

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

Summary

The BRIC program is a hazard mitigation grant program under the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) meant to build proactive infrastructure solutions to strengthen resilience in states, territories, tribes, and local governments that have faced major disasters in the last 7 years.

BRIC Funding

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) allocated \$1 billion available for the next 5 fiscal years in tranches of \$200 million per year. This program is covered by the Biden Administration's Justice 40 Initiative, meaning 40% of its funds must go to disadvantaged communities.

Application Timelines

FEMA plans to announce a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) each year. NOFOs are generally released in September and applications are accepted until the following January with some year by year variations. However, each state has its own deadlines for its subapplications prior to the national deadline, so it's very important to follow your own state's application processes.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants are states and territories that have had a major disaster declaration in the last 7 years or federally recognized tribes that are located entirely or partially in such states. Municipalities, communities, and other entities applying for BRIC funding do so as subapplicants on their state's application. Hazard mitigation projects can come in the form of a plan or an ordinance, coastal wetland protection, or an engineered/built structure.



What projects does BRIC fund?

FEMA can allocate BRIC funding for mitigation capability, capacity-building activities, and mitigation projects, then make the remainder of the funding available competitively for mitigation projects. FEMA may also make a portion of funding available for management costs (costs to manage the grant) and non-financial technical assistance to all eligible entities. Funding for capability- and capacity-building activities and mitigation projects will generally be subject to a Federal cost share of up to 75 percent, and up to 90 percent for small impoverished communities. Management costs may be funded up to 100 percent Federal share.



What makes an application competitive?

Competitive applications will maximize benefits, including hazard mitigation as well as broader community, economic, and environmental benefits. Applications are evaluated by 6 criteria:

1. Risk Reduction/Resilience Effectiveness,
2. Climate Change and Future Conditions,
3. Implementation Measures,
4. Population Impacted,
5. Community Engagement and Other Outreach Activities, and
6. Leveraging Partners.

You can read [FY22 BRIC Qualitative Evaluation Criterial PSM](#) to get more information on how these criteria are used. For more information on competitive applications and case studies check out the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Mitigation Action Portfolio](#).



How can nonprofits access BRIC funding?

While nonprofit organizations cannot apply directly to FEMA, they can be included in their local cities, townships, counties, special districts or federally recognized tribal governments sub-applications. Cultivating and maintaining a positive relationship with your local municipality can be central to accessing federal funding. Municipalities also often rely on Community Based Organizations and nonprofits to help lead community engagement.

Additional Resources

- **State Hazard Mitigation Officers** - Your State Hazard Mitigation Officer can provide key information about BRIC.
- **BRIC Direct Technical Assistance** - FEMA provides Non-financial Direct Technical Assistance to create holistic hazard mitigation planning to some communities each grant cycle.
- **Resource List for the BRIC Grant Program** – This resource list has more specifics on what types of projects are eligible and competitive for BRIC.