

Sonja Birr

From: Lindert, Jon <Jon.Lindert@strand.com>
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2022 2:42 PM
To: Greg Minikel
Cc: Matt Smits; Dan Koski; Williams, Mike
Subject: External: Manitowoc-FEMA BRIC Funding Opportunity
Attachments: FFY22 BRIC Notification Memo.pdf; WI BRIC Preapplication.docx; WEM Fact Sheet - BCEGS 2022.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Greg-Mike and I just left a voice message with you on this. As Mike mentioned, we are almost complete with the alternatives analyses and are finalizing flood depth figures, alternatives figures, and opinion of project construction cost numbers.

As a next step, and to keep you apprised of an upcoming potential funding source for projects coming out of the Stormwater Hydrology and Hydraulics Study, please see the information below. Note that we originally mentioned this program in a 10/5/22 email to the City and conversations with the Wisconsin Emergency Management since then appear to make the FEMA BRIC program a viable funding source for your upcoming projects.

In that regard, there appears to be a potential grant opportunity to partially fund the design of one of the projects through the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program. While the state allocation of funds is anticipated to be limited to only around \$2 million, there is an estimated \$2.133 billion in remaining BRIC funds that is expected to be included in a national competition for mitigation projects. The City would be a subapplicant to the state of Wisconsin (applicant) and the federal share of funds for each subapplicant project can be up to \$50 million. The cost share is **75% federal/25% local**. While the next WDNR Municipal Flood Control Grant program has a grant application deadline in March 2024, should the City receive funding through that program in the future, then it could help fund the City's 25% local share for a design/construction project. The FEMA BRIC grant application start date is Sept. 30, 2022 and the application submission deadline is Jan. 27, 2023. However, Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM) must be notified no later than November 18, 2022, with the City's Intent to Apply and a Preapplication (see attachment) by November 20, 2022. There are a number of other deadlines to submit the draft and final applications to WEM as shown in the attached guidance document (FFY22 BRIC Notification Memo.pdf and WEM Fact Sheet - BCEGS 2022.docx). Note that project selection is anticipated to be announced in June/July 2023 with notice of grant award in November/December 2023. The period of performance for the project is 3 years from the grant award date.

It appears there are two ways to apply.

1. **Capability- and Capacity-Building (C&CB):** This would be for project scoping such as studies or design of specific projects. It appears that WEM is reserving Wisconsin's \$2 million in 2022 for these type of projects. Development of a grant application (draft and final) **doesn't require** conducting a benefit-cost analysis (BCA) that demonstrates cost-effectiveness of the project. Note that the cost related to developing the BRIC grant application is eligible for grant funding. Also, please note that for a design project, the BCA could be completed under this program to allow for a better application in the future for a mitigation project under the national competition.
2. **Mitigation Projects:** This would be for design and/or construction of specific projects and would be funded through the National Competition. Note that other pre-award costs (project implementation activities prior to grant award including design and/or construction) are not eligible for grant funding. Note that WEM is stating that a preapplication would need to indicate a minimum score of 70 to be a good candidate at the National Competition, which may be

difficult as described in the attached guidance documents. Development of a grant application (draft and final) **requires** conducting a benefit-cost analysis (BCA) that demonstrates cost-effectiveness of the project. Note that the cost related to developing the BRIC grant application is eligible for grant funding.

On 11/10/22, we had a virtual meeting with Robyn Fennig of Wisconsin Emergency Management. She stated that there has been little interest in the C&CB program to-date and that a **flood study or design project** would have a high probability of being funded this year partly due to a likely lack of competition. If the City is interested, the table below shows two options to consider. We would **recommend Option 1** with an application for design that would help determine the BCA and would set the City up for a mitigation project application in 2024/2025 for design/construction in 2026. Are you available tomorrow for a virtual meeting? Any good times?

We could put together a quick pre-application prior to November 20, 2022, if desired. This would have to be followed by a draft and final grant application due Dec. 20, 2022 and January 27, 2023, respectively.

Option	Phases	C&CB Application	Study or Design Year	Mitigation Projects Application	Construction Year	Project Type
1	Design, Then Construction	2022/2023	Design-2024	Construction-2024/2025	2026	-Detention and/or Conveyance Upgrade Analyzed in Study -Municipal Flood Control Grant Submitted in 2024 could also fund a portion of the construction.
	OR					
2	Design & Construction			Design&Construction-2022/2023	2026	Detention and/or Conveyance Upgrade Analyzed in Study -Municipal Flood Control Grant Submitted in 2024 could also fund a portion of the construction.

