



FMA & BRIC Grant Programs Statewide Applicant Briefing Webinar Minutes

Presenters: Susan Harris-Council, Claudia Purser, Kayla Born
 Purpose: FMA & BRIC Grant Programs Statewide Applicant Briefing
 Meeting Location: Webinar/Conference Call Only
 Date and Time: August 3, 2022 at 2:00 PM

These webinar minutes will cover key topics from the presentation. Please refer to the webinar slides and recording for the full information and important points of the programmatic, engineering, and environmental components of the FMA & BRIC grant process.

The recording and slide deck will be available on the Division [website](#). Questions that were asked during the webinar are answered at the end of the minutes.

For more information contact us at non-disasterprograms@em.myflorida.com.

Contents

Introduction	2
Eligibility	2
Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)	2
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	3
Notice of Interest (NOI) Form	4
Application Development	4
Engineering Review	7
Environmental Review	12
Program Support Materials	15
Q & A	17

Introduction

- Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) are FEMA Mitigation grant programs
- Mitigation breaks the cycle of disaster, damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage
- Timelines

Eligibility

- Minimum subapplicant eligibility criteria include:
 - Subapplicant's jurisdiction must have a FEMA-approved local mitigation plan
 - All jurisdictions in multi-jurisdictional plans must have formally adopted their Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)
 - All jurisdictions must participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) (communities on probation or suspended from the NFIP are not eligible)
- Project Eligibility – all mitigation measures submitted to the state must:
 - Be consistent with the State Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - Provide a long-term solution
 - Be located in a vulnerable area as identified in the LMS plan
 - Be technically feasible and meet cost effectiveness and environmental regulations
 - Identify a non-federal match source
- Program Funding
 - FMA and BRIC are cost-reimbursement grant programs
 - Sub-recipient Management Costs (SRMC) are available up to 5% of the total project cost
 - Project cost share – if a non-federal match is required, the subapplicant must provide the match which can be fashioned from a combination of cash and in-kind services (44 CFR 206.432(c)).
- Cost share requirements – generally FEMA will reimburse up to 75% of the total project cost
 - BRIC – typical projects are 75% federal, 25% non-federal
 - FEMA will pay up to 90% federal share for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities
 - Subrecipient management costs are up to 100% federal share
 - FMA
 - Severe Repetitive Loss properties: 100% federal share
 - Repetitive Loss properties: 90% federal share
 - Non-RL/SRL properties: 75% federal share

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

- If the project will result in a mitigated structure, the structures identified in the subapplication must have an active NFIP policy in effect at the FMA application period start date and must maintain it for the life of the structure, regardless of flood zone or selling the property

- If the project is to acquire and demolish a structure, the structures identified in the subapplication must have an NFIP policy in effect at the FMA application period start date and must maintain it until the transfer of property occurs regardless of flood zone
- Eligible project types:









FMA Eligible Activities

- Acquisition/Demolition
- Acquisition/Relocation
- Elevation of structures
- Mitigation Reconstruction
- Dry Floodproofing of Historic Structures
- Dry Floodproofing of Non-Residential Structures
- Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects
- Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings
- Non-Structural Retrofitting of Existing Buildings and Facilities
- Infrastructure Retrofit
- Soil Stabilization
- Project Scoping – Individual Home & Community Flood
- Miscellaneous/Other**

