FY 2017 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program

As appropriated by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31); the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program provides resources to assist states, tribal governments, territories and local communities in their efforts to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program, as authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5133).

The 2015 Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Unified Guidance applies to the FY 2017 PDM Grant Program application cycle. Applicants are encouraged to review the Notice of Funding Opportunity announcement and the HMA Guidance for detailed information regarding eligibility and to contact their FEMA Regional Office for additional information.

Funding

The total amount of funds that will be distributed under the FY 2017 PDM Grant Program will be $90,000,000.

- All 50 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to receive an allocation of 1% of the appropriation, or $575,000, in accordance with Section 203(f)(1) of the Stafford Act.
- Ten percent of the appropriated PDM funding, or $10 million, will be set aside for Federally-recognized Native American Tribal applicants to receive an allocation of $575,000 per tribe.
- The balance of PDM Grant Program funds will be distributed on a competitive basis to all eligible applicants.
- No applicant may receive more than 15 percent, or $15 million, of the appropriated PDM funding per Section 203(f)(2) of the Stafford Act.

Eligibility

All 50 States, the District of Columbia, Federally-recognized Native American Tribal governments, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible to apply for the FY 2017 PDM Grant Program as Applicants. Local governments including cities, townships, counties, special district governments, and Native American tribal organizations are considered Sub-applicants and must apply to their state/territory.

Either the state Emergency Management Agency (EMA) or the office that has primary emergency management responsibility is eligible to apply directly to FEMA for PDM Grant Program funds as an Applicant; however, only one PDM grant application will be accepted from each state, tribe or territory.
Applicants and Subapplicants must have a FEMA approved mitigation plan as of the application deadline in order to apply for mitigation projects in accordance with Title 44 CFR Part 201.

**Funding Guidelines**

The maximum federal share for PDM sub-applications is as follows:
- $4 million for mitigation projects
- $400,000 for new mitigation plans
- $300,000 for state/territory and multi-jurisdictional local/tribal plan updates
- $150,000 for single jurisdiction local/tribal mitigation plan updates
- 10 percent of the plan and project cost estimate for information dissemination activities including public awareness and education (brochures, workshops, videos, etc.) related to a proposed planning or project activity in accordance with the Stafford Act
- 5 percent of plan and project cost estimate for subapplicant management costs for local government EMA to manage the proposed activity
- 10 percent of grant application budget for applicant management costs for state/territory/tribal EMA to manage the plan and projects activities

Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. Small, impoverished communities may be eligible for up to a 90 percent Federal cost share in accordance with the Stafford Act. The remaining eligible activity costs must be derived from non-Federal sources.

The period of performance for the PDM Grant Program begins with the opening of the application period and ends no later than 36 months from the date that FEMA announces the status of the FY 2017 sub-applications.

**Key FY 2017 PDM Grant Program Changes**

- FEMA revised the application limits from FY 2016:
  - There is no limit to the number of planning and project sub-applications that can be submitted towards the state/territorial allocation or the Tribal set aside for a maximum of $575,000 Federal share per Applicant;
  - There is no limit to the number of competitive planning sub-applications that can be submitted per Applicant;
  - A maximum of 9 competitive project sub-applications can be submitted per Applicant;
  - Any state/tribal EMA willing to serve as the Applicant for a multi-state or multi-tribal project may submit one additional competitive project for a maximum of 10 competitive project sub-applications.
• FEMA revised the competitive priorities for funding: multi-state/tribal mitigation activities; competitive mitigation planning sub-applications from applicants with less than $400,000 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) planning funds available and competitive project sub-applications from applications with less than $4 million HMGP project funding available before competitive sub-applications from Applicants with at least those amounts of HMGP planning and project funds available.

• FEMA added an emphasis on public-private partnerships as well as the Applicant’s ranking of its competitive sub-applications in the selection of competitive for funding.

Application Submission and Review Process

Applications and sub-applications for the PDM Grant Program must be submitted via the Mitigation eGrants system on the FEMA Grants Portal: https://portal.fema.gov. If a Sub-applicant does not use the eGrants system, then the Applicant must enter the paper sub-application(s) into the eGrants system on the Sub-applicant’s behalf.

Applicants must rank all of the subapplications included in their PDM grant application in the eGrants system, including their Management Costs subapplication for their proposed applicant management costs. To be eligible for the State/Territory allocation or Tribal set aside, the Applicant’s highest ranked planning and/or project subgrant application must not exceed $575,000 Federal share. If an Applicant’s highest ranked planning or project sub-application exceeds $575,000 Federal share, then the Applicant will not receive the allocation, and FEMA will consider all of the Applicant’s sub-applications on a competitive basis only. In addition, if an Applicant submits competitive project sub-applications in excess of the maximum allowed, FEMA will only review the competitive projects up to the maximum allowed in order of the Applicant’s ranking.

PDM Grant Program applications will undergo a complete eligibility review within their respective FEMA Region. FEMA will review planning and project sub-applications plus one management sub-application submitted by each applicant through the Mitigation eGrants system to ensure compliance with the HMA Guidance, including eligibility of the applicant and sub-applicant; eligibility of proposed activities and costs; completeness of the sub-application; cost effectiveness and engineering feasibility of projects; and eligibility and availability of non-Federal cost share.

Evaluation Criteria

FEMA will select eligible planning and project sub-applications in order of the agency’s priorities for the FY 2017 PDM Grant Program:

1. State/Territory Allocation for mitigation planning and project sub-applications up to $575,000 Federal share per states/territories/District of Columbia
2. Tribal set aside of $10 million for mitigation planning and project sub-applications up to $575,000 Federal share per Federally-recognized Tribal applicant
3. Competitive mitigation activities:
   a. Multi-State/Tribal mitigation initiatives
   b. Mitigation planning sub-applications from Applicants that have less than $400,000 HMGP planning funds available
c. Projects from Applicants that have less than $4 million HMGP project funds available in the following order:
   i. Non-flood hazard (e.g., seismic, wildfire, landslide, wind and drought) mitigation projects
   ii. Flood mitigation activities except acquisition, elevation, or mitigation reconstruction (e.g., stormwater management and flood control measures)
   iii. Acquisition, elevation and mitigation reconstruction projects
   iv. Generators for critical facilities

d. Planning activities from Applicants that have $400,000 or more HMGP planning funds available

e. Projects from Applicants that have $4 million or more HMGP project funds available in the following order:
   i. Non-flood hazard mitigation projects
   ii. Flood mitigation activities except acquisition, elevation, or mitigation reconstruction
   iii. Acquisition, elevation and mitigation reconstruction projects
   iv. Generators for critical facilities

FEMA will further prioritize planning and project sub-applications within priorities 2 and 3 above as needed in order as follows:
1. Small, impoverished community status;
2. Indication of public-private partnership (i.e., whether private sector funding is included in the required non-federal cost share);
3. FEMA-validated BCEGS rating from a grade of 1 (exemplary commitment to building code enforcement) to 10;
4. FEMA-validated Benefit Cost Ratio for projects; and
5. Applicant’s ranking of competitive sub-applications.

FEMA will continue to ensure the majority of PDM funding is utilized for mitigation projects per the 2017 appropriations language.

For Additional Information

Please see the Notice of Funding Opportunity announcement posted on Grants.gov and the HMA Guidance available on the FEMA Internet: https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-assistance for more detailed information regarding eligibility.

“FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.”