Also, here is a link to FEMA’s BRIC website:

[Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities | FEMA.gov](https://www.fema.gov/building-resilient-infrastructure-and-communities)

Thanks,
Jon



Jon Lindert, P.E., LEED AP | Senior Associate
Strand Associates, Inc.®
608.251.4843 ext. 1191
jon.lindert@strand.com | www.strand.com
P.E. (IA, IL, OH)



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Greg Engle
Administrator

Tony Evers
Governor

DATE: August 31, 2022

TO: Wisconsin County and Tribal Emergency Management Directors,
WEM Region Directors, Wisconsin Silver Jackets Hazard Mitigation Team,
Interested Wisconsin Communities, Wisconsin Region Planning Commissions

FROM: Robyn Fennig, CFM *RF*
Hazard Mitigation Section Supervisor, WEM

SUBJECT: **2022 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program (BRIC)
Funding Opportunity Announcement**
Notify WEM by no later than November 19 with Intent to Apply +
Preapplication

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published its annual Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (FFY2022) national annually competitive grant programs, including the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. The application period closes January 27, 2023, at 2:00 pm CST. **Please forward this information to your municipal governments!**

Bottom Line Up Front: It is unlikely that a proposal will be selected in the national competition unless it meets ALL of the following requirements:

- mitigates risk to community infrastructure,
- incorporates green infrastructure,
- subrecipient local building codes go above and beyond the state codes and have a favorable Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating
- subrecipient is eligible receive at least partial points for Social Vulnerability
- the community can pay more than the required local match.

The fact that our state building codes are not aligned with the most recent versions of the International Code Council's model residential and commercial codes puts Wisconsin communities at a disadvantage in the national competition. I do not want to dissuade any communities from applying for the historically high funding pot totaling \$2.295 billion nationwide; however, I want to set appropriate expectations for you and your communities. Wisconsin is only guaranteed to receive \$2 million in its state set-aside allocation. This set-aside allocation will be prioritized for planning and project scoping grants, as they are required to fund successful projects.

Timelines:

- September 30, 2022: Application period officially opens on FEMA GO, FEMA's grant application online portal.
- November 18, 2022: **Notice of intent to apply due from all potential subapplicants.** To submit an intent to apply, complete the attached draft/pre-application to WEM, along with engineering and design (and any other attachments that are helpful) to DMAWEMHazardMitigation@widma.gov. In this email, include:
 - Name of the community,
 - Primary contact person, including email
 - Brief description of the project
 - Attach the BRIC 2022 Pre-Application Form
 - You may also send eligibility and feasibility questions.
- December 1, 2022: All potential subapplicants must be registered in FEMA GO (go.fema.gov), FEMA's online grants management system. If you have any issues registering or have complications, they must be resolved by this date. This is a Wisconsin-specific deadline. In order to complete your FEMA GO registration, you must also have an active SAM.gov account/registration, a valid EIN, and the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) on SAM.gov.
- December 20, 2022: Complete **final** draft subapplications due to WEM. This is not a deadline for a first draft. Due to increased interest in the program, we cannot accept first drafts submitted on or after this date. We will do a final review and will ask you to submit additional materials and make changes after this deadline, but it is a courtesy review to ensure completeness and that you will get maximum points possible in the national competition. If you want us to review first drafts, they must be submitted well ahead of this December 20 deadline.
- January 24, 2023, at 11:59 pm CST: Your subapplication is due to WEM on FEMA GO. We need time to prepare the submission to FEMA and report any technical difficulties with FEMA GO on January 25. **We will not wait for any applications or attachments submitted after this date. No exceptions.**
- June/July 2023: FEMA anticipates announcing the selection of subapplications.
- November/December 2023: Anticipated award date for grant funding. (No guarantees.)

Eligible Subapplicants:

In Wisconsin, eligible subapplicants include:

- Federally recognized tribal governments that have participated in the planning process for and adopted a local or standalone tribal mitigation plan
- Local units of government (towns, villages, cities, counties) that have participated in the planning process for and adopted a local mitigation plan
 - School districts and other special districts *may* be eligible if they participated in an adopted their local mitigation plan! Contact us for more information or questions.

- State agencies that participated in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan update

Individuals, businesses, and private non-profits are NOT eligible to apply for grants but may be sponsored by an eligible local unit of government.

Like all other Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants, WEM is the Applicant to FEMA and serves as the pass-through entity for all subapplications.

Tribal nations may go directly to FEMA to apply for funding and have similar set-aside opportunities. We encourage Wisconsin tribal nations to apply for directly to FEMA to take advantage of the additional set-aside funds available to you. If you represent a tribal nation in Wisconsin and are considering applying directly to FEMA, please let us know! WEM will support tribal applicants with technical assistance to the same level as subapplicant communities.

BRIC Program

BRIC is a program focused on reducing the risk from natural hazards and targets high impact investments to community-level infrastructure. In total, FEMA has \$2.295 billion in funding through the FY22 BRIC program. This includes a total guaranteed allocation for state and territorial governments of \$112 million (\$2 million per state and territory), a tribal set-aside totaling \$50 million, and the remaining balance of \$2.133 billion for a national competition.

Wisconsin will be guaranteed \$2 million total in our state allocation, of which, \$1 million can be utilized for non-construction grants, like updating hazard mitigation plans or completing project scoping studies. We will rank and score our applications per the priorities in our State Hazard Mitigation Plan and will not fund a project with more than \$1 million federal share, to give as many communities an opportunity to receive funding as possible.

For the National Competition, subapplicants may apply for projects that have a maximum federal share of \$50 million. Generally, grants receive a 75% Federal cost-share and 25% non-federal match (cash, in-kind services, etc.). Up to a 90% federal cost share is available for economically disadvantaged rural communities (aka EDRCs, more details below).