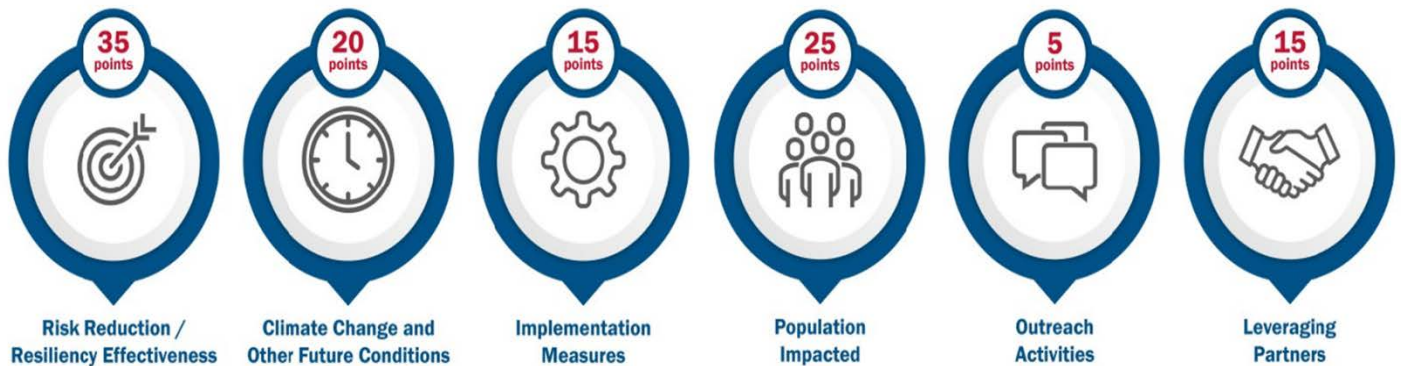


Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

- States receive a small allocation of funding, the remaining funding is the National Competition
- Scoring Criteria: Technical and Qualitative
 - Technical Criteria

 <p>20 points</p> <p>Infrastructure project</p>	 <p>15 points</p> <p>Mitigates risk to one or more lifelines</p>	 <p>10 points</p> <p>Incorporates nature-based solutions</p>	 <p>20 (or 10) points</p> <p>Applicant has mandatory tribal-, territory-, or state-wide building code adoption requirement <small>(recent versions of International Building Code and International Residential Code)</small></p>
 <p>20 points</p> <p>Subapplicant has Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule Rating of 1 to 5</p>	 <p>10 points</p> <p>Application generated from a previous qualifying award or the subapplicant is a past recipient of BRIC non-financial Direct Technical Assistance</p>	 <p>5 points</p> <p>A non-federal cost share of at least 30% <small>(or, for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities, a non-federal cost share of at least 12%)</small></p>	 <p>15 points</p> <p>Designation as an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community</p>

- Qualitative Criteria



- BRIC Direct Technical Assistance
 - Non-Financial assistance to assist communities with improving resiliency to natural hazards, sustaining successful mitigation programs, submitting high-quality applications, and implementing innovating projects to reduce risk

Notice of Interest (NOI) Form

- A form which allows a potential sub-applicant to indicate interest in pursuing a mitigation activity under FMA or BRIC for FY 2022 prior to developing and submitting a full subapplication
 - In response to the submittal of an NOI form, FDEM will provide programmatic, engineering, and environmental feedback on the proposed project
- FY 2022 NOI Form will be emailed out with FDEM’s notice announcing the FMA and BRIC application cycle and will be available on the website
- Using the NOI Form is strongly recommended
 - It will be required in FY 2023
- Submit completed NOI form via email: non-disasterprograms@em.myflorida.com

Application Development

- How to Apply:
 - Eligible Subapplicants must create an account and apply for funding using FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) at the FEMA GO Portal <https://go.fema.gov/>
 - Once an account is created, please send an e-mail to non-disasterprograms@em.myflorida.com so that we may approve the user (as a SAR or SM).
 - Visit FEMA Grants Outcome (FEMA GO) for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants to view the technical user manuals and support materials <https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/fema-go>
- Ensure the program for which you are applying is identified within the subapplication title
 - Example: FMA – Evergreen County Elevation Project
 - Note: do not use street name or property owner’s name in title

- Example: BRIC – City of Evergreen Wind Retrofit Project
- General Subapplicant Information Required

General Subapplicant Information Required

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name of Applicant Organization ● Applicant type ● County/Countries ● State Legislative/ Congressional District(s) ● Federal Tax Identification Number ● FIPS Code ● UEI number ● FFATA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point of Contact ● National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Community Identification Number ● Application Preparer Information ● Duly Authorized Representative ● LMS Letter of Support |
|---|--|

