



Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants (PDM) and Safe Rooms

What is HMGP?

HMGP is authorized by Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (the Stafford Act), Title 42, United States Code (U.S.C.) 5170c. The key purpose of HMGP is to provide the opportunity to take critical mitigation measures to reduce future loss of life and property during the reconstruction process following a disaster.

HMGP is available, when authorized under a Presidential major disaster declaration, in the Tribe or areas of the State requested by the Governor. The amount of HMGP funding available is based upon the estimated total Federal assistance provided by FEMA for disaster recovery under the Presidential major disaster declaration.

How is Funding for HMGP Determined?

HMGP funding is determined using a formula that takes a percentage of the estimated amount of the total Federal assistance that may be provided under the Presidential disaster declaration. The formula does not take into account administrative costs.

Tribes or States must maintain a FEMA-approved State or Tribal Standard Mitigation Plan in order to be eligible to apply for HMGP funding. This plan is updated every three years.

What are the Roles of Communities, States, and FEMA?

Local jurisdictions develop projects that could reduce property damage from future disasters and submit grant applications to the State. Tribes can submit projects either through the State or directly to FEMA if they choose depending on their mitigation plan status and other factors.

The States and Tribes establish their mitigation priorities, facilitate the development of applications, and submit applications to FEMA. The State or Tribe is responsible for managing and administering the HMGP.

FEMA conducts a final eligibility review to ensure compliance with Federal regulations. Projects must comply with Federal environmental laws and regulations, be cost-effective, technically feasible, and meet additional program criteria.

FEMA encourages property and business owners interested in implementing mitigation activities to contact their local community planning, emergency management, or State Hazard Mitigation office for more information. <http://www.fema.gov/state-hazard-mitigation-officers>

Who is Eligible to Apply?

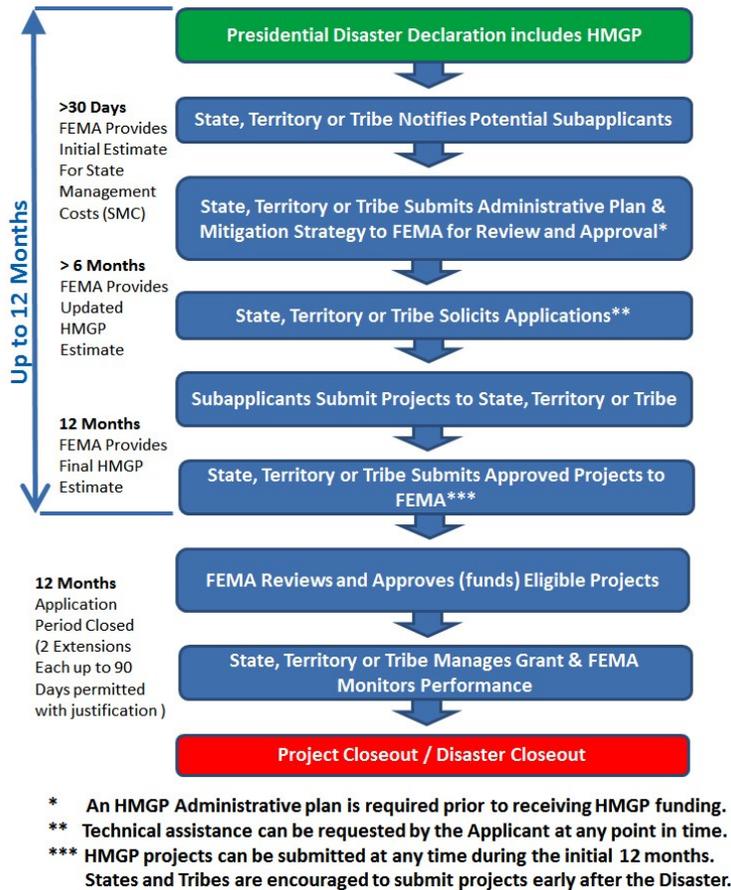
Those eligible to apply for HMGP grants include the emergency management agency or a similar office of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Indian Tribal governments. Each State, Territory, Commonwealth, or Indian Tribal government shall designate one agency to serve as the Applicant for HMGP.

