Overview


The EMPG program plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System. The program supports the building, sustainment and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. Delivering core capabilities requires the combined efforts of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The EMPG program’s allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

Title VI of the Stafford Act authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to make grants for the purpose of providing a system of emergency preparedness for the protection of life and property in the United States. Emergency preparedness is a shared responsibility between the Federal government and state, local, tribal and territorial governments nationwide. Through the EMPG program, the Federal government provides coordination, guidance, and assistance to support a comprehensive emergency preparedness system to address all hazards.

Funding

In FY 2019, the EMPG program provides $350,100,000 to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial governments in preparing for all hazards, as authorized by the Stafford Act. This funding amount includes $100,000 from the Disaster Relief Fund, which FEMA must make available to the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands pursuant to Article X of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement of the Compact of Free Association Act (Pub. L. No. 108-188).
All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico each receive a base amount of 0.75 percent of the total available grant funding. Four territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) each receive a base amount of 0.25 percent of the total available grant funding. The balance of EMPG program funds is distributed based on population.

Eligibility

All 56 states and territories, as well as the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia (collectively “state or territory”), are eligible to apply for FY 2019 EMPG program funds. Either the State Administrative Agency (SAA) or the State’s Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is eligible to apply directly to FEMA for EMPG funds on behalf of each state or territory. However, only one application is accepted from each state or territory.

Funding Guidelines

The FY 2019 EMPG program focuses on planning, operations, equipment acquisitions, training, exercises, construction, and renovation to enhance and sustain the all-hazards core capabilities of state, local, tribal and territorial governments. The period of performance for the EMPG program is 36 months, from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2021.

The FY 2019 EMPG program has a cost-share requirement. The Recipient contribution can be cash (hard match) or third-party in-kind (soft match). Eligible EMPG program applicants shall agree to make available non-Federal funds to carry out an EMPG award in an amount not less than 50 percent of the total project cost. Specifically, the Federal share applied toward the EMPG budget shall not exceed 50 percent of the total budget as submitted in the application and approved in the award. If the total project ends up costing more, the Recipient is responsible for any additional costs; if the total project ends up costing less, the recipient may owe FEMA an amount required to ensure that the Federal cost share is not in excess of 50 percent. A state must at least equally match (cash or third party in-kind) the Federal contribution pursuant to sections 611(j) and 613(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Pub. L. No. 93-288), as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§ 5121 et seq.). Unless otherwise authorized by law, Federal funds cannot be matched with other Federal funds. The Recipient’s contribution should be specifically identified. These non-Federal contributions have the same eligibility requirements as the Federal share.

DHS/FEMA administers cost-matching requirements in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.306. To meet matching requirements, the Recipient’s contributions must be verifiable, reasonable, allowable, allocable, necessary under the grant program, and in compliance with all applicable Federal requirements and regulations.

In accordance with 48 U.S.C. § 1469a, cost-match requirements are waived for the insular areas of the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

For more information about funding guidelines, please see the FY 2019 EMPG Notice of Funding Opportunity, located at www.fema.gov/grants.
Application Process and Evaluation Criteria

Applications must be submitted no later than May 29, 2019 at 5 p.m. ET. To access the application, first visit www.grants.gov, then complete the full application at ND Grants.

Each FEMA regional office will be responsible for reviewing their respective states’ and territories’ FY 2019 EMPG application and work plan. The regional offices will assess each state and territory’s emergency management sustainment and enhancement efforts, as well as the linkage to the core capabilities identified in the National Preparedness Goal.

Additional guidance and application kits are available at www.fema.gov/grants.