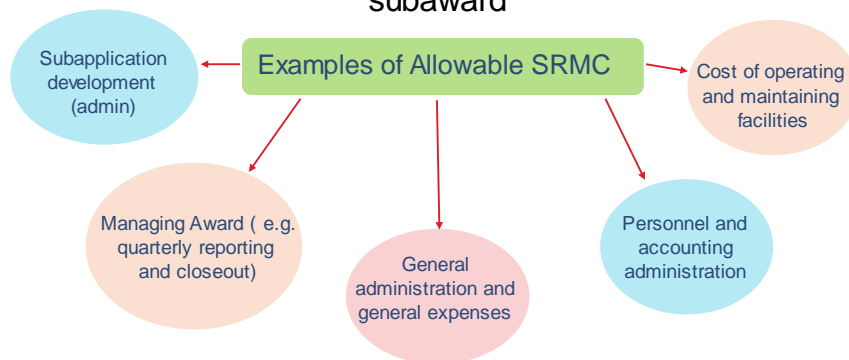


- LMS Letter of Support
 - All subapplications must have a signed letter of support from the LMS Chair that identifies how the project meets the LMS goals and objectives
 - Subapplications without an LMS letter of support will NOT be processed
- Scope of Work
 - Determine that the proposed activity is an eligible mitigation activity
 - Completely answers all questions
 - Provide clear and detailed description of proposed activity and how activity will be implemented
 - Provide supporting documentation and historical data
- Pre-Award Costs
 - These are costs incurred prior to the date of the grant award (there is no start date for when they can be incurred)
 - Examples: gathering NEPA data, developing BCA, design specs, conducting workshops for application development, etc.
 - These must be approved by the State and FEMA and must be requested within the subapplication budget
 - If a project is not approved, pre-award costs will be the sole responsibility of the subapplicant
- Budget Development
 - Must provide detailed costs of the project for a Benefit-Cost Analysis, including:
 - Pre-award costs (list individually)

- Construction costs (labor, materials, etc.)
 - Other costs/fees (permitting, engineering, etc.)
 - Sub-recipient management costs
 - Funds commitment letter for the non-federal share
 - For more information: 44 CFR 13.24
- Lump sums are NOT acceptable
- Must provide the source of the cost estimates such as contractor estimate, vendor quotes, or an estimating tool (RS Means, Cost Works, Bni, etc.)
- Sub-recipient management costs (SRMC)
 - SRMC are available upon request
 - This keeps management funds and project funds separate
 - Must be requested within the subapplication
 - Can only be used for indirect costs and/or administrative expenses associated with the project
 - Cannot exceed 5% of the total project costs
 - For BRIC only: SRMC is funded at 100% federal cost share

Subrecipient Management Costs (SRMC)

Management costs are any indirect costs and administrative expenses that are reasonably incurred by a Recipient or Sub-Recipient in administering an award or subaward



**These activities are not an exhaustive list and are subject to State/FEMA approval*



- Project Schedule of Work
 - Identify milestones and include all phases of the project (i.e. project design)
 - Number of days to complete (i.e. 6 months)
 - BRIC only: Go/No-Go Milestones

- Subapplicant must identify at least one Go/No-Go milestone in the work schedule for mitigation projects submitted to the national competition that FEMA will review and approve
- Cannot exceed 36 months (only exception is for community flood mitigation projects which cannot exceed 48 months)

Engineering Review

- Engineering Lead Contact: Claudia Purser; Claudia.Purser@em.myflorida.com
- BRIC and FMA are competitive programs so your project must be better than other projects from around the nation to be selected for funding
- Read FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Guidance
- When looking for assistance, be sure to find professionals with experience in HMA funding and Benefit Cost Analysis
- Engineering review includes reviewing many sections of a subapplication:
 - Sub applicant information, contact information
 - Scope of work, schedule
 - Budget, cost effectiveness
 - Attachments
- Contact Information – make sure the point of contact (POC) for the project is available to respond to RFIs and provide additional information (cannot be a consultant)
- Scope of Work (SOW) – required
 - Please answer all scope of work questions
 - Adding a separate document with answers is strongly recommended, we can provide a template to the POC
 - Information to include for a complete SOW
 - Who will be doing the work
 - Where is the project going to be located
 - The existing problem
 - Population affected
 - Description of the work to be completed
 - How will the project be implemented (phased)
 - Level of protection the project will provide
 - Tip: avoid being repetitive

FEMA GO | Grants | Organizations | Grant/Subgrant ID | Claudia Purser

Project subapplication

- Subapplicant information
- Contact information
- Community
- Mitigation plan
- Scope of work**
- Schedule
- Budget
- Cost-effectiveness

Hazard sources

Primary hazard source

Secondary hazard source (optional)

Tertiary hazard source (optional)

Is this a phased project?

Are you doing construction in this project?

Population affected

Detail/description of stated percentage

Provide a clear and detailed description of your proposed activity

How will the mitigation activity be implemented?

Describe how the project is technically feasible and will be effective in reducing the risk by reducing or eliminating damage to property and/or loss of life in the project area. Please include engineering design parameters and references to the following: preliminary schematic or engineering drawings/design; applicable building codes; engineering practices and/or best practices; level of protection (e.g., life safety, 100-yr flood protection with freeboard, 100-yr wind design, etc.).

Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?

Will the project address the hazards identified and what risks will remain from all hazards after project implementation (residual risk)?

When will the mitigation activity take place?

