

May 6, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

The State of Iowa will receive FEMA disaster funding under the *Hazard Mitigation Grant Program* (HMGP) as part of Presidential disaster declarations DR-1977-IA (May 5, 2011) as a result of severe storms, tornadoes and straight-line winds that occurred in our State this spring.

Project Types

The State is making available HMGP funds for those eligible hazard mitigation project types that will reduce or eliminate losses from future natural disasters, including but not limited to:

- Construction of tornado safe rooms (Multi-functional community or school safe room projects are highly encouraged)
- Acquisition, structural relocation or elevation of buildings located in a special flood hazard area
- Structural and non-structural retrofitting of existing public buildings, facilities, or utilities to protect against wind, ice, or flood hazards
- Minor structural hazard control or protection projects such as storm water management (e.g., culverts, floodgates, retention basins)
- Localized flood control projects, such as floodwall systems, that are designed specifically to protect critical facilities and do not constitute a section of a larger flood control system

The State will consider all eligible HMGP project types **except** back-up power generation and severe weather warning systems at this time. The State will publish a follow on notice if funding for back-up power generation and warning systems becomes available in the future.

Eligible Applicant

Potentially eligible applicants include:

- State agencies and local governments
- Federally recognized Indian tribal governments, including State-recognized Indian tribes, and authorized tribal organizations
- Private nonprofit (PNP) organizations or institutions that operate a PNP facility as defined in the 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 206.221(e).

The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires a FEMA approved local hazard mitigation plan prior to FEMA awarding HMGP project funds. If a community does not have an approved plan or is engaged in the planning process, there may still be an opportunity for them to be awarded HMGP project funds once the plan is approved. These communities are encouraged to submit a Notice of Interest (NOI) and potentially develop a project application.

Applicants with proposed projects located in a FEMA-identified Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) are eligible for funding only if the jurisdiction in which the project is located is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). There is no NFIP participation requirement for projects located outside of the SFHA.

Funding & Cost Share

Currently, the State has several HMGP funding opportunities still open. We will continue to accept and submit all eligible applications as long as funding is still available and the grant application period has not closed. The State Hazard Mitigation Officer will determine the disaster in which all applications will be funded under based on the remaining available funds.

This is a cost share grant program which means that awarded grants will be funded as follows:

- Federal (FEMA) share of total eligible costs – 75% maximum
- Non Federal share of total eligible costs – 25%
 - State of Iowa – 10%
 - Local – 15%

Notice of Interest (NOI) & Application Process

Applicants must complete and email the appropriate (project specific) NOI form using the format provided to hsem.d.mitigation@iowa.gov . The NOI forms can be found using the following link:
<http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/grants/HMA.html>

The State strongly encourages early submission of NOIs. The State hazard mitigation staff will review NOIs for basic eligibility and send invitations to complete a full HMGP project application within a few weeks of receipt. The invitation letter will identify a State Mitigation Project Officer who will work directly with the applicant. This Project Officer will contact the applicant to discuss the proposed project, the application requirements, and be available to provide technical assistance during the application development process if needed.

Current HMGP Application deadlines are as follows:

<u>Disaster</u>	<u>Applications Due Date - State</u>	<u>Application Due Date - FEMA</u>
DR-1880	July 29, 2011	August 29, 2011
DR-1928	September 27, 2011	October 25, 2011
DR-1930	September 28, 2011	October 27, 2011
DR-1977	April 5, 2012	May 4, 2012

For additional information or questions, feel free to contact a lead State Mitigation Project Officer:

Dan Schmitz – Deputy State Hazard Mitigation Officer: dan.schmitz@iowa.gov	515-224-5696
Linda Roose - Planning & Safe Room Lead: linda.roose@iowa.gov	515-224-5717
Jonathon Pogones - Acquisition/Relocation Lead: jonathan.pogones@iowa.gov	515-224-5668
Carol Tomb – Infrastructure Lead carol.tomb@iowa.gov	515-224-5719
William Covington –Electric Utilities Lead: William.covington@iowa.gov	515-224-5693

We ask that the County Emergency Management Coordinators, Councils of Government, and Planning Commissions forward this information to the communities in their service area to achieve the widest distribution possible.

John Wageman
State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division