Financial Assistance (Grants) Available:

There are two primary financial grant types, with a third type of funding available only for selected subapplications:

1. Capability- and Capacity-Building (C&CB):

According to FEMA, C&CB includes, “activities which enhance the knowledge, skills, expertise, etc.” of a subapplicant and is comprised of “building codes activities, partnerships, project scoping, mitigation planning and planning-related activities, and other activities.” C&CB activities must result in a resource, strategy, or tangible mitigation product that will reduce or eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards, increase resilience, and promote a culture of preparedness.

WEM will reach out to the Counties and Tribal nations that should apply for planning grants this year proactively. We monitor the expiration dates and planning processes and will let you know when it’s time to apply and the best source for you.

We expect Wisconsin communities will use this project type to apply for project scoping grants that help a community identify and prepare eligible mitigation projects that they can apply for in future funding cycles. We can only apply for this type of project under our State Allocation. This will be a very competitive pool of applications for project scoping, and we recommend applying for less than the maximum available to ensure multiple projects can be selected.

2. Mitigation Projects:

FEMA defines this as “cost-effective projects designed to increase resilience and public safety; reduce injuries and loss of life; and reduce damage and destruction to property, critical services, facilities, and infrastructure.” Projects must align with an approved and adopted hazard mitigation plan, conform with latest published editions of consensus-based codes/specifications/standards that incorporate the latest hazard-resistant designs, be technically feasible, and solve a problem independently or constitute a standalone portion of a long-term solution.

All projects **MUST** be deemed cost-effective using FEMA’s Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) Toolkit Version 6.0. This means that the FEMA-approved valuation methods for future risk reduction benefits of the project must outweigh the costs associated with constructing and completing the project. When benefits are greater than costs in the FEMA software, a benefit-cost ratio (BCR) of 1.0 or higher results. This is typically the most difficult hurdle to clear for projects!

Any projects where construction or ground disturbance has already begun are **NOT** eligible for a FEMA mitigation grant.

3. Management Costs

Subapplicants can request an amount equal to 5% of their overall grant award to help cover Management Costs if so desired. Management Costs have a 100% federal cost share and are for eligible, reasonable costs and administrative expenses to administer the grant. This is only available for subrecipients applying for financial assistance through BRIC and will only be awarded if your grant is funded. See pages 21, 26 and 27 of the BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity.

BRIC Non-Financial Assistance:

BRIC also makes non-financial **Direct Technical Assistance (DTA)** available to communities to “build a community’s capacity and capability to improve its resiliency to natural hazards and to ensure stakeholders are capable of building and sustaining successful mitigation programs, submitting high-quality applications, and implementing new and innovative projects that reduce risk from a wide range of natural hazards.”

FEMA will select at most 40 communities nationwide to build capacity at the local level through DTA grants. This process is narrative-intensive and completely separate from the typical financial grant application process. **Please let us know immediately if you are interested in this type of assistance.**

For information on DTA, visit: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructurecommunities/direct-technical-assistance>.

Technical Scoring Criteria for the BRIC Program:

All submissions in the BRIC program will be scored first by the Technical Evaluation and then a Qualitative Evaluation. Only projects that rank in the top half of the Technical Evaluation of all submissions nationwide will be reviewed in the Qualitative Evaluation.

The Technical Evaluation offers points on several criteria which are outlined below. Each project will receive full point value or no points at all, based on the materials submitted by the subapplicant. There are 115 maximum points available in this portion of the review. Please note that, **all project applications in Wisconsin automatically start with at 20-point deduction, based on the Wisconsin state building codes.** As a result, if your application cannot score at least 70 points in the Technical Evaluation, we do not recommend that you apply for BRIC at this time.

You can learn more about the Technical Criteria here:

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities/resources>

Technical Criteria Description (Note these are in a different order than they are presented in the FEMA NOFO)	# Points
<p>Project Incentivizes Public Infrastructure*</p> <p>BRIC Policy FP-104-008-05 defines infrastructure as “critical physical structures, facilities, and systems that provide support to a community, its population, and economy.” This definition includes natural systems.</p> <p>Your scope of work should explain the infrastructure system(s) the project will enhance or protect, the importance to the community, and identify any vulnerable populations served by this infrastructure. Be clear, concise, and cite sources (e.g. Census data, studies or surveys about age, English proficiency, mobility, access to transportation, income, etc.).</p>	<p align="center">20 points</p>
<p>Incorporation of Nature-Based Solutions*</p> <p>FEMA defines nature-based solutions as sustainable planning, design, environmental management, and engineering practices that weave natural features or processes into the built environment to build resiliency. For more information please see FEMA’s 2021 publication on <i>Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions</i> available on the bottom of the FEMA BRIC home page: https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities#resources</p> <p>Your project narrative should clearly outline how the project incorporates nature-based solutions and how the project enhances the natural environment in your community.</p>	<p align="center">10 points</p>
<p>Subapplicant has a Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) Rating of 1 to 5*</p> <p>To receive points for the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule or BCEGS component, the subapplicant must document that their local building codes codes meet the rating of 1 through 5. WEM has a fact sheet to assist you through this process. We recommend getting started on this ASAP if your community building officials or zoning department does not know the BCEGS rating for the community. Please let us know if you need this fact sheet.</p>	<p align="center">20 points</p>