All interested subapplicants must apply to the Applicant. Eligible subapplicants include State agencies, Indian Tribal governments, local governments, and private nonprofit organizations.

Is there a Cost Share for HMGP?

Yes, HMGP grants have a shared cost of 75% Federal funding and 25% non-Federal funding, which is the portion of the funding that the grant applicant or subapplicant will pay.

What is the HMGP Process?



Are Safe Rooms Eligible Under the HMGP? What Requirements Must be Met?

Yes, safe rooms are an eligible activity under the HMGP. Safe room construction projects are designed to provide immediate life-safety protection for people in public and private structures from tornado and severe wind events, including hurricanes.

This type of project includes retrofits of existing facilities or new safe room construction projects, and applies to both single and multi-use facilities.

To be eligible for HMGP funding a safe room project must comply with FEMA publications P-320 *Taking Shelter From the Storm: Building a Safe Room For Your Home or Small Business* or FEMA P-361 *Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms*.

What Other Activities are Eligible under HMGP?

A number of activities are eligible under the HMGP to reduce risk to life and property after a disaster event. Please see the below table.

| Eligible Activities | |
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| 1. 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 | |
| Minor Localized Flood 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 | |
| Generators | |
| 5% Initiative Projects | |
| 2. Hazard Mitigation Planning | |
| 3. Management Costs | |

How do I Get More Information About Safe Room Construction?

FEMA's Risk Reduction Division, Building Science Branch, has developed two excellent resources to assist in the construction of individual safe rooms.

FEMA P-320 - Taking Shelter From the Storm: Building a Safe Room For Your Home or Small Business

This publication will help a property and business owner decide how best to provide near-absolute protection for themselves, their family, or their employees and answers many questions concerning safe rooms. It includes the results of research that has been underway for more than 30 years, by Texas Tech University's Wind Science and Engineering (WISE; formerly known as the Wind Engineering Research Center or WERC) and other wind engineering research facilities, on the effects of extreme winds on buildings.

FEMA P-320 also provides safe room designs that will show property owners and their builder/contractor how to construct a safe room for their home or small business. Design options include safe rooms located in the basement, in the garage, or in an interior room of a new home or small business building. Other options also provide guidance on how to construct an exterior safe room, either buried underground or attached to the existing building, or how to modify an existing home or small business building to add a safe room inside. These safe rooms are designed to provide near-absolute protection from the extreme winds expected during tornadoes and hurricanes and from flying debris that tornadoes and hurricanes usually generate.

For more information visit: <http://www.fema.gov/safe-room-resources/fema-p-320-taking-shelter-storm-building-safe-room-your-home-or-small-business>

FEMA P-361 - Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms

This publication presents design, construction, and operation criteria for both residential and community safe rooms that will provide near-absolute life safety protection during tornado and hurricane events. It provides guidance for architects, engineers, building officials,

local officials and emergency managers, and prospective safe room owners and operators about the design, construction, and operation of community safe rooms in extreme-wind events.

For more information visit: <http://www.fema.gov/safe-room-resources/fema-p-361-design-and-construction-guidance-community-safe-rooms>

What are Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants?

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants provide funds to States, Territories, Tribes and local governments to implement pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation measures that are cost effective and are designed to reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property.

Eligible mitigation measures include: hazard mitigation plans, acquisition of structures, elevation of structures, flood proofing, safe rooms, wind retrofit, minor localized flood reduction projects, etc.

Although PDM is a multi-hazard mitigation program, the majority of projects funded under PDM are related to flood. Some have used PDM to fund the construction of safe rooms (e.g., Alabama, Oklahoma).

The types of projects that are eligible for PDM funding are also eligible for funding under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Approximately ten percent of PDM funds are used to develop State, Tribal and local hazard mitigation plans.

Each State receives a minimum of \$575,000 or one percent of annual appropriated funds, whichever is less. The remaining funds are allocated to States, Territories, Tribes and local governments on a competitive basis.

The Federal cost share for PDM projects is 75 percent.

FEMA has awarded over \$600 Million in PDM funds to States, Tribes and local governments since 2005.

Approximately \$24 Million is available for PDM in FY 2013.

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