Cal OES Resilience Branch
Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program Overview

2026

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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
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What is Hazard Mitigation?

Any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazard events and their effects.

The long-term impact of hazard mitigation actions can be distinguished from those actions that are more closely associated with immediate preparedness, response and recovery activities, as hazard mitigation is the only emergency management phase specifically dedicated to breaking the cycle of damage, reconstruction and repeated damage. **Hazard Mitigation is passive protection from natural hazards before they happen**.

Overview of Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Programs

Disaster Funding

01. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

02. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post Fire (HMGP-PF)

03. Flood Mitigation Assistance Swift Current (Swift Current)

Non-Disaster Funding

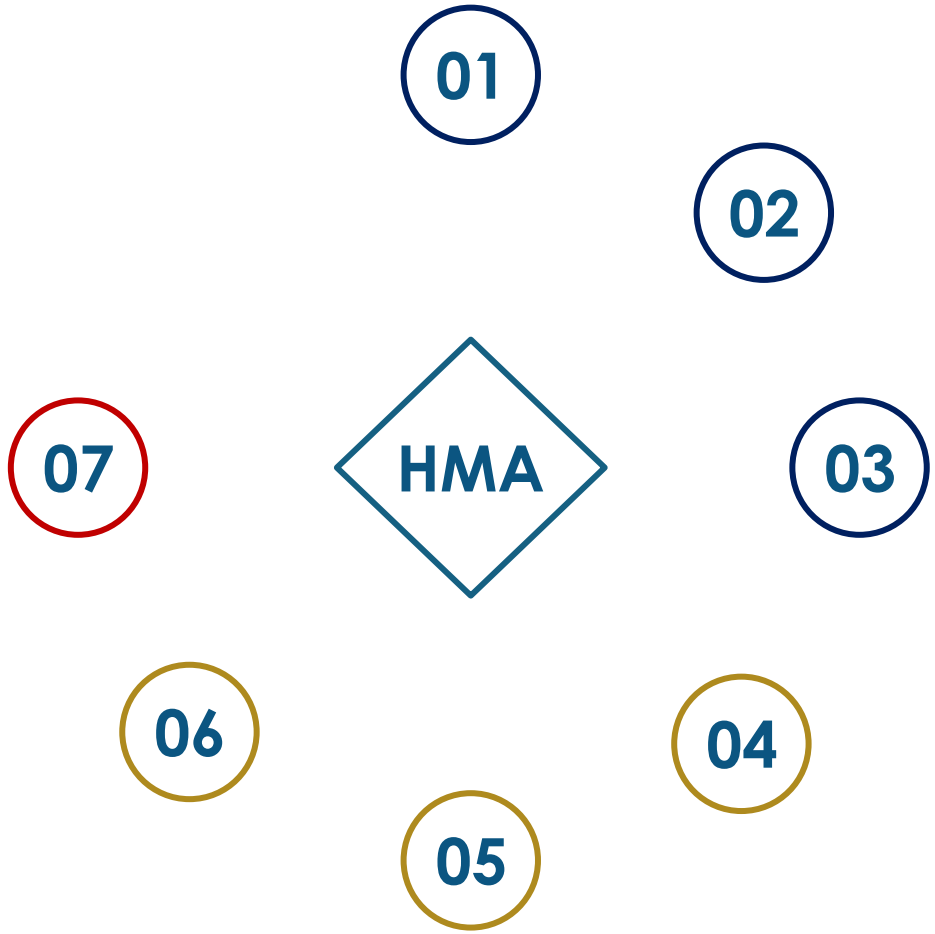
04. Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)*

05. Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

06. Pre-Disaster Mitigation – Congressionally Directed Spending (PDM-CDS)

Other

07. Public Assistance Section 406 (PA 406 Mitigation)



Who May Apply for HMA Programs?