Counties are not eligible to have a BCEGS rating in Wisconsin, as this requirement falls to local units of government (cities/villages/towns). If the County is the subapplicant and you're applying for a project grant, you need to get a BCEGS rating for the local municipality where the project will take place (township, village, or city).	
Covering more than the minimum non-federal share*	5 points
If your community includes in its subapplication a commitment to provide more than the required minimum match, you receive 5 additional points. This means that the community covers at least 30% of the overall eligible expenses for a standard subapplicant, and 12% for a Disadvantaged Rural Community (EDRC). You do not receive more points for covering more than 5% or 2% for a standard or EDRC, respectively.	
Social Vulnerability Criteria* Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community (EDRC) Designation (30 points), Social Vulnerability Index Rating of 0.80 or higher (30 points), OR Social Vulnerability Index Rating of 0.60 to 0.79 (15 points)	30 or 15 points
EDRCs are eligible for up to a 90% federal/10% non-federal cost share (should be willing to commit at least 12% non-federal match to get additional points). To be considered for this, your community must have a population of no more than 3,000 people AND have an average per capita annual income that is 80% or less than the national per capita income. You must include documentation of this in your subapplication. For more information see pages 13-14 in the BRIC NOFO document. To see if your community receives points for "social vulnerability," you need to refer to the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI), available here: svi.cdc.gov/map.html Only two counties receive points in the CDC Social Vulnerability Index (Milwaukee County and Menominee County). For the community/local level, zoom into the map until individual Census Tracts are visible. There are numerous Census Tracts across the state with SVI scores greater than 0.6. Most counties have at least one Census Tract that receives 15 or 30 points.	
Application from a previous FEMA HMA Project Scoping, FEMA Direct Technical Assistance, or any other federal grant award*	10 points
This criterion includes all federal awards that your community has received and completed that helped you scope this proposal. This includes grants that do site assessment, partnership building, exploratory work, pay for engineering/design, or any other "preparation" type activity. On the FEMA side, less than 10 communities that have received an Advance Assistance, planning-related activity, or project scoping grant through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program or Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program. Chances are that your application will receive zero points for this criterion unless you received a federal planning/scoping award through the EPA, USDA, NOAA, HUD, or other federal agency.	
State or Tribe has mandatory state-wide or tribal-wide building code adoption requirement for residential and commercial codes	20 points
Wisconsin communities receive zero points, since our state codes (Uniform Dwelling Code and Commercial Code) are not aligned with the most recent versions of the ICC International Residential and Commercial Codes.	

*Due to the competitive nature of this grant program, you will likely need to get points in these criteria to have a realistic chance of getting selected in the national competition (95 points or 80 points, depending on the social vulnerability criterion).

Other BRIC Requirements:

- Cost Effectiveness: your project MUST pass a Benefit Cost Analysis using FEMA's software toolkit in order to be eligible. This analysis requires a lot of information and does not allow all projects to go forward. This is the first test WEM will conduct with you to see if you should prepare a full application.
- Go/No-Go Milestones: These are major milestones in the project, that if not completed on time may result in the cancellation of the subaward. You will be required to report on these in the quarterly reporting process, if selected by FEMA. You need to identify at least one Go/No-Go Milestone in your scope of work activities.
- The Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) review will be conducted by the State of Wisconsin and FEMA.
- Acquisition/Demolition projects have additional forms for property owners and the subapplicant community to fill out. WEM will send you these for completion by December 20.
- Floodplain requirements (for projects taking place in a FEMA-mapped floodplain).
- Conformance with the Uniform Administration Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements in 2 CFR Part 200. This includes all conditions on procurement, contracting, and avoiding conflicts of interest.

The official Notice of Funding Opportunity announcement includes more details on funding selection criteria. To access the Notice of Funding Opportunity and Fact Sheet for the BRIC program, please visit: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/fy2022-nofo>

We recommend that you look at the Resource List for the BRIC Grant Program before you begin a pre-application:

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities/resources>

Application Cycle

If a community intends to submit a project subapplication, they must notify the Mitigation Section at DMAWEMHazardMitigation@wi.gov by **Friday, November 18, 2022**. Questions about project eligibility and feasibility are also welcome.

Due to the short application period and to allow the State to process and submit a COMPLETE draft application by the required deadline, subapplicants must complete and submit their final subapplications to Wisconsin Emergency Management by no later than **Tuesday, December 20, 2022**. **WEM will not accept subapplications submitted after this date nor will incomplete subapplications be considered.** In the past, we have been very lenient, but due to time constraints, we cannot accept late applications this year. We will not submit an incomplete or ineligible application.

Subapplicants submitting pre-applications are required to have the following identifiers and accounts set up in order to begin their grant application – these processes must be completed by December 20, 2022:

- Registration for SAM.gov

- You will receive a CAGE Code and Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
- Instructions can be found here: <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>. There is a checklist available to walk you through the information you need to register at SAM.gov
- It can take several weeks to complete this; please begin this ASAP if you do not have an active registration.
- If you have a DUNS number, the DUNS has been replaced by the SAM.gov UEI.
- Employer Identification Number (EIN) aka a Federal Tax ID
- Registration with login.gov
- Registration with FEMA GO (go.fema.gov):
Instructions will be sent to communities upon receipt of their intent to apply.

