Announcement: Notice of Funding Opportunity FEMA FY 2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) and Direct Technical Assistance (DTA) Sub-Application Request

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) is pleased to announce the release of FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Fiscal Year 2024 You can find the Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) attached to this announcement. For this grant cycle, FEMA will provide \$750 million for BRIC and \$600 million for FMA.

FEMA will also continue providing tailored Direct Technical Assistance to communities and Tribal Nations that may not have the resources to begin climate resilience planning and project solution design on their own. Communities interested in requesting assistance for the next fiscal year may do so on FEMA's <u>Direct Technical Assistance webpage</u>. Please note that FEMA will publish a new form online to streamline and simplify the submission process, ongoing information will be shared on FEMA.gov.

OEM FY2024 BRIC/FMA Sub-applications:

- 1. OEM's sub-application submission deadline for all invited Oregon participants is 5:00 p.m. (PST), Friday, March 28, 2025. OEM will not consider sub-applications after this deadline.
- Invited sub-applicants should submit their sub-applications to the Oregon Department of Emergency
 Management, UEI G1N1VYLMVNX1 via the <u>FEMAGO portal</u> under the respective program (BRIC and/or FMA).

In prior grant rounds FEMA included their NOFO seminar dates with the NOFO release. This year, the FEMA seminar date is pending. Once it is announced, OEM will announce the state NOFO seminar time and date.

Additionally, OEM plans to host drop-in hours during the sub-application period to aid on specific sub-application topics. Additional OEM BRIC/FMA information will be announced during the OEM NOFO seminar and communicated via the OEM website and the notification listserv.

FEMA also plans to host several webinars to educate state, local, Tribal and territorial governments on the programmatic changes. More information will be shared as it becomes available at FEMA.gov.

Background:

OEM, is the designated state applicant for FEMA HMA programs that administers and oversees the BRIC/FMA program for the State of Oregon. Federally recognized Tribes may apply directly to FEMA. Oregon entities seeking to participate are asked to follow OEM's submission process and deadlines, which are identified below.

To align with FEMA's program cycle, OEM established a two-step process for receiving and evaluating BRIC and FMA requests for mitigation assistance. Step 1 started in June of 2024 with the pre-application announcement and submittal of pre-applications by interested jurisdictions to OEM. In FY2024, state declarations extended

OEM's pre-application deadline. FEMA delayed to the NOFO release through the Fall to ensure OEM received pre-applications from interested jurisdictions. Step 2 began in October of 2024 with an OEM eligibility review and jurisdiction invitations to submit full sub-applications once the NOFO announcement was released.

Timeline:

- 06/24/2024: OEM announced BRIC/FMA FY2024 pre-application, opening Step 1
- 08/23/2024: Original deadline to jurisdictions submitting BRIC/FMA FY2024 pre-applications
- 08/30/2024: OEM extended the pre-application deadline
- 09/30/2024: OEM closed the pre-application period, completing Step 1
- 10/15/2024: OEM reviewed pre-applications, determined eligibility and notified selected Oregon preapplicants of sub-application invitations, opening Step 2
- **01/06/2025**: FEMA released the BRIC/FMA FY2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and opened applications in FEMAGO
- **01/10/2025:** OEM announces state NOFO and opens BRIC/FMA Sub-Applications in FEMAGO. Note: the state NOFO will be scheduled following the FEMA NOFO seminar announcement
- **01/27/2025:** OEM Drop-in hour schedule begins. Note: Drop-in hour topics and additional subapplication timelines will be announced at the state NOFO seminar.

Highlights of the FY2024 NOFO

For this grant cycle, available national funding is \$750 million for BRIC and \$600 million for FMA.

Each year FEMA holds a national competition through BRIC for large projects to enhance infrastructure resilience. Approximately \$451 million is available through the FY2024 national competition. To ensure a greater geographic distribution of BRIC funds, FEMA is applying a 20% — or \$150 million — funding cap per single applicant (states, Tribal Nations, and territories) on the total available BRIC funding.

States, Tribal Nations, and territories are eligible to receive up to \$4 million in allocations and set asides under BRIC. This funding is split between capability & capacity building (C&CB) activities such as creating or updating hazard mitigation plans or designing potential projects; and building codes plus-ups (BC+) funding for eligible building code activities, like the enforcement and adoption of modern, hazard-resistant building codes.

FEMA has set-aside \$50 million exclusively for federally recognized Tribes in FY2024. Tribal Nations can receive a maximum \$2 million through this set-aside.

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

FY2024 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.
- BRIC encourages hazard mitigation projects that meet multiple program priorities.

Fiscal Year 2024 program changes:

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

1. Project Scoping Sub-applications 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.

2. 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).

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

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

4. Removal of Hazard Mitigation Plan Requirement for Project Scoping Sub-Applications:

- BRIC sub-applicants are no longer required to have a FEMA-approved jurisdiction-wide hazard mitigation
 plan as a condition of receiving grant funds for project scoping sub-applications. 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 sub-applicants are included in this exemption.
- All applicants (states, Tribal Nations, and territories) must still have a FEMA-approved mitigation plan

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)

Similar to past fiscal years, FY2024 FMA grants will be targeted towards projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

The FY2024 FMA funding cycle has three funding priorities:

- FMA capability and capacity building (<u>C&CB</u>) Activities which enhance the knowledge, skills, expertise, etc., of the current workforce to expand or improve the administration of the program. These activities may be used to develop future Localized <u>Flood Risk Reduction Projects</u> and/or <u>Individual Flood Mitigation Projects</u> that will subsequently reduce flood insurance claims submitted to the NFIP.
- Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects that address community flood risk for the purpose of reducing NFIP flood claim payments.
- Individual Flood Mitigation Projects that mitigate the risk of repetitive and severe flooding to structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Additional information and updates will be forthcoming, please monitor the OEM website: <u>Oregon Department of Emergency Management</u>: <u>Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA)</u>: <u>Grants</u>: <u>State of Oregon</u> and/or register on the HMA list serve for updated announcements.

Should you have additional questions, please direct these to oem.hazardmitigation@oem.oregon.gov with FY2024 BRIC/FMA in the subject line.





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