

# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

## What is the purpose of the HMGP?

The HMGP assists States, territories, federally-recognized tribes, and local communities by:

- Significantly reducing or permanently eliminating future risk to lives and property from natural hazards
- Providing funds to implement projects in accordance with priorities identified in State, tribal, or local hazard mitigation plans
- Enabling mitigation measures to be implemented during the recovery following a major disaster declaration

## How is HMGP funding determined following a major disaster?

Federal funding under the HMGP is available if requested by the Governor. HMGP funding is allocated using a "sliding scale" formula based on the percentage of funds spent on Public and Individual Assistance for each Presidentially declared disaster.

Federal law requires States, territories, federally-recognized tribes and local jurisdictions to have a mitigation plan prior to receipt of HMGP funds. The plan identifies hazards, assesses community needs, and describes a community-wide strategy for reducing risks associated with natural disasters.

For States/territories/federally-recognized tribes with a FEMA-approved Standard State or Tribal Mitigation Plan, the formula provides for up to 15% of the first \$2 billion of estimated aggregate amounts of disaster assistance, up to 10% for amounts between \$2 billion and \$10 billion, and 7.5% for amounts between \$10 billion and \$35.333 billion.

For States/territories with a FEMA-approved Enhanced Mitigation Plan, up to 20% of the total of Public and Individual Assistance funds authorized for the disaster (up to \$35.333 billion of such assistance) are available.

## What types of projects can be funded?

The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property, as long as the project fits within State/territorial/federally-recognized tribal, and local government mitigation strategies to address areas of risk and complies with HMGP guidelines.

### Eligible Activities

Mitigation Projects
Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition
Property Acquisition and Structure Relocation
Structure Elevation
Mitigation Reconstruction
Dry Floodproofing of Historic Residential Structures
Dry Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures
Generators
Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
Non-Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
Non-Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
Safe Room Construction
Wind Retrofit for One- and Two-Family Residences
Infrastructure Retrofit
Soil Stabilization
Wildfire Mitigation
Post-Disaster Code Enforcement
Advance Assistance
5 Percent Initiative Projects*
Miscellaneous/Other**
Hazard Mitigation Planning
Planning Related Activities
Management Costs

\* FEMA allows increasing the 5% Initiative amount up to 10% for a Presidential major disaster declaration under HMGP. The additional 5% Initiative funding can be used for activities that promote disaster-resistant codes for all hazards. As a condition of the award, either a disaster-resistant building code must be adopted or an improved Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule is required.

\*\* Miscellaneous/Other indicates that any proposed action will be evaluated on its own merit against program requirements. Eligible projects will be approved provided funding is available.

## How much will FEMA pay for a project under the HMGP?

Typically projects are funded by a combination of Federal and non-Federal funds. HMGP funds may be used to pay up to 75% of the eligible costs. The non-Federal match does not need to be cash; in-kind services or materials may be used.

## What are the roles of local communities, federally-recognized tribes, territories, States, and FEMA?

During the recovery phase of a disaster, local jurisdictions select projects that could reduce property damage from future disasters, and submit applications to the State, territory, or federally-recognized tribe. Certain nonprofit organizations may also apply.

The States, territories, and federally-recognized tribes administer the HMGP by establishing their mitigation priorities, facilitating the development of applications, and submitting applications to FEMA based on funding criteria and available funding. They also manage the projects, monitor progress, and evaluate the effectiveness of projects implemented.

FEMA conducts a final eligibility review to ensure compliance with Federal regulations. HMGP projects must comply with Federal environmental laws and regulations, be cost-effective, and be technically feasible.

## What are the roles of property and business owners?

Individuals, property and business owners may not apply directly to the State, territory, or FEMA, but eligible local governments or private nonprofit organizations may apply on their behalf.

FEMA encourages property and business owners interested in implementing mitigation activities to contact their local community planning, emergency management, or hazard mitigation office for more information.