Plan Requirement

All subapplicants for BRIC and FMA mitigation projects must have a FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan by the application deadline and at the time of obligation of funds. There is no local hazard mitigation plan requirement for any HMA program if the subapplicant is applying for a planning subaward.

In addition, 44 CFR Parts 201.6 and 201.7 require that an approved plan be reviewed, evaluated, and revised; adopted; and approved by FEMA every five years. Eligible subapplicants may apply to the BRIC program for a planning subaward to develop or update an all-hazards mitigation plan to meet the five-year requirement.

WEM will contact the communities directly whose all-hazards mitigation plans will be expiring about planning grant applications. If you have not received Information regarding all-hazards mitigation planning can be downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-planning>.

Program Requirements

The Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Guidance and Addendum, dated February 27, 2015, apply to this year's funding for the BRIC program. The programs are administered by WEM. Both guidance documents are located at <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/103279>.

If you plan on submitting a subapplication, you must read the HMA Guidance and the relevant sections of the Addendum. Eligible and ineligible activities are listed on pages 32 through 44. Part VIII of the HMA guidance has additional guidance unique to each program. The Addendum provides information applicable to particular types of projects and should be used in conjunction with the HMA Guidance. The Addendum includes project-specific information and requirements for Property Acquisition and Structure Demolition or Relocation for Open Space; Wildfire Mitigation; Safe Rooms; Mitigation Reconstruction; and Structure Elevation.

Subapplications must meet minimal eligibility and completeness criteria. Minimum Criteria Checklists for Project and Planning Subapplications can be found in Part IX, Appendix F and G of the HMA Guidance (page 148 and 151). Subapplications that do not include this information will not be considered. WEM and FEMA will review all subapplications for eligibility.

All projects must be cost-effective, environmentally sound, and identify other alternatives considered. Projects will be required to pass the Benefit-Cost Analysis. (Properties located in a FEMA-determined Special Flood Hazard Area included in an acquisition/demolition or elevation project may not require the traditional benefit-cost analysis if certain criteria are met.) Credible documentation will be required for the BCA. Subapplications submitted without the required documentation will not be accepted.

Application Process

Eligible subapplicants are strongly encouraged to apply for mitigation funds. Given the considerable work required to complete and process a mitigation subapplication and the very short application period, **subapplicants must contact WEM by no later than November 20, 2022 with a completed pre-application to determine if the proposed project is eligible and feasible under program guidelines.** Proposed projects must be consistent with the goals and objectives of the State of Wisconsin Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the approved local or tribal hazard mitigation plan.

The subapplicant must submit the subapplication and all supporting documentation to our staff by no later than Tuesday, December 20, 2022. This office will review and process only complete subapplications. Only complete and eligible subapplications will be forwarded to FEMA for their review.

After this review, subapplications for BRIC and FMA must be uploaded to the FEMA GO system. FEMA GO encompasses the entire application process and provides the means to electronically create, review, and submit an application to FEMA via the internet. Subapplicants can access FEMA GO at <https://go.fema.gov>. Subapplicants will need to contact this office as soon as possible to receive a subapplicant user access code and register on the site if they aren't already registered. If you are having problems creating a username/password, please contact the FEMA GO Helpline at 1-877-611-4700 or FEMAGO@fema.dhs.gov.

Due to the ongoing COVID Public Health Emergency, the WEM Mitigation Section remains on a primary remote work order. If you have questions or need additional information or assistance, please email the Section's shared email box at DMAWEMHazardMitigation@widma.gov or contact any member of the WEM Mitigation Section:

- Robyn Fennig, Hazard Mitigation Section Supervisor: Robyn.Fennig@widma.gov
- Heather Thole, Hazard Mitigation Project Lead: Heather.Thole@widma.gov
- Emily Cohen, Hazard Mitigation Planning Lead: Emily.Cohen@widma.gov
-

We are happy to follow-up with you by phone after you contact us by email.

Cc: WEM Region Emergency Management Directors
Wisconsin Regional Planning Commissions
Wisconsin Silver Jackets Hazard Mitigation Team

BRIC Project Pre-Application
DUE November 19, 2022

Sub-applicant: _____
(State agencies, county governments, cities/villages/townships only; non-profits are not eligible subapplicants)

FIPS Code: _____ **Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN):** _____

SAM.gov Unique Entity Identifier: _____

Cage Code (from SAM.gov): _____

Date of SAM.gov Registration Expiration: _____

Street/PO Box: _____

City: _____ **ZIP Code:** _____ **County:** _____

Primary Contact: _____

Title: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Office Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Secondary Contact: _____

Title: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Office Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

What is your municipal Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating? _____
See attached fact sheet for getting a rating! Counties in Wisconsin do NOT have BCEGS ratings! Please provide the BCEGS rating of the municipality or township that the project is located in if you are from a County.

Do you meet the requirements to be considered an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community (EDRC) in the Notice of Funding Opportunity? Yes ___ No ___
Do you have less than 3,000 people in your jurisdiction and have an average household income less than 80% the national average?

