



# **FACT SHEET**

## **FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Washington State Military Department

Emergency Management Division

Camp Murray, WA 98430

The Flood Mitigation Assistance program (FMA) is available on an annual basis for cost-effective measures that reduce the risk of flood damage to structures that have flood insurance coverage. Funding is available for flood mitigation planning and implementation of flood mitigation projects. The State Emergency Management Division (EMD) administers the program and is responsible for selecting projects for funding. The State forwards selected applications to FEMA for eligibility determination. Individuals cannot apply directly for FMA funds, although their local government may submit an application on their behalf.

### **AVAILABLE FUNDING**

Annual funding is through the National Flood Insurance Program, and can vary from year to year. In FFY 2007, FEMA notified EMD that Washington would receive the following federal funds for planning and projects. The state also received funding for technical assistance. All grants require a 25 percent applicant match, only half of which can be provided by in-kind contributions.

<b>2007 FMA</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Federal Share</b>	<b>Applicant Share</b>
<b>Project</b>	\$ 271,800	\$ 203,580	\$ 68,220
<b>Planning</b>	\$ 27,733	\$ 20,800	\$ 6,933

The FFY 2007 FMA priority is to fund flood mitigation projects that reduce the number of repetitive loss structures currently insured by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), although any cost-effective flood mitigation activity that reduce flood losses to any NFIP-insured property will be considered.

An application window of about 90 days has opened the past couple of years in mid fall. EMD will use a pre-application process, FEMA's on-line *eGrants* application system, and supplemental information (e.g., NFIP and Growth Management Act compliance) to prioritize sub-applications. EMD will announce application procedures as well as details of the annual funding and program guidance as soon as FEMA makes it available.

### **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:**

For a community to be considered for project funds, it must have 1) a FEMA-approved flood hazard reduction plan or a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan that meets the criteria of 44 CFR Part 78.5, and 2) be a participant in good standing in the NFIP. EMD also requires communities to comply with state Growth Management Act requirements. Additionally, communities must have both zoning and building code authority for their community.

FMA funds can be used for the following plans and projects:

- Developing flood mitigation plans that meet criteria outlined in 44 CFR Part 78.5 (for those communities without a plan) or to revise an existing FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan to meet the criteria of 44 CFR Part 78.5.
- Acquiring or relocating insured structures to reduce claims on the NFIP.
- Elevating insured residential structures above the 100-year flood.
- Elevating or dry flood proofing insured non-residential structures.

All properties involved in an FMA-funded project must have NFIP insurance at the time of project application.

## **INELIGIBLE PROJECTS:**

In addition to the specific ineligible project activities listed below, any proposed activity that duplicates benefits received for the same purpose or that is within the primary authority of another federal program are ineligible for funding under FMA. The following project activities are not eligible for the FMA grant program:

- Major flood control and/or erosion projects such as the construction or repair of dikes, levees, floodwalls, seawalls, groins, jetties, breakwaters, dams, and waterway channelization.
- Dry flood proofing of residential structures.
- Phased or partial project that is dependent on another phase or part to be effective and/or feasible.
- Demolition of an existing structure and rebuilding a new structure on the same site (i.e., demolition-rebuilding).
- Studies that do not result in a completed mitigation project (e.g., engineering designs, feasibility studies, or drainage studies that are not integral to the proposed project).
- Flood studies or flood mapping.
- Projects that solely address maintenance or repairs of existing structures, facilities or infrastructure (e.g., debris removal, dredging).
- Generators, and related equipment, such as generator hook-ups, for non-critical facilities or as a stand-alone activity.
- Response and communication equipment, and warning and alert notification systems (e.g., NOAA weather radios).

## **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

The project sub-application must demonstrate:

- Cost-effectiveness using a FEMA-approved Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA). A project with a benefit-cost ratio of 1.0 or greater is considered cost effective.
- All individual properties to be mitigated must have NFIP insurance at the time of project application.
- Conformance with 44 CFR Part 9, Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands, and 44 CFR Part 10, and any applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- Technical feasibility and the ability to be implemented.
- Conformance with the minimum standards of the NFIP Floodplain Management Regulations.
- Conformance with the FEMA-approved flood mitigation plan or flood hazard component of the community's FEMA-approved multi-hazard mitigation plan, (the type of project being proposed must be identified in the plan), where the plan is approved by FEMA by the application deadline.
- Located in a community participating and in good standing in the NFIP.
- Solving of a problem independently or constituting a functional portion of a solution where there is assurance that the project as a whole will be completed.
- Meeting the requirements of applicable Federal, State, Indian tribal, and local laws, implementing regulations, and executive orders.

See <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/fma/index.shtm> for FMA program guidance.

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