- State Agencies
- Local Governments: Counties, Cities, Towns
- Special Districts
- Tribes
- Private Nonprofit Organizations (PNPs) (not eligible for BRIC/FMA/PDM-CDS)
- **Most subapplicants must have a FEMA approved and locally adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan to submit to FEMA**

Eligible Mitigation Activity Types (1 of 2)

New Plan Creation and Plan Updates	A planning subaward for a new or updated mitigation plan must result in a mitigation plan adopted by the jurisdiction(s) and approved by FEMA, consistent with the regulatory requirements in 44 CFR Part 201 and 44 CFR Part 206 and applicable mitigation planning regulations and policy.
Planning-Related Activities	Assistance for planning-related activities provides flexibility to further reduce risk and integrate hazard mitigation and resilience principles into other types of ongoing planning and development activities, such as making land use ordinances and building codes more disaster resilient. All planning and planning-related activities must result in a clearly defined product or products.
Codes and Standards	Projects involving codes and standards—available under HMGP and HMGP Post Fire—include the development, adoption, evaluation, enhancement, and enforcement of building codes and standards.

Eligible Mitigation Activity Types (2 of 2)

Advance Assistance	Advance assistance activities are designed to obtain data to complete HMA subapplications in a timely manner, resulting in either an improvement in the capability to identify appropriate mitigation projects or in the development of an application-ready mitigation project.
Mitigation Projects	Phased or shovel-ready construction mitigation projects that reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from future disasters.
5% Initiative	5% activities such as sirens and early warning systems are eligible for funding, typically not requiring a BCA, just a cost-narrative.

2024 HMA Program and Policy Guide

Review Part(s) 4, 11, 12, and 13 for additional information on the subapplication types and eligible activities.

Key Point: Mitigation Project Examples

Wildfire
- *Defensible Space*
- *Ignition-Resistant Construction*
- *Hazardous Fuels Reduction*

Flood
- *Acquisition/Elevation*
- *Flood Risk Reduction*
- *Floodproofing*

Seismic
- *Structural Retrofit*
- *Non-Structural Retrofit*

Drought
- *Aquifer Recharge, Storage, and Recovery*

Multi-Hazard
- *Energy Resilience*
- *Warning Systems*

Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants (HMA)

- Authorized through Section 404 of the Stafford Act.

Examples of Eligible Activities:

- New Plan Creation and Plan Updates (Non-Construction)
- Capability and Capacity Building (Non-Construction)
- Planning related activities, Advance Assistance (Non-Construction)
- Codes and Standards (Non-Construction)
- Shovel-ready and Phased Mitigation Projects (Construction)

Just Opened: FMA '26, Schedule a call with us today.

Anticipated Funding Opportunities: FMA '27(Spring 2027), BRIC '27(Spring 2027), PDM '28(April 2027)

Cal OES accepts Notices of Interest (NOIs) on a rolling basis.

Eligible Subapplicants:

- Government entities (cities, counties, special government districts, state agencies, federally and non-federally recognized Tribes)
- Private Nonprofits

Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Requirement:

- FEMA-approved, locally adopted plan is required

Local Cost Share:

- 25%

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Non-Disaster Grant Special Considerations

BRIC	• Large-scale infrastructure projects that protect large populations • Preference for Shovel-Ready Projects (60%+ design, EHP complete, BCA inputs)
FMA	• **Must** protect NFIP (national flood insurance program) insured properties (at least 1 policy holder)
LPDM	• Requires coordination with an elected representative to have them advocate for the jurisdiction's project in congress

General Info

- FMA and BRIC are both nationally competitive programs that are scored and ranked by FEMA HQ

Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Requirement:

- Active and FEMA-approved, locally adopted plan **both** at time of grant submission, and grant award

Goals of NOI Submission

- Time and resource management
- Screening tool for eligibility and competitiveness
- Early intervention to flag potential issues
- Determine if potential projects are aligned with FEMA and State funding priorities for mitigation
- All steps occur in the Cal OES Community Portal (Engage)



1. NOI Submission
2. NOI Approval
3. Subapplication Development
4. Subapplication Submission

Let's Connect!

Send all project scoping, technical assistance, and funding opportunity questions to Cal OES Technical Assistance at ResilientCA@caloes.ca.gov.

Direct all other questions, including those about active grants, to Hazard Mitigation Assistance at: HMA@caloes.ca.gov.

Sign up for HMA Program Updates and Notifications

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