Is your community registered in FEMA GO? Yes ___ No ___

All questions must be answered completely and accurately. WEM and FEMA staff reviewing the application will not be familiar with your community, the specific project area and the need for the proposed project. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the subapplicant to ensure that their subapplication addresses all of the required items. This is particularly important given the competitive nature of the grant program. If you are unsure as to the meaning of a particular question, contact WEM prior to attempting to answer that question.

Title of the Project:

Include the community name and project type in the title.

E.g. Village of Roberta Storm Sewer Mitigation Project

1. Natural Hazard(s) that your project mitigates (Check all that apply):

Yes?	Hazard Name	Yes?	Hazard Name
	Riverine Flooding: Name of flooding source: _____		Localized flooding or drainage: Describe source of problem:
	Coastal (Great Lakes) Flooding: Name of flooding source: _____		
	Inland Lake Flooding: Name of flooding source: _____		Severe Storms
	Coastal Erosion		Tornadoes
	Riverine Erosion		All-Hazards
	Wildfire		Other: explain below table

Other:

2. Type of grant:

Yes?	Grant type
	Hazard Mitigation Plan update or Planning-Related activity
	Project Scoping Grant (study or analysis that will enable you to apply for a future eligible project grant)
	Project Grant
	Other

3. Project Location (Include maps)

Latitude (decimal degrees):

Longitude (decimal degrees):

Road or street address, geographic landmarks, longitude/latitude, legal description, etc. Include a copy of the Parcel Map (Tax Map, Property Identification Map, etc.) with each property in the project clearly marked on the map.

4. Is this project in a FEMA-mapped floodplain / Special Flood Hazard Area? Yes or No

Include a current locally adopted floodplain map or flood insurance rate map (FIRM) indicating the project location. This may be available from your local floodplain administrator located in the planning, zoning, or engineering office. Maps and Flood Insurance Studies can also be downloaded from the FEMA Map Service Center at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>.

5. Description of the problem:

What is the repetitive problem that this project seeks to mitigate? Why is this a problem? What are the impacts? To whom?

6. Description of the project:

What will you do to fix the problem? How does this fix the problem? See the FEMA Program support materials for BRIC 2022, available online here: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/building-resilient-infrastructure-communities/resources>

7. Describe the population that will benefit from this project:

Will this project provide community-wide benefits? Will it benefit a neighborhood? Will it benefit a single residence? How does this population benefit?

Who will benefit indirectly? How?

8. Does this project mitigate risk to community infrastructure? Yes or No

If Yes, please describe the infrastructure being protected/enhanced by this proposal. Describe who uses this infrastructure, and highlight any at-risk or socially-vulnerable populations.

9. Does this project include nature-based solutions? Yes or No

If Yes, please describe the way that nature-based solutions are being incorporated into this proposal.

10. In what ways are future conditions/climate change included in your project? How does this project help your community achieve resiliency?

11. Other alternatives considered (no more than 3 sentences per alternative: be clear and be concise)

Describe other options or alternatives that have been considered to deal with the problem and why they were rejected or eliminated from consideration. One other alternative can be "to do nothing."

Add 2-3 sentences about WHY you're selecting the proposed project as the best alternative. The reason may be monetary, environmental, or physical; or related to the degree of effectiveness, maintenance costs, other reasonable causes, or a combination of these factors.

12. In what ways have partnerships been leveraged in scoping this project?

Is this a cooperative project between multiple communities? Is there a local non-profit involved with providing technical assistance or expertise to put the project application together? Is a non-profit or local group pledging in-kind services to make this project happen?

13. How has the community been involved with this project application/proposal?

Was this project identified in your local/county/tribal mitigation plan? Did you have public input to the design? Were there community meetings after a disaster event that brought light to the issue?

14. Work schedule with key milestones and completion dates

Include a work schedule for the proposed project (**not to exceed 36 months**). The schedule should indicate major milestones of the project and the expected completion date of each milestone. Note that the projected completion date is not an actual date, it's an estimated day

For example, major milestones for a project that was acquiring and demolishing a repetitively flooded home would include:

- Review and sign award paperwork – Start: Month 1 (duration 2 weeks)
- Develop program procedures/policies – Start: Month 1 (duration 1 month)
- Conduct appraisal and submit to WEM for review/approval – Start: Month 2 (duration: 2 months)
- Draft and send formal offer – Start: Month 4 (duration: 1 month)

- Title searches/title work – Start: Month 5 (duration: 2 weeks)
- Close on the property – Start: Month 6 (duration: 1 day)
- Record all warranty deeds – Start: Month 6 (duration: 1 day)
- Submit documentation from closing to WEM – Start: Month 7 (duration: 1 week)
- Complete structure demolition – Start: Month 7 (duration: 2 weeks)
- Complete site restoration – Start: Month 8 (duration: 2 weeks)
- Submit Project Closeout Documentation – Start: Month 9 (duration: 1 week)
- Final site inspection with WEM – Start: Month 10 (duration: 1 day)

15. Budget

Provide a breakdown of cost elements. All estimates must be supported by backup documentation. Additionally, FEMA will not accept lump sums! Your budget should align with your work schedule/milestones.