Explain why this project is the best alternative. What alternatives were considered to address the risk and why was the proposed activity considered the best alternative?

Please identify the entity that will perform any long-term maintenance and provide a maintenance, schedule and cost information. The subapplicant or owner of the area to be mitigated is responsible for maintenance (including costs of long-term care) after the project is completed?

Additional comments (optional)

Attachments

Filename	Date uploaded	Uploaded by	Label	Description	Action

- Schedule – required
 - Must not exceed the program timeframe
 - List all tasks the project will include
 - Be consistent with your SOW
 - Be consistent with you Budget

FEMA GO | Grants | Organizations | Grant/Subgrant ID | Claudia Purser

Project subapplication

- Subapplicant information
- Contact information
- Community
- Mitigation plan
- Scope of work
- Schedule**
- Budget
- Cost-effectiveness

Hills of Santa Fe Acquisition, Demolition and Drainage improvements 10002 and 10012 NW 25th Place

Status: Submitted to recipient

Schedule

Specify the work schedule for the mitigation activities.

Add tasks to the schedule

Please include all tasks necessary to implement this mitigation activity; include descriptions and estimated time frames.

Task Name	Start Month	Task Duration (in Months)	Task Description
Acquisition of two houses	1	3 months	The County and home owners will come to agreement on a purchase price and execute a contract. Upon processing of all applicable real estate documents, the closing will occur.
Survey	4	1 months	A topographic and boundary survey will be conducted to confirm property boundary lines and obtain existing grade elevations to be used for the design of the pond.
Design	5	2 months	A hydrologic model will be run of the area to confirm final pond size utilizing the field survey elevations. A grading plan of the pond will be prepared indicating layout, depth, side slopes. A storm water pump will be sized and located with a discharge detail to convey the flood waters to the offsite north area.
Bid Phase	7	2 months	The County will advertise the work to solicit bids from qualified contractors. The bids will be reviewed and a contractor selected.

- Budget – required
 - Lump sums are not allowed
 - Provide detailed activities
 - Attach a detailed project budget
 - Be consistent between the attachment and the answers in the system
 - New: SRMC will not be a part of the BCA

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Budget type: Construction

Project subapplication

Subapplicant information
 Contact information
 Community
 Mitigation plan
 Scope of work
 Schedule
 Budget
 Cost-effectiveness

Environmental/Historic Preservation (EHP) Review Information

A. National Historic Preservation Act - Historic Buildings and Structures
 B. National Historic Preservation Act - Archeological Resources
 C. Endangered Species Act and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
 D. Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act, and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands)
 E. Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)
 F. Coastal Zone Management Act
 G. Farmland Protection Policy Act
 H. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) (Hazardous and Toxic Materials)
 I. Executive Order 12890, Environmental Justice for Low-

Cost type: Cost estimate **\$2,161,224.46**

Cost estimate is the line item(s) budget to support the scope of work for the execution and completion of the project. Be sure to include the cost associated with revisions/normal adoption. To add a line item, please click on the Add an item button. Click anywhere within each row or the arrow to edit or delete the line item(s)

Cost Items

Item: Sodding	\$1,980.00
Item: Maintenance of Traffic	\$40,022.68
Item: Dredging & Disposal of Dredged Materials - Seminole	\$74,448.00
Item: Dredging & Disposal of Dredged Materials - Pine to	\$218,295.00
Item: Sediment & Erosion Control	\$17,050.00
Item: Bank Regrading	\$3,960.00
Item: Design/Permitting/Data Collection	\$90,051.02
Item: Dredging & Disposal of Dredged Materials - Plaza AI	\$76,824.00
Item: Construction Engineering and Inspection	\$180,102.04

- Cost Effectiveness
 - The State Tech Unit will run the Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) for all projects, using approved methodologies
 - All values on BCA must be supported with attachments
 - The state will answer questions on this section
 - Any answers entered may be modified to match our BCA
 - Any BCA prepared by the subapplicant or their consultant will be reviewed, but will be removed from the subapplication to avoid confusion
 - Irrelevant attachments will be removed to avoid confusion
 - State Tech Unit will attach a recommendation for funding supporting your project and the BCA

FEMA GO | Grants | Organizations | Grant/Subgrant ID | Test | 0 results found | Status: Pending submission | Claudia Purser

Test

Project subapplication

- Subapplicant information
- Contact information
- Community
- Mitigation plan
- Scope of work
- Schedule
- Budget
- Cost-effectiveness**
- Environmental/Historic Preservation (EHP) Review information
- A. National Historic Preservation Act - Historic Buildings and Structures
- B. National Historic Preservation Act - Archeological Resources
- C. Endangered Species Act and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
- D. Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act, and Executive Order 11988 (Protection of Wetlands)
- E. Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)
- F. Coastal Zone Management Act
- G. Farmland Protection Policy Act
- H. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) (Hazardous and Toxic Materials)
- I. Executive Order 12096, Environmental Justice for Low

Cost-effectiveness

How was cost-effectiveness determined for this project?

