



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Emergency Management

Roy Cooper, Governor
Casandra Skinner Hoekstra, Interim Secretary

William C. Ray, Director

August 16, 2021

**NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
The Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
FY 2021 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)
FY 2021 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published their Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) on August 9, 2021. NCEM is now accepting Letters of Interest (LOIs) for possible inclusion in the State's submission for both programs to FEMA. Eligible applicants are local governments with approved and adopted Hazard Mitigation Plans. Letters of Interest must be received by NCEM no later than Close of Business (5pm) on **October 1, 2021**.

NOTE: If you are going to apply for this funding opportunity and have **not** obtained a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and/or **are not** currently registered in the System for Award Management (SAM), please take immediate action to obtain a DUNS Number, if applicable, and then to register immediately in SAM. It may take 4 weeks or more after you submit your SAM registration before your registration is active in SAM, then an additional 24 hours for Grants.gov to recognize your information. Information on obtaining a DUNS number and registering in SAM is available from Grants.gov at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>. Detailed information regarding DUNS and SAM is also provided in Section D of this NOFO, subsection, Content and Form of Application Submission.

The information provided below is a briefing of the BRIC NOFO (DHS-21-MT-047-00-99). Please review the complete document and accompanying support material at www.NCDPS.gov/BRIC. The FMA NOFO (DHS-21-MT-029-000-99) and support materials are also located there.

Who?

The State is seeking Letters of Intent for FEMA's BRIC2021 competition. Local governments (city/county/state-recognized tribal) may submit ideas, plans and shovel-ready projects to the State, who will convene peer review panels to score and rank the projects using the qualitative and technical scoring criteria outlined in the FEMA-NOFO. Extra points are available for economically disadvantaged rural communities.

What?

Funds can be used for Capability- and Capacity-Building (C&CB) activities, cost-effective mitigation projects and management costs (15%). Total available funding for the program is \$1B.

a. State/Territory Allocation Subtotal: \$ 56,000,000

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- b. Tribal Set-Aside Subtotal: \$ 25,000,000
- c. National Competition Subtotal: \$919,000,000

C&CB projects will be funded using North Carolina’s state allocation of \$1M and the mitigation projects will compete nationally after being prioritized in two state peer review panels.

Projects scoring is heavily weighted to favor those that incorporate nature-based solutions and consider climate change or other future conditions, such as sea-level rise and population changes. Proposals are expected to explain how the project will affect one or more of [FEMA’s Community Lifelines](#).

Where?

LOI’s must be submitted in the EMGrants portal. After being invited by the state to proceed to the full application, those will be completed in the new FEMA-Go software at <https://go.fema.gov/>

When?

Group	Key Dates:	Required
All	August 16, 2021:	NOFO Released
Local	October 1, 2021 (5pm):	LOI submitted via EMGrants Pro
State	October 15, 2021:	Local jurisdictions notified if selected to apply
Local Gov’t	October 16, 2021:	Begin Grant Sub-Applications in FEMA GO
Local Gov’t	November 24, 2021 (5pm)	Sub-Application due in FEMA GO
State	December 1, 2021	NCDPS Peer Review Panel
State/Local	December 6-7, 2021	Meetings To Discuss Scores & Return for Improvements
Local Gov’t	January 7, 2022 (5pm)	Final Sub-Application Due (BRIC & FMA)
State	January 28, 2022 (3pm):	State’s Application Due Date

*FMA sub-applicants are not subject to the two state review panels for rating and ranking. The FMA process skips from the October 15 notification directly to the January 7 final sub-application due date.

How?

The Period of Performance (POP) is 36 months, starting on the date of the recipient’s federal award. This process starts with the LOI referenced on page 1. For more information, contact:

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HM Development Supervisor – Jason Pleasant	Jason.Pleasant@NCDPS.gov	919-873-5852
Grants Development Specialist – BRIC Lead	Kaine.Riggan@NCDPS.gov	919-873-5854

Cost share is required for all subapplications funded under this program. Generally, the cost share for this program is 75 percent federal / 25 percent non-federal. This means federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of eligible costs. The remaining 25 percent of eligible costs must be derived from non-federal sources. For example, if the total cost of the activity is \$400,000 and the non-federal cost share is 25 percent, then the non-federal contribution is \$100,000: 25 percent of \$400,000 is \$100,000. This amount would be provided by the applicant. Likewise, the federal share of that activity would be \$300,000: 75 percent of \$400,000 is \$300,000. This amount would be provided by FEMA. FEMA will provide 100 percent federal funding for management costs.

The non-federal cost share may consist of cash, donated or third-party in-kind services, materials, or any combination thereof. Cash and third-party in-kind matches must consist of eligible costs (i.e., same eligibility as the federal share). Applicants cannot apply other federal award funds toward the BRIC non-federal cost share unless the other federal statutory authority allows the funds to be used to meet cost-share requirements.

Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities are eligible for an increase in cost share up to 90 percent federal / 10 percent non-federal. The definition of an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community is a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals identified by the applicant that is economically disadvantaged, with residents having an average per capita annual income not exceeding 80 percent of the national per capita income, based on best available data.

Application/Submission Information and Instructions

Local Governments (or other eligible agencies) are “sub-recipients” or “sub-applicants”. The State (NCEM HMGP) is the “recipient” or “applicant”. The sub-applicant (Local Governments) will first submit Letters of Interest (LOI) to the applicant (State) in EMGrants Pro no later than **October 1, 2021** (5pm). The State (applicant) will screen sub-applications using staff and a peer review panel and notify those that meet State priorities and eligibility. The State (applicant) will notify sub-applicants to proceed with the application process in FEMA GO no later than October 15, 2021. Sub-applicants will begin their application build in FEMA Go or about October 16, 2021. Sub-applicants are then required to complete their sub-applications no later than November 24, 2021. The State will then review subapplications using a peer review panel which will rate and rank the projects using the same qualitative criteria outlined on pages 28-29 of the FEMA-BRIC NOFO. The State will then share the panel’s findings and return the subapplication to the local governments on December 6-7, 2021. **The final draft of those subapplications MUST be completed in FEMA-Go by 5:00 p.m on January 7, 2022.**



BRIC will require access and use of **EMGrants** and **FEMA GO**. Instructions for EMGrants and FEMA GO have been provided separately with this NOFO and are available at www.NCDPS.gov/BRIC. Sub-applications and applications are processed through the FEMA GO system. To access the system, go to <https://go.fema.gov/>. Hard copies of the NOFO can also be downloaded at Grants.gov.

Please review the full FEMA Notice of Funding Opportunity, along with NCDPS’s BRIC 2021 Kick-Off Webinar and other helpful tools at www.NCDPS.gov/BRIC.

Steve McGugan

State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Assistant Director / Mitigation Section Chief