

Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunities

October 29, 2021



FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants

Natural Hazard Mitigation is any sustainable action that reduces or eliminates long-term risk to people and property from future natural disasters.

Planning - breaks the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage.

Projects - are long-term solutions that reduce the impact of disasters in the future.

Mitigation in New Mexico

- Federal Emergency Management Agency funds are allocated to the State of New Mexico through the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- Funds “pass through” DHSEM to local entities as sub-grants.

DHSEM Mitigation Unit

- State Hazard Mitigation Officer and Unit Manager - Chelsea Morganti
- State Floodplain Coordinator - Loretta Hatch
- Mitigation Specialists - Jocelyn Padilla, Sara Gerlitz, Sherri Paul

Natural Hazards of New Mexico

- Drought
- Fire
- Flood
- Severe Winter Storms
- Extreme Heat
- Dam Failure
- High Wind
- Tornadoes
- Volcanoes
- Earthquake
- Expansive Soils
- Landslide
- Land Subsidence
- Thunderstorms, Lightning, and Hail

FEMA Community Lifelines



Safety & Security



Food, Water, Shelter



Health & Medical



Energy (Power & Fuel)



Communications



Transportation



Hazardous Material



Law Enforcement/
Security



Food



Medical Care



Power (Grid)



Infrastructure



Highway/Roadway



Facilities



Fire Services



Water



Patient Movement



Fuel



Alerts, Warnings,
& Messages



Mass Transit



HAZMAT, Pollutants,
Contaminants



Search & Rescue



Shelter



Public Health



911 and Dispatch



Railway



Government Services



Agriculture



Fatality Management



Responder
Communications



Aviation



Community Safety



Medical Supply Chain



Finance



Maritime

HMA Family of Grants

Non-Disaster / Annual

- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- Flood Mitigation Assistance

Disaster

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program - Post Fire



Eligible Sub-applicants

- Federally recognized Tribal Governments
- State agencies
- Local communities (includes special districts and quasi-governmental entities)
- Non-profits and Universities (HMGP and HMGP-PF only)

All sub-applicants must have a **FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan** by the federal application deadline and at the time of award (44 CFR 201).

Eligible sub-applicants may apply for funding on behalf of individuals and businesses.

Match Requirement

- 75% federal share and 25% non-federal match
- Non-federal (“local”) match can be in the form of cash, in-kind efforts, or a combination
- Match cannot be federal funds or funds already used as match for another federal award

Exceptions

- Under BRIC:
Communities that meet the federal definition of an “Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community” can receive up to 90% federal with 10% non-federal match
- Under FMA:
FEMA may contribute additional federal share for projects benefiting properties insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) that meet the following definitions:
 - Severe Repetitive Loss - up to 100% federal
 - Repetitive Loss - up to 90% federal

Project Types

Hazard Mitigation Planning

Capability/Capacity Building (“5% projects”)

Construction and Land Disturbance

Hazard Mitigation Planning



- Develop regional and multi-jurisdictional plans
- Integrate public and private partners that can advance resilience
- Incorporate diverse and/or underserved populations
- Integrate mitigation concepts into other plans:
 - Disaster recovery plans
 - Comprehensive plans
 - Capital improvement plans
 - Resource management/conservation plans
 - Resilience or climate change adaptation plans

Planning Activities - Generate New Information



Data Gathering

- Economic Analyses
- Mapping Projects (purchase GIS software/hardware/data)
- Risk Assessments
- Feasibility Studies



Incorporate Concepts

- Climate Adaptation
- Green Building
- Nature-based Solutions
- Preservation of Historic Properties and Cultural Resources Information

Capability and Capacity Building

C&CB activities must result in a resource, strategy, or tangible mitigation product that will reduce or eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards, increase resiliency, and promote a culture of preparedness.

Outreach and Education

Example projects funded in NM include:

- Defensible space and thinning home assessments
 - door-to-door or via GIS assessment
- Arroyo Safety school curriculum developed for Elementary, Middle, and High school students
- Emergency notification systems with automatic alerts
- Flood, Wildfire, and Multi-Hazard Awareness newspaper inserts
- Public awareness meetings and Sim Table presentations

Building Codes

Activities that:

- Evaluate adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk
- Enhance existing adopted codes to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards
- Develop professional workforce capabilities through technical assistance and training

Partnership Projects

- Conduct capability gap analysis
- Determine match fund opportunities
- Provide or attend trainings or conferences on evaluating/pursuing/sustaining partnerships (FEMA RiskMAP workshop)
- Support partnership development - host a partner fair, pursue initiatives with higher education institutions, engage with economic development organizations
- Involve private-sector and Community-Lifeline operators in the mitigation planning processes
- Develop a partner database or online portal
- Pursue mentoring or shadowing programs
- Host a forum or conduct mitigation-related tabletop exercises to build relationships
- Sustain existing partnerships

Project Scoping

Develop and prepare mitigation construction projects.

