Notice of Funding Opportunity for Fiscal Year 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program

FEMA will make \$750 million available for the Building Resilient Infrastructures and Communities (BRIC) grant program for fiscal year (FY) 2024. FEMA provides federal funds through the BRIC program to states, local, communities, tribes, and territories for hazard mitigation activities.

BRIC Program Priorities

- Incentivize natural hazard risk reduction activities, including those that address multi-hazards that mitigate current and future risk to public infrastructure and disadvantaged communities as referenced in Executive Order (EO) 14008: Tackling the climate Crisis at Home and Abroad.
- Incorporate nature-based solutions, including those designed to reduce carbon emissions.
- Enhance climate resilience and adaptation.
- Increase funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes.

Note: BRIC encourages hazard mitigation projects that meet multiple program priorities.

The FY24 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) can be accessed at Grants.gov. Before applying for the grant, FEMA encourages potential applicants and subapplicants to review program information, other grant applications and administration requirements.

Available Funding

BRIC has made \$112 million available for the **State or Territory Allocation** with a \$2 million allocation per applicant. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories are eligible to apply under the State or Territory Allocation. Each state/territory allocation must use \$1.5 million toward \$1 mability and capacity building activities. This \$1.5 million requirement can come from capability and capacity building activities selected in the state/territory allocation, the Building Code Plus Up and/or Project Scoping subapplications selected in the National Competition.

All federally recognized Tribal Nations can apply for the \$50 million Tribal Set-Aside with a maximum allocation of \$2 million per applicant for capability and capacity activities.



States and Territories can apply for up to \$2 million per applicant of the \$112 million in Building Code Plus-Up, and tribes can apply for up to \$2 million per applicant of the \$25 million available.

Subapplicants can apply for up to \$50 million out of the \$451 million available in the **National Competition**. Any funds that are not selected from the State or Territory Allocation, Tribal Set-Aside, or Building Code Plus-Up allocations can be re-allocated to the National Competition. New for FY24, BRIC will select up to 10% of National Competition funding for project scoping activities.

Fiscal Year 2024 Programmatic Changes

FEMA made several changes and updates to the FY 2024 funding opportunity to increase access to funding and reduce complexity:

Project Scoping Subapplications in National Competition:

• For the FY 2024 BRIC National Competition, FEMA will select up to 10% of funding or \$45 million for project scoping activities. Applicants may submit an unlimited number of project scoping subapplications to the National Competition.

Funding Cap Per Applicant:

- FEMA has applied a 20% or \$150 million funding cap on the total available BRIC funding to any applicant, helping to ensure greater distribution of BRIC funds across the nation.
- The 20% cap will include the combined total of all funding category requests (i.e., Management Costs, State/Territory Allocation or Tribal Set-Aside, Building Code Plus-Up and the National Competition).

Removal of \$400,000 Minimum Spend Requirement for Community Disaster Resilience Zones:

For the FY 2024 BRIC State or Territory Allocation, FEMA removed the requirement that a minimum of \$400,000 must be used to benefit <u>Community Disaster Resilience Zones</u>.

Removal of Hazard Mitigation Plan Requirement for Project Scoping Subapplications:

BRIC subapplicants are no longer required to have a FEMA-approved jurisdiction-wide hazard mitigation plan as a condition of receiving grant funds for project scoping subapplications. As such, the hazard mitigation plan exemption now applies to all C&CB activities: (1) hazard mitigation planning and planning related activities, (2) partnerships, (3) building codes, and (4) project scoping. Federally recognized Tribal Nations submitting as subapplicants are included in this exemption. All applicants must still have a FEMA-approve mitigation plan.

BRIC Direct Technical Assistance (BRIC DTA)

FEMA will continue to provide wide-ranging, non-financial support to Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Direct Technical Assistance (BRIC DTA) communities, territories, and Tribal Nations, including but not limited to climate risk assessments, community engagement, partnership building, and mitigation and climate adaptation planning. Support for BRIC DTA recipients can range from pre-application activities to grant closeout.

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FEMA does not have a set limit on the overall number of communities and Tribal Nations they anticipate selecting for BRIC DTA.

Any community can request BRIC DTA. There is no requirement that they have a hazard mitigation plan and/or a history of applying for or receiving BRIC funding for consideration for this support.

For more information on how to request BRIC DTA, visit FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Direct Technical Assistance web page.



Application Deadlines

To apply for funding, applicants must adhere to the application and funding deadlines. The application period opens on **Jan 6, 2025.**

Eligible applicants must apply for funding using the FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) management system. Applications must be received in the FEMA GO Portal by **Feb. 28, 2025 (3 p.m. ET).** Applications received by FEMA GO after this date will not be considered for funding.

The application deadlines are for the applicants only; subapplicants should consult with their state, tribal or territorial agency to confirm subapplication deadlines.

Applicants experiencing technical problems outside of their control must notify FEMA by **3 p.m. ET on Feb. 26, 2025**. No new system-related issues will be addressed after this deadline.

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Application Assistance

FEMA GO Help Desk: <u>femago@fema.dhs.gov</u> FEMA GO technical support for error messages or forgotten passwords: 877-585-3242. Hazard Mitigation Assistance programmatic support, such as questions regarding eligibility: 866-222-3580 or <u>FEMA-HMAHelpline@fema.dhs.gov</u>.

For any subapplications submitted for the FY 2024 cycle that met all programmatic requirements did not get selected BRIC funding, applicants are encouraged to:

- Repurpose their subapplications to meet current eligibility requirements and apply for the next grant cycle.
- Applicants should also consider applying for other FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant programs, such as Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), and the Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund program.

Additional Resources

General questions about the BRIC program can be directed to the appropriate State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO) or FEMA Regional Office.

The HMA Mitigation Action Portfolio includes examples of innovative hazard mitigation projects that address many types of natural hazards and emphasize the importance of collaboration between governments, private-sector entities, and non-governmental organizations to achieve effective hazard mitigation and disaster resilience.

Program Support Materials (PSMs) are being updated to provide additional information on key topics and themes in the FY24 BRIC NOFO and will be available in the PSM Resources for the BRIC Program webpage.

For more information about this program, visit the **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities** webpage.

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