



Fiscal Year 2021 Flood Mitigation Assistance
Notice of Funding Opportunity

Purpose:

The FMA grant program strengthens national preparedness and resilience and supports the mitigation mission area through FEMA's strategic goal of building a culture of preparedness. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) makes federal funds available through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program to states, local communities, tribes and territories (SLTTs) to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

FEMA has published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the FMA grant program. The Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) FMA NOFO can be accessed at [FY 2021 FMA NOFO](#). RIEMA encourages reviewing the FMA NOFO before applying, as it provides detailed program information and other grant application and administration requirements.

Cost Share:

A cost share is required for all sub-applications funded under this program. The non-federal cost share may consist of cash, donated or third-party in-kind services, materials, or any combination thereof. The cost share for FMA is as follows:

- Generally, the cost share for this program is 75 percent federal/25 percent non-federal.

Initial Eligibility Information

To be eligible for FMA funding, FEMA requires all sub applicants to have a current FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline AND at the time of obligated funding. All activities submitted for consideration must be consistent with the Grantee's State/Tribal standard or enhanced hazard mitigation plan and the Applicant's Hazard Mitigation plan for the local jurisdiction in which the activity is located. Sub applicants must be participating in the NFIP, and not be withdrawn, on probation, or suspended.

- Structures identified in the sub application must have an NFIP policy in effect at the FMA Application start date and must maintain it through completion of the mitigation activity and for the life of the structure.

Eligible Applicant/Sub-applicants:

- State Agencies;
- Local Governments;

- Tribal Governments/Communities - Indian tribes or authorized non-profit tribal organizations; and
- Individuals or businesses may not apply directly to the State or FEMA; however, eligible local governments or private non-profit organizations may apply on their behalf.

Available Funding:

For FY 21, FEMA will distribute up to \$160 million through the FMA grant program in the following manner:

The funding caps (federal share) for the FMA program are as follows:

- \$300,000 per Project Scoping sub application for individual flood mitigation projects
- \$900,000 per Project Scoping sub application for community flood mitigation projects
- \$30,000,000 cap per community flood mitigation project sub application
- \$50,000 per applicant for all Technical Assistance sub applications for recipients to which FEMA obligated an FY20 FMA award of at least \$1 million federal share
- \$100,000 per applicant for flood hazard mitigation planning with maximums of \$50,000 for state flood hazard mitigation planning and \$25,000 for local flood hazard mitigation planning

A maximum of 5 percent of the total sub application budget can be submitted for sub applicant management costs, per [HMA Guidance](#)



Competitive Funding Prioritization for All Individual Flood Mitigation Projects (in Priority Order)

- Projects with lower federal funding needed;
- Structures that have been determined Substantially Damaged; and
- Primary residences over non-primary residences.

Eligible Activities:

FEMA will select eligible individual flood mitigation project sub applications on a competitive basis in the following prioritized order¹:

- Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) (B)(ii): Projects that will mitigate flood damage to at least 50 percent of structures included in the sub application that meet the definition of an SRL

¹ For project sub applications in the priority categories, FEMA will prioritize projects as follows: the highest percentage of structures that meet the definition from 100 to 50 percent; the largest number of structures that meet one of the above definitions; the highest percentage of structures determined Substantially Damaged by the community within two (2) years of the application submission deadline with a verification letter attached to the application; the lowest percentage of structures that are listed as non-primary residences on their NFIP policy declarations page; and the projects with the highest FEMA-validated Benefit-Cost Ratio.



property: At least two separate NFIP claim payments have been made with the cumulative amount of such claims exceeding the market value of the insured structure.

- Repetitive Loss (RL): Projects that will mitigate flood damage to at least 50 percent of structures included in the sub application that meet the definition of a RL property: Property has incurred flood-related damage on two occasions, in which the cost of the repair, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25 percent of the market value of the structure at the time of each such flood event.
- SRL (B)(i): Projects that will mitigate flood damage to at least 50 percent of structures included in the sub application that meet the statutory definition of an SRL property: Four or more separate NFIP claims payments have been made with the amount of each claim exceeding \$5,000, and with the cumulative amount of claims payments exceeding \$20,000.

Application Process:

1. Sub-recipients will submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) via email to the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at Melinda.Hopkins@ema.ri.gov. **The deadline to submit a NOI for funding consideration is 9/17/2021.** NOIs received by RIEMA after the established due date for NOI submission will be considered late and will not be considered for funding.
2. Upon approval of NOI, Eligible sub-applicants will be required to submit project applications through FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO), which is the award management system for FMA. <https://go.fema.gov/> . Application period for FY 21 FMA opens on 09/30/2021.
 - a. Registering and applying for an award under FEMA GO portal is a multi-step process and requires time to complete. Sub-applicants should read the registration instructions carefully and prepare the information requested before beginning the registration process provided in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) FY 2021 Flood Mitigation Assistance. [FY 2021 FMA NOFO](#)
 - b. NOTE: Reviewing and assembling the required information before beginning the registration process will alleviate last-minute searches for required information.
 - c. The registration process can take up to 4 weeks to complete. To ensure a project application meets the deadline, sub-applicants are advised to start the required steps well in advance of their submission.
3. Sub-applications will be reviewed and required to meet Project Eligibility, Application Completeness, Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA), Engineering Feasibility, Mitigation Plan Status, and Environmental and Historic Preservation Review eligibility. Sub-applications that are incomplete by 1/07/2022 will be considered late and will not be submitted for funding consideration. Projects should be cost-effective as demonstrated by a benefit-cost ratio (BCR) of 1.0 or higher using a FEMA-approved BCA methodology available at <https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/benefit-cost-analysis>.
4. Final FY 21 FMA Application with completed sub applications is to be completed by RIEMA by 1/21/2022, with submittal to FEMA by 1/28/2022.



Other Key Dates in FEMA GO Application Process

| Event | Suggested Deadline for Completion |
|--|--|
| Obtain DUNS Number | Four weeks before Application period opens |
| Obtain a valid EIN | Four weeks before Application period opens |
| Create an account with login.gov | Four weeks before Application period opens |
| Register in SAM or updating SAM registration | Four weeks before Application period opens |
| Register with FEMA GO | One week before Application period opens |
| Submit the final Application in FEMA GO | RIEMA deadline-1/07/2022 |

Links:

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) – Hazard Mitigation Section
<http://www.riema.ri.gov/planning/hazardmitigation/index.php>

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) – Hazard Mitigation Section
<http://www.riema.ri.gov/grants/index.php>

FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO) <https://go.fema.gov/> . The step-by-step instructional desktop guides can be found by visiting www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/fema-go/assistance-firefighters-grants .

Additional Resources:

The resources below provide additional information about the FMA program and can also be found at the [FMA webpage](#):

- FMA Community Flood Mitigation Project Fact Sheet
- FMA Community Flood Mitigation Benefitting Area Map Development
- FMA Project Scoping Fact Sheet
- FY20 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity
- Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance & Addendum
- Property Elevation and Acquisition Job Aides

Contact Information:

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