- Evaluate facilities or areas to determine appropriate mitigation actions
- Feasibility studies
- Meetings, outreach, and coordination with potential partners and community residents
- Surveying
- Conduct hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) studies
- Engineering and Design
- Address environmental planning and historic preservation considerations
- Collect data for Benefit-Cost Analysis

Project Scoping vs. Phasing

Project scoping helps an entity develop a concept or sub-application for a construction or land disturbance project that could be submitted in future grant cycles.

Phasing is for projects that are further along in development, but funding is needed to complete certain technical pieces

Construction and Land Disturbance

Phased vs. “Regular Projects”

Regular Projects are “shovel ready”

Phased Projects are submitted if funds are needed to:

- Conduct surveys or analysis
- Complete 30%, 60%, or 90% design
- Collect data for the FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis or to hire a contractor to conduct the analysis
- Complete the FEMA Environmental and Historic Preservation compliance
 - Biological Assessment
 - Archeological and Cultural Survey
 - Environmental Assessment
 - Etc.



Wildfire Construction and Land Disturbance

Defensible Space

Creation of perimeters around buildings and structures through the removal or reduction of flammable vegetation.

The required radius of defensible space around a building is related to the degree of the hazard and may vary from one building to another.

Topography, specifically slope steepness and direction, and the arrangement, amount, and flammability of the vegetation may require an extended perimeter.



Wildfire Construction and Land Disturbance

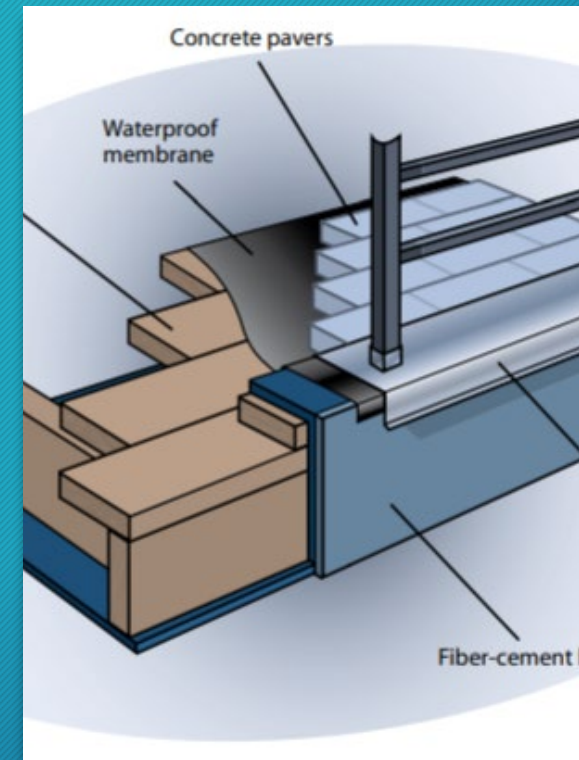
Ignition-Resistant Construction

Structural protection involves the use of noncombustible materials, technologies, and assemblies on new and existing buildings and structures.

Construction materials are fire-resistant in accordance with nationally recognized testing standards, noncombustible, and constitute an assembly that has a minimum 1- hour fire-resistant rating

The property owner must have previously created defensible space or include defensible space in the project application and agree to maintain it.

Construction can include roof assemblies, wall components, protection of fuel tanks, external water hydration and thermal insulation systems.



Wildfire Construction and Land Disturbance

Hazardous Fuels Reduction

The removal or modification of vegetative fuels within 2 miles of an at-risk building or structure that, if ignited, pose a significant threat to human life and property, especially critical facilities.

Includes thinning vegetation, removing ladder fuels, reducing flammable vegetative materials, and replacing flammable vegetation with fire-resistant vegetation.

The project design should include consideration of the landscape and intended function of the project, and the location and orientation of the project site should be designed with consideration of the likely direction and severity of a wildfire.

Wildfire Construction and Land Disturbance

Hazardous Fuels Reduction - Eligible Activities:

- Chemical treatments, including herbicide applications with appropriate safeguards
- Grazing or biomass conversion
- Mechanical treatments (disking, mulching, grinding, mowing, chopping, and removal)
- Biomass removal, including clearing straw, removing dead or dry vegetation, thinning, removal of brush and pine straw, or removing blown-down timber
- Other industry-accepted techniques with FEMA's approval





NM DHSEM Mitigation Unit

DHSEM.mitigation@state.nm.us