



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

EMPG Funding Formula Update



History

- Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is awarded to the State of Oregon by FEMA Annually
- A funding formula has been in place since 2013
 - 20% OEM
 - 80% Local Jurisdictions
 - Base Allocation (\$62,500) for all (county, cities over 85,000 in population, tribes)
 - Population distribution for remaining funds (cities and counties)
- In 2023, OAR 104-010-0005 was changed to allow for adjustment of the formula
- The funding formula policy will be reviewed every three years by ODEM and a workgroup of EMPG eligible applicants unless a sooner review is needed due to changes identified by federal, state, or local partners. A one-year extension of the review may be granted if it appears changes are about to be released by federal or state partners.



Background

- OEM Facilitated a funding formula workgroup to revise the formula

2024 Funding Formula Committee Members

County Regional Representatives:

Jason Yencopal, Baker County - Eastern

Nathan Garibay, Deschutes County - Cascade

Emily Ring, Douglas County - Southwest

John Wheeler, Washington County – Port. Metro

Justin Gibbs, Clatsop County - Northwest

Dean Bender, Polk County - Willamette Valley

City Representatives

Carrie Karl, City of Bend

Aaron Ott, City of Medford

Tribal Representatives

Armando Martinez, Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

Brandy Bishop, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Other Stakeholders

OEMA Association - Mitch Elliott, Wheeler County

OEM Rep - Alaina Mayfield, OEM

LGEMAC Rep - Kelley Minty, Klamath County BOC



Background

- Funding formula workgroup began meeting in January and has met 11 times
- The group has been asked to make other recommendations in addition to funding formula
- EMPG funding was reduced by 10% nationwide – OEM was able to respond by using HB3059 so locals would not see the impact
- Funding for 2025 is unknown, but many are lobbying to make up the 10%
- Funding formula group came close to a solution but was not in full agreement, so they continue to meet.
- August 28 is their next meeting and they will be reviewing 4 possible options.



Identified Actions/Key Points

- OEM shall use the existing funding formula for the current EMPG grant year FY2024 (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025).
- The funding formula workgroup will continue to meet, to form funding formula recommendations for 2025 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026).



Identified Actions/Key Points

- The funding formula committee determined the final disposition of the 2023 funding not accepted by subrecipients and the recommendation was that the unspent funds be distributed as following (approved by LGEMAC 4/16/24):
 - Training (\$10,000)
 - Exercise (\$10,000)
 - Learning Management System (\$75,000)
 - Grant Management System (\$25,000)
 - Local subrecipients with capacity to accept for personnel expenses by contract amendment (up to \$15,334 per jurisdiction, 17 accepted with amended contracts, \$260,678).



Identified Actions/Key Points

2024 funding not accepted by subrecipients was recommended to be redistributed according to population using the original funding formula.



Identified Actions/Key Points

- Next meeting is August 28, 10-12. The committee will begin reviewing proposals, some considered:
 - Retain the current funding formula.
 - Split the population numbers (originally agreed upon, then concerned about continued funding of cities).
 - Fund half of each EM salary (possibility of a set number based on EM salary).
 - Institute a project-based funding strategy.
 - Establish a tier-based strategy.



Identified Actions/Key Points

- If the funding formula workgroup comes to agreement on a recommendation at the August 28 meeting, the next step is a feedback session with all impacted local jurisdictions. After that discussion recommendations will be forwarded LGEMAC on October 15 meeting.
- If the funding formula workgroup does not come to agreement on August 28 meeting, they will discuss their next steps as a group.
- The funding formula workgroup would like a recommendation to be complete by February to allow for jurisdictions to plan budgetarily for July of 2025.



Key Outcomes

The funding formula workgroup would prefer to adhere to the federal guidance (NOFO-notice of funding opportunity) as intended by FEMA, to fill capability gaps. Funding for an Emergency Manager should be the responsibility of the state if the state requires it. As a group, they would like to encourage other groups to work together toward this goal.



Key Outcomes

- The requirement in ORS 401.305 “counties shall, cities may,” leaves some members of the funding formula workgroup to lean toward reducing or eliminating cities, but they agree on the value of having an Emergency Manager in larger cities.

Specific language from ORS401, states: “Each county of this state shall, and each city or tribal government may, establish an emergency management agency that is directly responsible to the executive officer or governing body of the county, city or tribe.”



Key Outcomes

Current grant recipients are now dependent on the funds to fill the gap. Locals continue to work to identify funding solutions that support continued funding for locals to keep an Emergency Manager in each jurisdiction.



Key Outcomes

The federal guidance specifically requires addressing equity issues with the grant dollars which is difficult because the obvious solutions either let all cities in or push all cities out. Identifying a solution that continues to support existing funding and doesn't reduce funding for everyone in the future is not obvious.



Recommended Timeline/Decision Points

Date	Meeting	Action
8/20/2024	Present to LGEMAC	Update LGEMAC on process and request direction if work group is unable to recommend funding formula by October 15 meeting.
8/28/2024	Formula Workgroup	Prepare 4 recommendations to LGEMAC for consideration.
10/7/2024	OEMA Preconference WS (Tentative)	Formula Workgroup finalize recommendations. Submit to LGEMAC.
10/8/2024	Eligible Jurisdictions	Email all eligible applicants of the final recommendations being provided to LGEMAC.
10/15/2024	Present to LGEMAC	Make a recommendation; provide that recommendation to OEM Director.
February 2025	OEM EMPG Staff	Update Administrative Rule based on Funding Formula change recommendations provided by LGEMAC.