- BCA completed in FEMA's BCA Toolkit
- Pre-calculated benefits
- Substantial damage in special flood hazard area
- Other BCA methodology approved by FEMA in writing
- Not applicable
- Not applicable

What are the total project benefits? (\$)

What are the total project cost? (\$)

What is the benefit-cost ratio (BCR) for the entire project?

Was sea level rise incorporated into the flood elevations in the BCA?

Were environmental benefits added to the project benefits?

Were social benefits added to the project benefits?

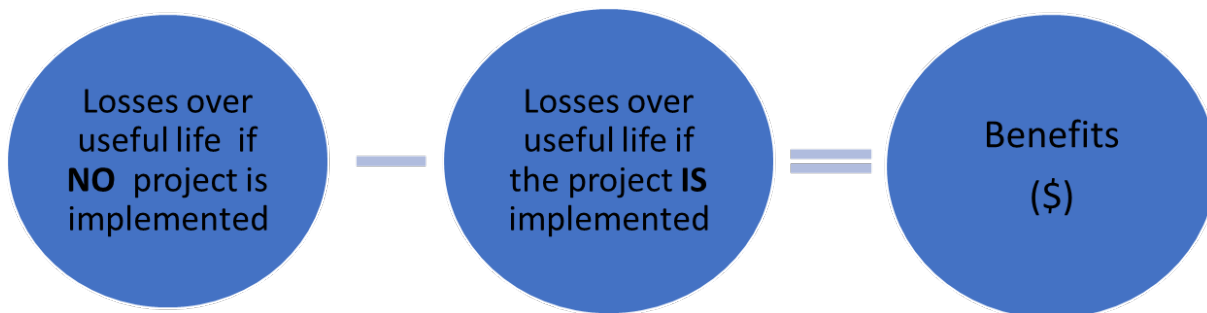
Does the mitigation measure incorporate nature-based solutions?

Please provide any additional comments below (optional).

Attachments

Filename	Date uploaded	Uploaded by	Label	Description	Action
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- **Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)**
 - The analysis is completed using FEMA's BCA Toolkit (version 6.0)



- There are 3 ways to run a BCA
 - **Modeled Damages** – using available technical data to enter info on tool and allow it to calculate damages and benefits
 - Flood Insurance Study
 - Elevation Certificate
 - Property Appraiser
 - ASCE 7-16
 - FDOT traffic counts
 - **Historical Damages** – using available historical records
 - Flooding photos
 - Insurance claims
 - Homeowner affidavits

- Historical road closures
 - 911 records
 - Utility outages
- Professional Expected Damages – using expected damages calculated and certified by the correct professional
 - Signed and Sealed information from the Engineer of Record
 - Damages using Depth Damaged Function tables
 - H&H studies
- Types of benefits
 - Avoided physical damages
 - Avoided emergency response costs
 - Avoided Loss-of-Function Impacts
 - Avoided injuries and casualties
 - Non-traditional benefits
- What we look for when collecting benefits to run the BCA:
 - Clear explanation of the problem
 - Clear explanation of the solution
 - Activities that will take place
 - Maintenance cost (required)
 - Location
 - Property details
 - Affected customers
 - Level of protection (most important)
 - Maps
 - Conceptual Designs (required)
 - If designed, set of construction plans
 - Damage calculations (if available)
 - Any other attachment that can help explain the benefits to the area and the community
- Key points
 - Do not attach irrelevant information or duplicated files in FEMA GO
 - Make sure your application contains consistent information
 - Guide the reader to understand your application
- BCA Exceptions
 - Elevations in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) under \$205,000
 - Acquisitions in the SFHA under \$323,000
 - Acquisitions for Repetitive Loss (RL) and Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) properties outside the SFHA that meet specific qualifiers and definitions per FEMA HQ memo dated 2/15/2022
 - Wind Retrofit for Non-Residential Buildings with a mitigation cost under 10% of its Building Replacement Value

