

HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM

What is the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?

The HMGP is authorized in Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, and assists state and local communities in implementing long-term hazard mitigation measures following a major disaster declaration. The State Division of Emergency Management administers the HMGP, and projects are 75 percent federally funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), 12.5 percent state funded through the Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM), and the remaining 12.5 percent is a local match requirement. The HMGP is only available after declaration of a major disaster by the President.

Program objectives are:

- To prevent future losses of lives and property due to disasters;
- To develop and implement state or local hazard mitigation plans;
- To enable mitigation measures to be implemented during immediate recovery from a disaster, and
- To provide funding for previously identified mitigation measures.

Who is eligible?

- State and local governments;
- Certain private, non-profit organizations or institutions; and
- Indian tribes or authorized tribal organizations and Alaska Native villages or organizations.

What types of projects can be funded?

The HMGP can be used to fund projects to protect either public or private property. Examples include:

- Acquisition, demolition, and relocation of structures from hazard prone areas;
- Retrofitting such as floodproofing and elevation to protect structures from future damages;
- Minor localized structural hazard control or protection projects such as detention ponds;
- Wind resistant retrofitting or construction
- Construction of residential and community safe rooms

- Development of state and local mitigation standards; and
- Development of comprehensive hazard mitigation programs with implementation as an essential component; and
- Development or updates of all-hazards mitigation plans

How do communities apply?

Eligible applicants (as identified above) must apply for the HMGP through the State Division of Emergency Management since the state is responsible for administering the program. The applicant should contact the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for specific details.

What is the deadline for applying for funds?

The State submits a letter of intent to FEMA to participate in the HMGP within 60 days of the disaster declaration. The State will solicit pre-applications statewide.

Applicants are encouraged to apply for mitigation projects as soon as possible after a disaster occurs so that opportunities to do mitigation are not lost during reconstruction. Contact the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for specific application dates.

How much money is available in the HMGP?

The 75% federal funding under the HMGP is based on 15% (20% with a State Enhanced Mitigation Plan approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency) of the federal funds spent on FEMA Public Assistance and Individual Assistance programs for each disaster.

How are potential projects selected for funding?

Proposed projects must meet certain minimum criteria:

- Have a beneficial impact upon the designated disaster area, whether or not located in the disaster area.
- Conform with 44 CFR Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, and 44 CFR Part 10, Environmental Considerations.
- Solve a problem independently or constitute a functional portion of a solution where there is assurance that the project as a whole will be completed. Projects that merely identify or analyze hazards or problems are not eligible.
- The project must be cost-effective and substantially reduce the risk of further damages, hardship, loss, or suffering resulting from a major disaster. Wisconsin

Emergency Management, using data and information supplied by the applicant, will have to demonstrate this to FEMA by documenting that the project:

- Addresses a problem that has been repetitive, or a problem that poses a significant risk if left unsolved.
- Will not cost more than the anticipated value of the reduction in both direct damages and subsequent negative impacts to the area if future disasters were to occur. Cost-benefit analyses will be conducted on applications submitted to determine cost effectiveness of the proposed project.
- Has been determined to be the most practical, effective, and environmentally sound alternative after considering a number of options.
- Contributes, to the extent practicable, to a long-term solution to the problem it is intended to address.
- Considers long-term changes to the areas and entities it protects, and has manageable future maintenance and modification requirements.

These criteria are designed to ensure that the most cost-effective and appropriate projects are selected for funding.

To be eligible for HMGP project funds, the applicant must have a FEMA approved all hazard mitigation plan with the proposed project identified in the plan.

How can I obtain further information?

Regulations for the HMGP are published in Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 206, Subpart N. Additional information can be found at the following web sites:

<http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov/>
<http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program-hmgrp>

or contact the State Hazard Mitigation Officer at:

Wisconsin Division of Emergency Management
2400 Wright Street, P.O. Box 7865
Madison, WI 53707
608-242-3232 or 1-800-943-0003

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