



# Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) DR-4418 Application Round Announcement



Washington State Military Department

Emergency Management Division

Camp Murray, WA 98430

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A new Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) round is now available in Washington State as a direct result of Major Disaster Declaration DR-4418 (Severe Winter Storms, Straight-Line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, Mudslides, and Tornado), which was federally declared on March 4, 2019. HMGP provides cost-share grants to eligible entities to fund cost-effective mitigation projects as well as new hazard mitigation plans or plan updates.

Eligible entities are invited to submit Pre-Applications expressing their interest in applying for grant funding under the DR-4418 HMGP round. HMGP is competitive and open to all eligible entities in Washington, regardless of whether they were specifically named in the DR-4418 Disaster Declaration. However, grant applications submitted by declared and affected counties (and/or the entities within them) will be given priority status, as explained below.

## **Criteria for Eligible Applicants**

Eligible entities include local governments, special purpose districts, state agencies, private non-profits providing essential government services, and Federally-recognized tribes. To be eligible for a project grant, applicants (other than private non-profits) must have, or be formally annexed to, a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-approved hazard mitigation plan. Applicants that do not have FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plans are only eligible (with limited exceptions) for planning grants to create new hazard mitigation plans or update existing plans.

## **Funding and Priority Considerations**

Washington's HMGP funding is equal to 20% of the disaster assistance dollars provided by FEMA for DR-4418. FEMA determines a 30-day estimate, a 6-month estimate, and a final 12-month "lock-in" amount for HMGP funds. The current estimate for this round's total available federal funding is \$2.9 million. This estimate is subject to change and may not reflect FEMA's 6-month estimate or final 12-month "lock-in" amount.

Washington Emergency Management Division (EMD) manages HMGP application review, ranking, and submission to FEMA for funding consideration. This round's HMGP funding priorities are focused on eligible entities within the DR-4418 Declared and Affected (non-declared) counties. The DR-4418 Declared and Affected counties are as follows:

- **Declared Counties:** Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Mason, Pacific, Snohomish, Whatcom
- **Affected (non-declared) Counties:** King, Kitsap, Lewis, Pierce, Skagit, Thurston

**For the DR-4418 HMGP round, eligible applications will be given funding consideration in the following order of priority:**

1. Previously submitted full HMGP applications\* from eligible entities within the above-listed Declared counties
2. Previously submitted full HMGP applications\* from eligible entities within the above-listed Affected counties
3. New HMGP applications from eligible entities within the above listed Disaster-Declared counties
4. New HMGP applications from eligible entities within the above-listed Disaster-Affected counties
5. Previously submitted and/or new HMGP applications from all other eligible entities

\* Previously submitted full HMGP applications are those submitted to EMD in previous HMGP rounds that were unfunded due to lack of available funds in that round. Pre-Application Forms are not considered full HMGP applications.

## **Application Process and Deadlines**

EMD administers HMGP using a two-step application process: (1) submission of a Pre-Application and (2) submission of a full application package (upon invitation).

**STEP 1: Submit a Pre-Application Form. The Pre-Application DEADLINE to be considered for this funding round is Friday, June 28, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.** WA EMD accepts Pre-Applications at any time; however, to be considered for this round, Pre-Applications must be submitted by the deadline. Pre-Applications must be submitted using the one-page form provided by EMD and sent to [HMA@mil.wa.gov](mailto:HMA@mil.wa.gov). Like a Letter of Intent, this form will provide basic information regarding applicant eligibility, proposal eligibility, and overall suitability for HMGP funding. EMD Mitigation staff will review it and provide direct feedback, technical assistance and guidance regarding an applicant's next steps. Entities may submit multiple Pre-Applications. Entities that have already submitted Pre-Application Forms can contact EMD Mitigation at [HMA@mil.wa.gov](mailto:HMA@mil.wa.gov) to discuss their proposal's potential for inclusion in this round.

**STEP 2: Submit a Full Application (by invitation only).** Eligible entities that submit Pre-Application Forms with potentially eligible and suitable proposals will be invited by EMD to complete a full application package for the DR-4418 HMGP round. EMD staff will provide those entities with a full application, program guidance, and supporting documents. Full application submission deadlines will be established upon EMD's transmittal of the invitation to apply.

## **Cost Shares and Match Requirements**

The maximum available federal share for HMGP grants is 75% of the total approved project expenses. Each grant has a 25% non-federal match requirement, which the state splits equally with the local subrecipient (12.5% state, 12.5% local, with limited exceptions).

## **Eligible HMGP Mitigation Activities: Planning and Project Grants**

Planning grants fund efforts to create new FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plans or update existing FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plans.

Project grants, on the other hand, help put mitigation plans into action by funding site-specific projects that reduce or eliminate a community's risk from future natural hazards. The most common types of natural hazards mitigated with HMGP funds in Washington are flood, earthquake, tsunami, landslide, and wildfire. Eligible project activities include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition, elevation, or relocation of flood-prone or imminently threatened properties
- Localized flood risk reduction projects
- Structural and non-structural seismic retrofitting of existing buildings and Earthquake Early Warning systems
- Infrastructure retrofits (utility systems, roads, bridges, generators, etc.)
- Soil or bank stabilization
- Wildfire mitigation in the Wildland-Urban Interface (such as defensible space work and ignition-resistant retrofits)

## **HMGP Guidance**

Please reference FEMA's [Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance](#) for more information. The *Guidance* covers all programmatic requirements related to the DR-4418 HMGP round, including applicant and proposal eligibility, funding caps, cost shares, and information on specific project types.

## **Questions?**

You can visit WA EMD's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants website for more details, including our Pre-Application: <https://mil.wa.gov/emergency-management-division/grants/hazard-mitigation-grants>

Please send your questions to the Hazard Mitigation Assistance all-staff e-mail address: [HMA@mil.wa.gov](mailto:HMA@mil.wa.gov).