- Must be located in the wind-borne debris area and structure frame must consist of steel, concrete, or reinforced masonry
 - Wind Retrofit for Residential Buildings under the cost of specific packages on FEMA’s job aid
 - Must comply with all activities from each package
 - Precalculated Benefits for Certain Hospital Generators
 - Must have an Emergency Department, be a stand-alone project, total project cost must be less than pre-calculated benefits: \$6.95 per gross area, \$12.62 for rural hospitals
- Score you application using FEMA’s criteria so you can understand what the reviewer will see on your project

Environmental Review

- EHP Lead Contact: Kayla Born; Kayla.Born@em.myflorida.com
- EHP Reviews ensure projects seeking federal funding are compliant with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
- NEPA
 - All federal agencies must assess the environmental effects of the proposed action
 - NEPA is an umbrella law encompassing other Acts and Executive Orders
- FEMA GO
 - FEMA GO has sections for the major environmental laws and regulations reviewed
 - You can select “Yes,” “No,” or “Unknown” for each law
 - If “Yes” is selected, a drop down of required and optional documents is displayed
 - If “No” is selected, the related documentation is still extremely helpful and should be attached (even just as a general attachment)

FEMA GO

Environmental/Historic Preservation (EHP) Review Information

Introduction

An environmental/historic preservation review is required for all activities for which FEMA funds are being requested. FEMA will complete this review with the assistance of both the state or local government and the local applicant. It is important that you provide accurate information. If you are having problems completing this section, please contact your application point of contact.

A. National Historic Preservation Act - Historic Buildings and Structures

1. Does your project affect or is it in close proximity to any buildings or structures 50 years or more in age?

B. National Historic Preservation Act - Archeological Resources

Does your project involve disturbance of ground?

C. Endangered Species Act and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act

1. Are federally listed threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat present in the area affected by the project?

2. Does your project remove or affect vegetation?

3. Is your project in, near (within 200 feet), or likely to affect any type of waterway or body of water?

D. Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act, and Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands)

1. Will the project involve dredging or disposal of dredged material, excavation, adding fill material or result in any modification to water bodies or wetlands designated as waters of the U.S. as identified by the US Army Corps of Engineers or on the National Wetland Inventory?

E. Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management)

1. Does a Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM), hydrologic study, or some other source indicate that the project is located in or will affect a 100 year floodplain, a 500 year floodplain if a critical facility, an identified regulatory floodway, or an area prone to flooding?



- National Historic Preservation Act
 - Important Documents to include:
 - Maps detailing where project activities will be
 - Photos: clear and cover all sides of structures or areas disturbed
 - 1:24,000 USGS Topographic map
 - Description and map of any ground disturbance
 - Description of the features of structures that are being altered
- Endangered Species Act
 - The answer to this question in FL is always 'Yes'
 - A list of species can be found at the following link: <https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/>
 - County list is acceptable.
- Wetlands and Waterbodies
 - FEMA uses the National Wetlands Inventory to determine wetland locations
 - If the project occurs in or near a mapped wetland or a waterbody, a consultation with US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) or Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) is required (depending on location)
 - Projects within mapped floodplains, that affect floodplains, or are being implemented to reduce flood risk or flood loss require public involvement and project alternatives
 - FDEM staff will provide public notice templates and guides - public notice comment periods are between 15 and 30 days depending on project type
 - Project alternatives should include detailed descriptions and explanations of why it wasn't chosen
- Coastal Zone Management Act
 - The answer to this question should always be 'Yes'
 - Projects along beaches and near the Coastal Construction Control Line (CCCL) may require FDEP permitting or consultation.
- Farmlands
 - Are there over 5 acres of land being converted to a different land use?
 - Mostly looking at areas outside cities
- Hazardous and Toxic Material
 - Resource Conservation and Recover Act (RCRA) and Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)
 - Includes:
 - Asbestos & asbestos containing material
 - Lead-based pain
 - Paints & solvents
 - Coolants
 - Petroleum products
 - Unusable equipment
 - Any Superfund sites in or near the project location?

- Environmental Justice
 - FEMA considers all project locations as areas with potential to impact low income or minority populations
 - If the project provides benefits to these populations, include a description

Environmental Justice

FEMA considers all project locations as areas with potential to impact low income or minority populations

I. Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice for Low Income and Minority Populations

1. Are there low income or minority populations in the project's area of effect or adjacent to the project area?

Yes

If Yes, you must confirm that you have provided the following either in the text box below or by attachment: (If you have not provided these documents in any other section of the application, please attach the required documents or provide the description below.)

Description of any disproportionate and adverse effects to these populations.

