA Guidance for additional details.
- *How do I learn more?* Formal grant briefings are available prior to the application deadlines; RSVP’s are required. Before attending a briefing, you should familiarize yourself with the Grant Program Guidance, which can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance-grant-programs>. All sub-applicants who are considering applying should contact your Grants Coordinator for a technical assistance meeting. This could be a visit at the project site/office or conducted via phone depending on the complexity of the project.
- *Is there a Cost Share?* 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. For some projects under the FMA grant, properties may qualify for up to 100% federal share.
- *Please note:* FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Assistance 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 a change in the level of protection provided) of existing structures, facilities, or infrastructure (e.g., dredging, debris removal, replacement of obsolete utility systems, bridge and facility repair) are not eligible mitigation grant activities. Please review the 2015 HMA Guidance on our website for a complete list of eligible and ineligible activities.

For specific inquiries:

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