

Emergency Management

Roy Cooper, Governor Eddie M. Buffaloe, Jr., Secretary William C. Ray, Director

August 16, 2022

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) FY 2022 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published their Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) on August 12, 2022. NCEM is now accepting Letters of Interest (LOIs) for possible inclusion in the State's BRIC submissions to FEMA. Eligible applicants are local governments or tribes with approved and adopted Hazard Mitigation Plans or entities assisting an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community (as defined on page 2) with the application and project. Eligible entities who can apply on behalf of an EDRC are defined on page 14 of the full <u>FEMA BRIC2022 NOFO</u>. Letters of Interest must be received by NCEM no later than Close of Business (5pm) on **October 3, 2022**.

NOTE: If you intend to apply for this funding opportunity and <u>are not</u> currently registered in the System for Award Management (SAM), please take immediate action to register 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.

Effective April 4, 2022, the Federal Government transitioned from using the Data Universal Numbering System or DUNS number, to a new, non-proprietary identifier known as a Unique Entity Identifier or UEI. For entities that had an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM) prior to this date, the UEI has automatically been assigned and no action is necessary. For all entities filing a new registration in SAM.gov on or after April 4, 2022, the UEI will be assigned to that entity as part of the SAM.gov registration process.

The information provided below is a briefing of the NOFO (DHS-22-MT-047-00-98). Please review the complete document and accompanying support material at <u>www.NCDPS.gov/BRIC</u>

<u>Who?</u>

The State is seeking Letters of Intent for FEMA's BRIC2022 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 and prior-year BRIC applicants.

Mailing Address: 4238 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-4238 www.ncdps.gov/ncem



Office Location: 200 Park Offices Drive Suite 100 Durham, NC 27713

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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 \$2.3B. Of that figure, \$2,133,000,000 is available for mitigation (construction) projects in the national competition and \$2M is available for C&CB activities in the State of North Carolina. All projects will compete at the State level in two state peer review panels and the top construction proposals will move to the national competition.

The scoring is heavily weighted to favor those that incorporate partnerships and nature-based solutions and those that 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 <u>FEMA's</u> <u>Community Lifelines</u>.

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 <u>https://go.fema.gov/</u>

When?

<u>Group</u>	Key Dates:	Required
All	August 16, 2022:	NCEM NOFO Released
Local	October 3, 2022 (5pm):	LOI submitted via EMGrants Pro
State	October 14, 2022:	Local jurisdictions notified if selected to apply
Local Gov't	October 17, 2022:	Begin Grant Sub-Applications in FEMA GO
Local Gov't	November 18, 2022 (5pm)	Sub-Application due in FEMA GO
State	December 1-2, 2022	NCDPS State Prioritization Panel
State/Local	December 5-7, 2022	Meetings To Discuss Scores & Return for Improvements
Local Gov't	January 7, 2023 (5pm)	Final Sub-Application due in FEMA GO
State	January 27, 2023 (3pm):	State's 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:

State Hazard Mitigation Officer: Steve McGugan	Steve.McGugan@NCDPS.gov	919-873-5843
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 (local and/or partnership funding). 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 the applicant.

FEMA. FEMA will provide 100 percent federal funding for management costs. The local government (sub-applicant) receives 5% of the total project cost in 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. Additionally, NCEM discourages the use of other State funds for the local match. Extra points are available for communities who provide an overmatch (see FEMA NOFO, page 28, Technical Review Criterion #6)

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 (EDRC) is a community of 3,000 or fewer individuals 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 3, 2022** (5pm). The State 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 14, 2022. Sub-applicants will begin their application build in FEMA Go or about October 17, 2022. Sub-applicants are then required to complete their sub-applications no later than November 18, 2022. 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 29-31 of the FEMA-BRIC NOFO. The State will then share the panel's findings and return the subapplication to the local governments during scheduled meetings December 5-7, 2022. The **final draft of those subapplications MUST be completed in FEMA-Go by 5:00 p.m on January 7, 2023.**

BRIC 2022 GRANT TIMELINE



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 <u>www.NCDPS.gov/BRIC</u>. 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 grant development webinars and other helpful tools at <u>www.NCDPS.gov/BRIC</u>.

Steve McGugan State Hazard Mitigation Officer Assistant Director / Mitigation Section Chief Division of Emergency Management NC Department of Public Safety