To help FEMA evaluate the impact of the project, please indicate below any other information you are providing. (optional)

Description of the population affected and the portion of the population that would be disproportionately and adversely affected. Please include specific efforts to address the adverse impacts in your proposal narrative and budget.

Attached materials or additional comments.

Please provide an explanation and any information about this project that could assist FEMA in its review. (optional)

No

Not known

If the project provides benefits to these populations, include a description

- Attachments – at a minimum include the following:
 - Complete and detailed Scope of Work
 - Coordinates in decimal degree format (Example: 28.123456, -80.123456)
 - Photos (minimum of 4)
 - Aerial map outlining project areas
 - FIRM/FIRMette
 - USGS Topographic map (1:24000 scale)
 - Any applicable permits obtained or permit applications
 - For structures: documentation showing year built (property appraiser)
- Key Points
 - Answer all questions in FEMA Go to the best of your ability
 - Respond to Requests for Information (RFI) as soon as possible and answer all parts of the RFIs

Program Support Materials

FMA

FDEM's FMA Website: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/mitigation/flood-mitigation-assistance-program/>

FEMA's FMA Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>

- FY 2022 FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity & Fact Sheet (*forthcoming*)
- FMA Resources:
 - FMA Community Flood Mitigation Project Fact Sheet
 - FMA Individual Flood Mitigation Fact Sheet
 - FMA Project Scoping Fact Sheet
 - Geospatial File Eligibility Criteria in Flood Mitigation Grant Applications

BRIC

FDEM's BRIC Website: <https://www.floridadisaster.org/dem/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-and-communities-bric-grant-program/>

FEMA's BRIC Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities>

- FY 2022 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity & Fact Sheet (*forthcoming*)
- BRIC Resources:
 - BRIC Technical Criteria
 - BRIC Qualitative Criteria
 - BRIC Building Codes Activities
 - BRIC Mitigation Planning Activities
 - BRIC Partnership Activities
 - BRIC Project Scoping Activities
 - BRIC Phased Projects
 - BRIC Direct Technical Assistance
 - BRIC Tribal Information
 - Mitigation Action Portfolio

Additional Resources

Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance & Addendum:

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/hazard-mitigation-assistance-guidance>

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Job Aids: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/job-aids>

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Cost Share Guide: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-08/fema_hma_cost-share-guide.pdf

FEMA Webinar Series: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/applying/webinars>

FEMA GO Help Desk:

- For technical questions such as error messages or forgotten password
femago@fema.dhs.gov
1-877-585-3242

HMA Helpline:

- For programmatic questions about HMA grant programs such as eligibility
1-866-222-3580

BCA Helpline:

- For assistance using FEMA's Benefit Cost Analysis tool
BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov
1-855-540-6744

Feasibility and Effectiveness Helpline: FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov

Environmental and Historic Preservation Helpline:

- To assist applicants and sub-applicants with questions about grant applications and requirements for environmental and historic preservation compliance
EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov
1-866-222-3580

Q & A

General

Regarding the competitive nature of the BRIC grants, are the projects competing on a national level against all other projects or does each state receive an allocation and projects are competing on a state level for a portion of the state allocation?

- For the BRIC program, there is a state allocation and national competition allocation. The specific allocations will be in the NOFO when it is published.

Are FMA/BRIC applications submitted directly to FDEM or are they done through the county like HMA grants?

- Sub-applications are submitted directly by the county, or eligible subapplicant, using the FEMA go system.

For Elevation Projects, since SRL or RL properties are a higher priority, is there a strategy to include (1) RL property with several NON RL properties to be selected for review by FEMA?

- FDEM does not recommend placing one SRL or RL property with several Non-SRL/RL properties on a subapplication. If the scenario was a reversed (several SRL/RL and one non-SRL/RL property), it may have a chance for consideration. We have seen similar scenarios like that funded in the past; however, we are not privy to FEMA's selection process and cannot guarantee either scenario will be funded.

Do the various regulatory compliance reviews have to be completed prior to submitting an application for funding or only after the application is selected by FEMA for further review?

- We understand that these programs are competitive, and some projects may not be selected by FEMA for further review, making the investment into permitting applications a bit daunting. We do not require that permits be obtained before being selected by FEMA for further review. If the permitting process has been initiated, we would appreciate any documentation related to it to be uploaded in FEMA GO. During the State's review process, an Environmental Specialist will likely reach out to you if they believe a project falls into a category where a permit or a notice of No Permit Required is needed. This does not mean that a permit must be submitted at that time, but please let us know if any coordination with the permitting agency has occurred or if you will be waiting for the result of the FEMA selections before obtaining them.

