

NC Department of Public Safety

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Roy Cooper, Governor

Eddie M. Buffaloe Jr., Secretary William C. Ray, Director

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO): North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund

North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) is now accepting applications for grants funded through the 2023 Appropriations Act, *S.L. 2023-134, § 5.6(f)*, the Emergency Management Disaster Relief and Mitigation Fund.

Eligible applicants are state agencies, units of local government, public authorities, and nonprofit organizations.

Funding can be used for flood mitigation, transportation infrastructure resilience against natural disasters, and assistance with local matching to drawn down federal mitigation funds.

Applications must be received by NCEM no later than Close of Business (5pm) on **31 January 2024**.

Eligible Applicants

State agencies, units of local government, nonprofit organizations, and public authorities, as defined in G.S. 159-7, may submit projects to the Emergency Management Long-Term Recovery Group who will convene a panel to score the projects. Nonprofit organization projects are limited to nonsectarian or nonreligious purposes which address such items in the section below.

Eligible Categories of Work

Funds can be used for the following categories of work:

- (1) Flood mitigation efforts that stabilize areas and reduce future damage.
- (2) Ensuring transportation resilience against natural disasters
- (3) Predevelopment assistance to provide small and underserved communities with technical assistance to identify and design shovel-ready projects related to disaster relief and flood mitigation.
- (4) Financial assistance with local cost share to draw down federal funds on approved federal mitigation grants.

Initial funding for this notice is anticipated to be \$25,000,000.

Projects can be 100% funded with <u>no cost share</u> and are paid on a <u>reimbursement</u> basis. Grant administration costs are <u>not</u> eligible.



Examples of Eligible Projects:

(Not intended to be a full list but may help applicants to identify possible projects)

- Construction of new or improvement of existing stormwater infrastructure
- Engineering expenses related to planning and implementation of flood mitigation projects.
- Elevation of buildings, controls, or other improvements of public infrastructure to mitigate future flood damage.
- Projects to protect public infrastructure from flooding.
- Projects that update and prepare transportation infrastructure for storms, mudslides, and flooding events taking projections of future risk into consideration.
- Risk assessments for critical transportation routes, building on existing and future reports, such as the I-95 and I-40 Flood Resilience Feasibility Study.
- Creating community-informed flood risk and vulnerability assessments that identify resilience gaps and project opportunities for transportation routes in North Carolina to help maintain vital transportation functions following flooding events.

Applicants applying for local cost share assistance for projects that require a local cost share to access federal funds should provide additional information within the application including 1) any notice of approval for your project from the funding agency, 2) a clear understanding of all additional funding sources for the project, and 3) current requirements of the applicant for local match.

Where to Submit Application Materials

Applications must be submitted to the following email address: <u>NCEMLTR.grants@ncdps.gov</u>. Applications will be reviewed for completeness with completed applications scored and ranked.

Key Target Dates:

8-December-2023	NOFO Released
31-January-2024	Application Deadline
15-March-2024	NC Review Panel Scoring completed
April 2024	Applicants Notifications
May-June 2024	Complete and Sign grant agreements

The Period of Performance (POP) is up to 36 months, starting on the date of the recipient's award. This process starts with the application referenced below.

Process to Submit Your Application

Application/Submission Information and Instructions

Application deadline 31 January 2024 (5:00PM)

Application to be submitted to <u>NCEMLTR.grant@ncdps.gov</u> with subject line "Applicant name – Project name – 2023 DRMF Grant Application"

Application email should include the completed <u>Application Document</u> and any additional attachments to support the project. Please make sure that you address each part of the application. The points below are representative of what you will find needed within the application. (Scoring weight in brackets):

- 1) Applicant Name, Address, Contact Information, and Project Name. Nonprofit corporations should also include the "Certificate of Existence from the NC Secretary of State, bylaws, and documentation to support ownership or right for project specific facility. (10)
- 2) General description of the Project (15)

- 3) Describe how the project mitigates future damage or flooding include impact on community. (35)
- 4) Scope of Work (SOW) and cost estimate for the project to achieve #3 above, including an understanding of how the estimate was achieved. (20)
- 5) Timeline from approval of Grant to project completion. (10)
- 6) How and who will manage the project if awarded and their qualifications. Additionally, the applicants should include their experience in managing a grant award. (10)

Competitive proposals likely will include:

- Clear understanding of how the project mitigates against frequent flooding or mitigates against frequent disruptions to transportation infrastructure from nature disasters, or a clear understanding of need for matching assistance on approved federal mitigation grants.
- Understanding of the benefits for residents, businesses, and other entities within a community including the percent of the community impacted by the project.
- Professional or engineering reports for the project.
- A current estimate of probable cost with an understanding of how this was developed.
- How the project links to previous comprehensive assessments or planning effort or an understanding of how the community prioritizes this project.
- An understanding of likely implementation of a full construction project.

For more information, please send any questions to <u>NCEMLTR.grant@ncdps.gov</u>

Projects that are selected will require applicants to sign a Grant Agreement (MOA) and will be expected to comply with the terms of the agreement, including quarterly reporting and interim and final inspections as necessary or risk timely payment or funding. Also, applicants will be required to submit the below listed OSBM required documents/forms with the signed MOA if awarded a grant under this fund:

- <u>W-9 (09 NCAC 03M .0202</u>)
- <u>Electronic Payment / Vendor Verification Form (09 NCAC 03M .0202)</u>
- Conflict of Interest Policy (<u>G.S. 143C-6-23.(b)</u>)
- <u>Sworn (Notarized) No Overdue Tax Debt Certification (G.S. 143C-6-23.(c)</u>)