

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM



SUMMARY

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants for mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration. This program complements two other FEMA-funded disaster mitigation programs: Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Building Resilient Infrastructure in Communities (BRIC).

- Program administered by PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)
- Funding requested by PA Governor; allocations based on sliding scale formula
- Funding Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEATURES

During the recovery phase of a disaster, program provides funds to implement projects that could reduce property damage from future disasters. Funding provided under the COVID-19 and Hurricane Ida disaster declarations for PA for 2021/22.

Eligible projects include activities to alleviate flash floods, storm and flood damage.

Eligible local governments and private nonprofit organizations may apply on behalf of an individual or property/business owner.

ELIGIBILITY

Who is Eligible?

Local governments and certain nonprofit organizations may submit project applications to PEMA, which then submits applications to FEMA based on funding criteria and funding. Municipality must have its own Hazard Mitigation Plan (or resolution supporting county plan).

Eligible Costs

Requested project funding must be identified in the county Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Eligible activities include small structural projects (e.g., culverts, detention basins), stream corridor restoration and infrastructure retrofits; planning related activities such as improving land development and zoning ordinances to reduce flooding and increase groundwater recharge.

Match: HMGP funds can pay for up to 75% of eligible costs; non-federal match can be cash or in-kind services/materials.

HELPFUL TIPS

Considered less competitive than BRIC due to level of PA funding and possible support toward local match from the state.

Benefit cost ratio must be greater than 1. Online courses available on how to calculate the ratio.

Support from state and federal elected representatives is helpful.

Program now looking at added environmental or cultural benefits, such as river town heritage and reductions in nutrient and sediment pollution. Watershed health of greater importance.

HOW TO APPLY

Subapplicants to submit a Letter of Intent to PEMA, which then selects and prioritizes applications. See CWQE Hub for LOI.

Contact: Tom Hughes, PEMA at 717-651-2726; thughes@pa.gov or your County Hazard Mitigation Officer.

