Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
FEMA
HOMELAND SECURITY
What is Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities (BRIC)?

- Annual grant program, Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released to grants.gov
- Nationally competitive
- For natural hazard mitigation activities and projects, reducing the risks communities face from disasters and natural hazards
- Authorized by the Stafford Act (as amended) and the 2018 Disaster Reform and Recovery Act
- Funded by a 6% set-aside from federal post-disaster grant funding
- Tribe/Village (or the state located in) must have received a major disaster declaration in the past seven years. Can be fully or partially located in state that has had one in past seven years.
What is Mitigation?

- What if buildings were not damaged during an earthquake because community officials required that buildings be constructed or retrofitted to withstand intense shaking?
- What if a river overtopped its banks but nearby schools were protected from flooding because they were built high enough to not flood?
- What if a wildfire burned, but homes were not threatened because landowners trimmed branches and thinned forests to create a large enough defensible space?

This is mitigation in action! It is the result of residents, building professionals, engineers, community planners, and elected officials working to provide a safe community for all before a disaster occurs.

You can’t remove a hazard, but you can lessen its impact to your community.
Mitigation

- Mitigation is the reduction or elimination of long-term risk to human life and property from hazards and helps create strong, resilient tribal communities.
Applicant and Subapplicant Eligibility

Who is eligible for funding?

Applicants:
- All 50 States
- U.S. territories
- Federally recognized Tribal Governments
- District of Columbia

Subapplicants:
- Local Governments
- Tribal Governments
- State Agencies
- Tribal Agencies

Federally recognized tribal governments can choose to apply as a subapplicant to an eligible state or territory.*

*federally recognized tribal governments under the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994/federal register
Applicant vs Subapplicant

- BRIC is a pass-through and reimbursement-based grant
- Tribes can apply directly to FEMA as the Applicant and Subapplicant, or as the Subapplicant to the state

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicants</th>
<th>Subapplicants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Apply directly to FEMA</td>
<td>• Apply through the State</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Financial Risk Assessment prior to award</td>
<td>• Quarterly performance and financial reporting to State</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Financial Desk Review during grant</td>
<td>• Submit reimbursement requests to State</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Quarterly performance and financial reporting to FEMA</td>
<td>• Subapplications due earlier to State for their review</td>
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<td>• Submit reimbursement requests directly to FEMA payment system</td>
<td>• Any other State requirements</td>
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<td>• Applications due by the end of the application period listed in the NOFO</td>
<td>• State may provide technical assistance throughout the grant process, including answering requests for information (RFIs)</td>
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## FY 2022 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) – Available Funding

**Total Available BRIC FUNDING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uses of Assistance</th>
<th>$112M State/Territory Allocations</th>
<th>$50M Tribal Set-Aside</th>
<th>$2.133B National Competition for Mitigation Projects</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management Costs</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capability and Capacity Building Activities *</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard Mitigation Projects</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
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*: Capability and Capacity Building Activities is a title for several different specific non-project subapplication types.
Eligible Activities

Existing Activities Are Still Eligible

Expanded Eligibility Includes:
- Project scoping
- Building code activities
- Pre-award costs
- Additional activities for wildfire and wind implementation (DRRA Section 1205)
- Earthquake early warning (DRRA Section 1233)

Projects Must:
- Be cost-effective.
- Reduce or eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards.
- Meet the latest two consensus codes (i.e., 2018 or 2021 international building code)
- Align with the hazard mitigation plan.
- Meet all environmental and historic preservation requirements.
What does Capability-and Capacity-Building Activities (C&CB) include?

- **Building codes activities:**
  - 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

- **Partnerships:**
  - Pursuing opportunities for knowledge transfer between partners
  - Attending state, local, tribal, territorial, regional, or national conferences to support knowledge sharing and partnership development
  - Conducting a capability gap analysis to determine where partnerships could be helpful or where funding matching opportunities can be leveraged
What does Capability-and Capacity-Building Activities (C&CB) include?

- **Project scoping:**
  - Scoping and developing hazard mitigation projects
  - Collecting data for benefit-cost analyses, environmental compliance, and other program requirements
  - Evaluating facilities or areas to determine appropriate mitigation actions

- **Mitigation planning and planning-related activities:**
  - Preparing a new plan or plan update; Updating or enhancing sections of the current FEMA-approved mitigation plan
  - Integrating information from mitigation plans, specifically risk assessment or mitigation strategies, with other planning effort
  - Procuring hazard identification or mapping and related equipment for the implementation of mitigation planning-related activities
Requirements

- **Applicants** and **subapplicants** must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline AND at the time funding is obligated.

- Applicants and subapplicants applying for mitigation projects must provide a FEMA Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness.

All requirements are listed in the Notice of Funding Opportunity every year.
Cost Share

Standard Cost Share
75% Federal / 25% Local
Fed Share cannot exceed 75% of the total

Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities Cost Share
90% Federal / 10% Local
Must be requested in application and meet criteria.

All federally recognized tribes per the NOFO
Typically posts to Grants.gov in August.

Application Period Closes in FEMA GO.

Typically end of January.

R10 HMA Eligibility Review.

Typically August timeframe.

FEHA HQ Review & Selection.

R10 HMA Review and Requests for Information.

Grant award by CPD.

Project Implementation.

Quarterly Reports throughout the Period of Performance.

Subgrant and Grant Closeout.

Notice of Funding Opportunity released to Grants.gov.

Awards are typically awarded between 12-24 months after the application period deadline, depending on complexity.
Resources

- BRIC Website
- FY 2022 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity (most recent NOFO)
- 2023 Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide

BRIC Program Support Material Resources
- BRIC Technical Criteria
- BRIC Qualitative Criteria
- BRIC Building Codes Activities
- BRIC Mitigation Planning Activities
- BRIC Partnership Activities
- BRIC Project Scoping Activities
- BRIC Direct Technical Assistance
- BRIC Tribal Information
- Mitigation Action Portfolio
- BRIC & FMA Phased Projects

- Benefit Cost Analysis Helpline: BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov or 855-540-6744
- Feasibility and Effectiveness Helpline: BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov
- Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation: EPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov or 866-222-3580
- FEMA GO Helpline: femago@fema.dhs.gov or 877-611-4700
  - FEMA GO is the required system to submit applications and subapplications
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Helpline: 866-222-3580
Questions?

BRIC Grant Team: FEMA-R10-MIT-CRAIG@fema.dhs.gov

General FEMA Assistance: FEMA-R10-Tribal@fema.dhs.gov