If including *Pre-Award Costs* (costs incurred to put the application together, like design/engineering), they must be a separate category and can only be used for application development activities. Please include actual cost documentation for *Pre-Award Costs*.

For example, a budget for an acquisition/demolition (the example given in the Work Schedule section):

Fair Market Value: \$150,000	Demolition: \$20,000
Appraisal: \$1,000	Asbestos testing and abatement: \$8,000
Title Work: \$2,000	Site restoration: \$5,000
Closing Costs and Legal Fees: \$5,000	Project management (contractor): \$4,000
TOTAL: \$195,000	

16. Overall cost estimate/match share breakdown

Total	\$ _____	100%
Federal Share and Percentage	\$ _____	____%
Required Local Match	\$ _____	____%

Other Funding Sources and Amounts:

(list any in-kind services, donated time/resources, or contributions from local groups or non-profits, if applicable)

17. Does your community meet the requirements as an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community (EDRC)?

An EDRC is a community of fewer than 3,000 people and its residents have an average per capita annual income that does not exceed 80% of the national per capita income, based on best available data. You must provide documentation to validate this by the December deadline!

18. Match commitment letter

By the December deadline, we will need a formal letter from the chief elected official or resolution that the community is committed to providing the required non-federal local match. Please indicate whether the funds are available indefinitely or if there is a date after which they will no longer be available.

19. Subrecipient Management Costs (SRMC)

Please indicate whether you would like to receive an additional 5% of total project costs to manage the grant (this is different than project management). Management cost funds are 100% federally-funded, so no cost share is required. **Yes** ____ **No** ____

Note: If you would like to receive Management Costs, please include a signed request on letterhead that states,

(Name of entity) requests that management funds made available through the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 in the amount of 5% of total project costs be allocated for administration of this grant. We will track all grant management costs and keep documentation in our office for three years after the close of the BRIC FFY 2021 grant program in the State of Wisconsin.

20. Hazard mitigation plan information

Hazard mitigation projects must be in conformance with the goals and objectives of the local approved all-hazards mitigation plan.

- Provide the name of the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and date it was approved.
- Make sure that your local jurisdiction participated in the planning process and formally adopted it (check with your county/tribal emergency management director if you have questions)
- Provide a copy of the goals/objectives/mitigation actions that reference the proposed project from the approved hazard mitigation plan. Highlight relevant sections. Do not provide the full plan document.

21. Additional comments/information - Include any additional pertinent information that will support the proposed project and assist with the review of the application.

For Project Grants, complete this section:

Do not fill this out for planning, planning-related activities and project scoping grants!

22. Do you intend to complete the FEMA-required Benefit Cost Analysis (with the FEMA BCA Toolkit Version 6.0) by yourself or with a contractor?

We have limited staff time this funding cycle, and will be limiting the number of applications we can take on.

23. Do you have preliminary or full engineering/designs completed? (Acquisition/demolition projects are exempt from this requirement)

Include a statement from a qualified professional (e.g. licensed/certified engineer) that documents the risk determination or imminent risk. If you have not consulted with an engineer or other licensed design professional, you will not be allowed to apply for this year's funding cycle for a construction project.

For erosion/coastal projects: we need to know the number of years until the existing facility/feature will fail if nothing is done, and also the design level of protection

For flooding/drainage projects: we need to know the design level of the existing infrastructure (e.g. it protects to the 50-year flood recurrence level) and the design level of the proposed infrastructure (e.g. it will protect to the 100-year flood recurrence level). The "after mitigation" protection level MUST be higher than the existing protection level.

The information for an elevation or flooding retrofit project is very different. Generally, we need to know the elevation that water can enter the structure now, and how that will change after the project is installed/completed. This usually means a simple elevation certificate with preliminary designs will suffice.

Note: For acquisition/demolition projects, you do NOT need to consult an engineer/design professional.

24. For construction projects: to what level will this project protect your community?

Will it protect 5 homes from 100-year flooding? Will the upsized culvert/bridge be able to pass the 50-year storm?

25. In what way will infrastructure benefit from this project? What community lifeline(s) are directly impacted by completing this project?

Details on lifelines can be found here: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/lifelines>.

Suggested format is a brief project narrative (that accompanies a much more in-depth scope of work) that outlines how the project impacts, protects, or increases resilience to public infrastructure, and clearly identify the type of community lifeline impacted. This ideally should be about 3-4 sentences that clearly and concisely explain what the infrastructure is and why it is important/critical to the community. We recommend the following:

- Sentence 1: Identify the infrastructure and the lifeline(s) it supports
- Sentence 2: Why this infrastructure and the lifeline(s) are important to the community
- Sentence 3: Explain the impact
- Sentence 4: Identify the population that benefits directly from the project, if completed

26. In what ways will your project incorporate nature-based solutions?

Details on nature-based solutions can be found here: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/risk-management/nature-based-solutions>.

27. Are you pledging an increased federal share? Yes ___ No ___

Additional points are given in the Technical Criteria evaluation for standard communities pledging an additional 5% in local match (to make the overall share 30% instead of 25%), and EDRCs an additional 2% (to make the cost share 12% instead of 10%).

