



Mitigation Funding Opportunity for Hospitals

About the Opportunity

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently updated its guidance to streamline the application process for generator projects in hospitals with an emergency department. FEMA has established pre-calculated benefit values to reduce the time and resources it takes for hospitals to complete the cost-effectiveness portion of the application process for such projects. The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency's Hazard Mitigation Unit can assist eligible hospitals by answering questions about this opportunity, and assisting them with the application process.



Review

Read the summary on the next page. The guidance only applies to generator projects in hospitals with an ER.



Assess

Determine if your hospital meets the FEMA's eligibility requirements.



Apply

Contact the MEMA Hazard Mitigation Unit to schedule a meeting with one of our Grant Coordinators who can assist you in applying.



**Contact MEMA with
questions or for assistance.**

Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency
Hazard Mitigation Unit
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The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency is pleased to announce updated guidance from FEMA establishing pre-calculated benefit values to reduce the time and resources needed to complete and review cost-effectiveness for hospital generators. This will streamline the application process for those mitigation projects.

I. Background

For projects involving hospital generators that meet the criteria stated below, applicants and subapplicants may use the pre-calculated benefits to demonstrate cost-effectiveness instead of conducting a separate analysis using the FEMA BCA Toolkit. If the pre-calculated benefits are insufficient to show cost-effectiveness, the applicant and subapplicant can use the FEMA BCA Toolkit to demonstrate cost-effectiveness.

II. Scope and Applicability

The guidance only applies to hospital generator projects in hospitals with emergency departments; other facilities should continue to use the FEMA BCA Toolkit to demonstrate cost-effectiveness. This methodology is available for all Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant programs and can be applied to new applications as well as pending or selected for further review projects. Additionally, pre-calculated benefits can be used to evaluate cost overruns for approved projects if a new cost-effectiveness review is being performed.

III. Pre-Calculated Benefits for Certain Hospital Generator Projects

The pre-calculated benefit is available for hospital generator projects if all of the following requirements are satisfied:

- The hospital must have an emergency department.
- The project represents a stand-alone solution. The subapplication must provide enough information to demonstrate technical feasibility and effectiveness of the mitigation solution (including information from a licensed design professional for cost, generator capacity related to critical services throughout the hospital, and scope for a transfer switch, fuel storage, and other required components).
- If the generator is part of a larger project, the pre-calculated benefits from the generator portion cannot be combined or aggregated with the benefits from another portion of the project. Additional information about generator projects under the HMA programs may be found in the 2015 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance and its Addendum, and the Eligibility of Generators as a Fundable Project by the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program Job Aid.
- The total cost of the project must be less than or equal to the pre-calculated benefits. The pre-calculated benefits for a hospital generator project are \$6.95 per hospital building gross square footage (BGSF) in urban areas and \$12.62 per hospital BGSF in rural areas. For example, a hospital of 100,000 BGSF would generate \$695,000 in benefits in an urban area or \$1,262,000 in benefits in a rural area. A hospital in a rural area would have higher benefits than in an urban area because of the greater average distance to the next nearest hospital. For purposes of this pre-calculated benefit, “urban” is defined as any location within an urbanized area as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. “Rural” is defined as any location outside of an urbanized area (including urban clusters). The applicant or subapplicant must use the address or latitude/longitude of the hospital to determine urban/rural status; this designation cannot be applied county-wide or across Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Documentation that the project meets the criteria above must be included in the project subapplication in order to use this pre-calculated benefit to demonstrate cost-effectiveness.

The introduction of the hospital generator pre-calculated benefit does not impact total available funding for HMA programs and is only for the purposes of simplifying the subapplication development process. Pre-calculated benefits cannot be used to estimate costs. Cost estimates must be based on industry standards, vendor estimates, or other reliable sources. Only documented, eligible costs for completed work will be reimbursed. Additionally, all projects will be reviewed for cost-reasonableness and all other program eligibility criteria, including applicable codes, standards, and regulations.

If you need assistance, any questions can be directed to the Hazard Mitigation Unit at mitigation@mass.gov.

For additional information on the HMA programs, visit:

<https://www.mass.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance-hma-grant-programs>.