



Eligible Mitigation Actions

Excerpts from FEMA PDM Guidance regarding eligible and non-eligible mitigation activities.

www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/fy07_pdm_guidance.pdf - 2007-10-10

1.4 ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES AND ASSOCIATED COSTS

Mitigation plans and projects must be long-term, feasible, and meet all requirements referenced in the PDM Guidance. Projects also must demonstrate cost-effectiveness. The following are eligible activities for the PDM program:

4.1 ELIGIBLE MITIGATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Proposed hazard mitigation projects must primarily focus on natural hazards but also may address hazards caused by manmade forces. Funding is restricted to a maximum of \$3 million Federal share per project sub-application. The following are examples of eligible mitigation projects (select from the 200, 300 and 400 series in the Mitigation Activity section in eGrants):

- Voluntary acquisition of real property (*i.e.* structures and land, where necessary) for conversion to open space in perpetuity
- Relocation of public or private structures ;
- Elevation of existing public or private structures to avoid coastal or riverine flooding
- Structural retrofitting and non-structural retrofitting (*e.g.*, storm shutters, hurricane clips, bracing systems) of existing public or private structures to meet or exceed applicable building codes relative to hazard mitigation.
- Construction of safe rooms (tornado and severe wind shelters) for public and private structures that meet the FEMA construction criteria in FEMA 320 "Taking Shelter from the Storm" and FEMA 361 "Design and Construction Guidance for Community Shelters"
- Hydrologic and Hydraulic studies/analyses, engineering studies, and drainage studies for the purpose of project design and feasibility determination;
- Vegetation management for natural dune restoration, wildfire or snow avalanche
- Protective measures for utilities (*e.g.*, electric and gas); water and sanitary sewer systems and/or infrastructure (*e.g.*, roads and bridges)
- Storm water management projects (*e.g.*, culverts, retention basins) to reduce or eliminate long-term risk from flood hazards and
- Localized flood control projects, such as certain ring levees, bank stabilization, and floodwall systems that are designed specifically to protect critical facilities (defined as Hazardous Materials Facilities, Emergency Operation Centers, Power Facilities, Water Facilities, Sewer and Wastewater Treatment Facilities, Communications Facilities, Emergency Medical Care Facilities, Fire Protection, and Emergency Facilities) and that do not constitute a section of a larger flood control system

Any of the above mitigation projects for a defined critical facility may include the purchase of a generator or related equipment purchases (*e.g.*, generator hook-ups) as a functional portion to the larger eligible mitigation project sub-application, as long as the generator or related equipment purchase directly relates to the hazard(s) that threatens the critical facility.

3.1 ELIGIBLE MITIGATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

Planning activities that develop State, tribal, local, and university hazard mitigation plans that meet planning criteria outlined in 44 C.F.R. Part 201 are eligible for the PDM program. The outcome of a mitigation planning grant award must result in an adopted FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan within three years of award. Therefore, it is essential that the statement of work include sufficient time and resources for FEMA plan review, incorporation of needed revisions, plan adoption, and FEMA approval.

The planning grant deliverable must be a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan, whether PDM is funding the development of the entire plan or only a portion of the plan. PDM funding may be used for the development of a new FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan, an upgrade of an existing FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan, or comprehensive revision and update of an already FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan. Hazard mitigation planning activities must primarily focus on natural hazards but may also address hazards caused by manmade events. Plans may be either single or multi-jurisdictional. Countywide or multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans may be submitted for funding, as many mitigation issues are better resolved by evaluating hazards in a more comprehensive fashion.

2.1 ELIGIBLE MANAGEMENT COST ACTIVITIES

Eligible management cost activities include:

- The solicitation, review, and processing of PDM planning and project sub-applications and sub-grant awards;
- Providing technical assistance to Sub-applicants regarding BCA and Environmental/Historic Preservation documentation;
- Geocoding mitigation projects selected for further review;
- Delivery of technical assistance (*e.g.*, plan reviews, planning workshops) intended to support the implementation of planning and project activities;
- Managing grants (*e.g.*, quarterly reporting and close-out);
- Technical monitoring (*e.g.*, site visits, technical meetings); and
- Hiring staff to perform the above activities.

Management cost activities must be consistent with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State and Local Governments. Indirect costs, if requested, must be included as part of the Cost Estimate for the Applicant management cost sub-application, not to exceed 10% of the total cost of the grant application. Indirect costs are included as part of the total project cost; however, indirect costs in excess of the 10% management costs limit may not be used as part of the non-Federal cost share. There will be no exception to permit the increase in Applicant management costs. Indirect costs

1.5 INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Mitigation planning and project sub-applications must meet all requirements referenced in the PDM Guidance. Specific ineligible mitigation planning activities are listed in *Section 3.2, Ineligible Mitigation Planning Activities*. Ineligible project activities are listed in *Section 4.2, Ineligible Project Activities*.

3.2 INELIGIBLE MITIGATION PLANNING ACTIVITIES

In addition to the specific ineligible planning activities listed below, any planning effort that duplicates benefits received for the same purpose (*i.e.*, an existing planning grant that has not closed prior to the PDM application deadline) or that is within the primary authority of another Federal program will be considered ineligible. The following planning activities are not eligible for the PDM grant program:

- Flood studies or flood mapping;
- Mapping activities that are not part of a risk assessment;
- Risk assessments, technical assistance, studies, or workshops not resulting in a FEMA approved hazard mitigation plan;
- Information dissemination activities exceeding 10% of the total cost of the planning sub-application or that are not tied directly to a PDM planning sub-application;
- Any ground disturbing activity that would initiate the environmental review and compliance process;
- Pre-award activities not directly related to the development of the planning sub-application or implementing the proposed planning activity; and
- Limited revisions and amendments that do not result in a comprehensive hazard mitigation plan update.

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