Is it possible for your office to provide examples from other states BRIC projects that reduce heat impacts or successful multi-jurisdiction applications that address flooding?

- We have communicated to FEMA that we would like to see more examples of successful mitigation projects at all levels for different hazard types
- To see a summary of previously selected BRIC projects, see the following:
<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities/after-apply/fy-2021-subapplication-status#subapplications>

- If you haven't previously, we recommend checking out FEMA's Mitigation Action Portfolio: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/feam_fy21-bric-mitigation-action-portfolio.pdf

Construction costs have changed drastically due to local and national demand and availability. How does FEMA make allowances for this?

- We have communicated this issue to FEMA but ultimately it is up to them to address.

FY21

Explain what is meant by "Identified for Further Review" and why is a good thing.

- Identified for Further Review means the project has made it to the next step. Essentially it means that the project has been selected and as long as it meets criteria it will move forward through the review and eventually the award.

Can you provide application scores from the last cycle for applications that were not awarded?

- We do not have final scores for any subapplications submitted to FEMA. We do not know if this information can be provided, but we will ask FEMA.

FY22

When will the NOFO for BRIC come out?

- FEMA issued the NOFO for BRIC and FMA on 08/12/2022.
- BRIC: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy22-bric-nofo_08052022.pdf
- FMA: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy22-fma-nofo_08052022_0.pdf

The NOI (Notice of Interest Form) on the website still states 2021 is that ok to use for 2022 projects?

- We will be providing a new updated NOI form with the NOFO announcement so hold off for now. It will also be uploaded on the website after the announcement. The information requested will be very similar to the 2021 NOI, so we encourage you to use that as a resource prepare for the 2022 NOI.

What if the LMS chair is the one submitting an application? Do they need to get a letter from someone else?

- You can do the letter of support as the LMS Chair and also submit a project. If you feel more comfortable to have the vice chair sign the letter, that is fine too. In the letter, indicate the project has the support of the group, that will suffice.

What is the recommendation from FDEM, one large project or several small projects?

- This is up to the subapplicant and the grant management capability. There is not a limit on the number of subapplications a subapplicant can submit; however, it can be challenging to handle multiple requests for information and to manage multiple projects. Additionally, if projects are tied to each other then if one is held up the other could be held up as well. When deciding the Point of Contact,

please make sure that person, or persons, will be available throughout the life of the project or can help transition to a replacement project manager.

Eligibility

Would a stormwater pump station needed for sea level rise be considered resilient infrastructure under the BRIC program?

- Mitigating a stormwater pump station against the risk of sea level rise is an eligible project under BRIC.

Would electric infrastructure hardening qualify for BRIC under infrastructure retrofit or resilient infrastructure?

- We would need more details of what is being proposed to answer this question; however, some activities related to electrical (or any other utility) infrastructure are eligible under the BRIC program.

For project scoping, would that include the design of generators for shelter locations?

- Project scoping activities are designed to develop mitigation strategies and obtain data to prioritize, select, and develop complete applications in a timely manner that result in either an improvement in the capability to identify appropriate mitigation projects or in the development of an application-ready mitigation projects for BRIC or another funding opportunity.
- Please refer to FEMA's Fact Sheet on BRIC Project Scoping Activities:
https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy21-bric-project-scoping-psm.pdf

If applying for drainage work, can we use design costs as a pre-award item?

- Pre-award costs directly related to developing the BRIC grant application or subapplication that are incurred prior to the date of the grant award are allowed and subject to FEMA approval at time of award. Such costs may have been incurred prior to application submission, for example gathering NEPA data or developing a BCA (see Section D, Application and Submission Information), preparing design specifications, or conducting workshops or meetings related to development and submission of subapplications. To be eligible for BRIC funding, pre-award costs must be identified in an individual line item in the cost estimate of the subapplication.
- Pre-award costs may be cost shared or applicants and subapplicants may identify them as their non-federal cost share.

Is plan development eligible under either one of these grants? If so, how can we make it score high?

- Mitigation plan development is eligible under BRIC. Please see the following for more information https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy21-bric-mitigation-planning-psm.pdf. These activities do not tend to score high. When looking at the state allocation pot of money, there may be an opportunity to fund planning activities depending on what projects are submitted. However, it is not a priority for the state at this time.
- Flood hazard planning, sometimes referred to as a Flood Management Plan (FMP), is eligible under FMA.