28. Environmental considerations

An environmental assessment is required for certain projects before the grant can be approved. It is FEMA's responsibility to prepare the environmental document, although the applicant will be required to provide much of the information, including any special studies that need to be performed.

29. Consultation with other agencies

Most properties require consultation with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), Wisconsin DNR (DNR) and/or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to ensure that the project you're proposing does not impact a future project by these agencies and will meet permitting requirements.



STATE OF WISCONSIN

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Greg Engle
Administrator

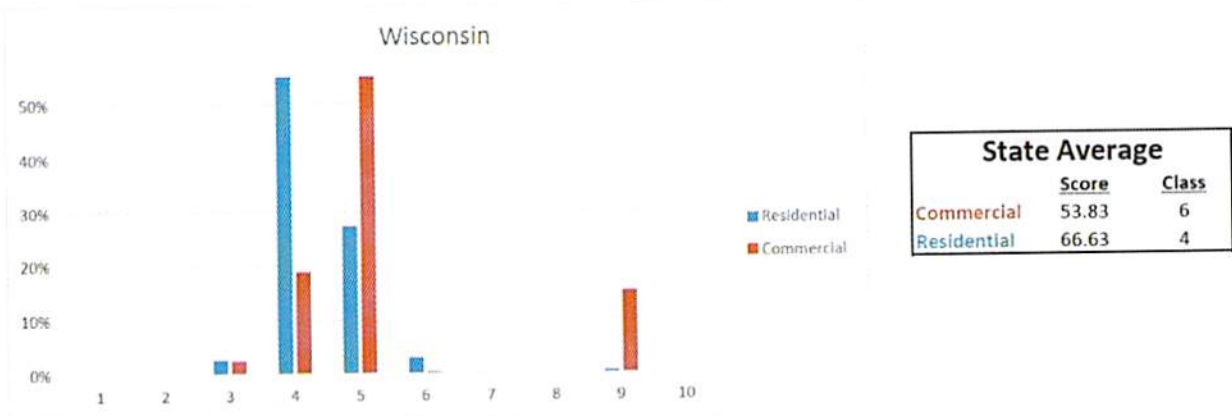
Tony Evers
Governor

BCEGS BUILDING CODE EFFECTIVENESS GRADING SCHEDULE

BOTTOM LINE UP FRONT

For the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) programs, one of FEMA’s prioritization criteria is the subapplicant’s FEMA-validated residential or commercial BCEGS rating as appropriate to the activity type from grade 1 to 10. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) maintains the BCEGS ratings as proprietary information and will validate the ratings only for those subapplications that FEMA provides to them during the National Ranking and Selection process.

- Communities who participate in the program receive a “Benchmark Report” that is unique to the community. The classification/rating is confidential and is provided to the highest official in the community. **The local building department should know the community’s BCEGS rating.**
- **Counties in Wisconsin do not have a BCEGS rating since they do not enforce building codes.** Cities, villages, and towns that have participated will have a BCEGS rating. Since the information is confidential and proprietary, **WEM does not have access to nor can we provide that information.** Communities that do not know their rating, can contact ISO at BCEGS-info@verisk.com or call 1-800-444-4554.
- 87% of the population lives in a community with a rating.



BACKGROUND

The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) assesses the building codes in effect in a community and how it enforces building codes with special emphasis on mitigation of losses from natural hazards. Municipalities with well-enforced, up-to-date codes should demonstrate better loss experience, and insurance rates can reflect this lower risk. The prospect of lessening catastrophe-related damage and ultimately lowering insurance costs provides an incentive for communities to enforce their building codes rigorously – especially as they relate to flood, earthquake, and wind damage. The anticipated result is safer buildings, less damage, and lower insured losses from catastrophes. The BCEGS program assigns each municipality a BCEGS grade of 1 (exemplary commitment to building code enforcement) to 10. Visit <https://www.isomitigation.com/bcegs> for more information.

- The program is voluntary.
- ISO sends a letter to communities every 3 to 5 years inviting them to participate in the program. A community can request a review or reclass if they already have a rating. (BCEGS_info@verisk.com or 1-800-444-4554, option 2)
- There is no cost to the community.
- Communities are rated on a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 the best.
- A rating of “99” means that there is no inspection department; or no creditable; or refusal to participate in the program.
- There are two separate class categories:
 - Person Line (residential) – PL Class 1- 10 or 99
 - Commercial Line – CL Class 1-10 or 99
 - Classifications are delivered the following format:
 - Anytown, PA-4/42012 (i.e., residential rating is 4 and commercial rating is 4 and the rating was issued in 2012)

CRITERIA

- Administration of Code – 54% of classification
- Plan Review – 23% of classification
- Inspection – 23% of classification

PERSONAL LINE (RESIDENTIAL) RATING

- 1 – 3 (21% nationwide)
 - Adopted model code within the past 5 years
 - Exceptional staff
 - Staff education and certification very high
- 4 – 6 (58% nationwide)

- Adopted model code within the last 5 years
 - Strained staff levels for plan review and inspection
 - Staff education and certification minimal
- 7 – 10 (21% nationwide)
 - Adopted model code (amended to weather model and/or older edition)
 - Inadequate staff for plan review and inspection
 - Inadequate education and/or certification minimal levels