

for reporting and drawing funds: 83.537, Community Disaster Loans; 83.538, Cora Brown Fund Program; 83.539, Crisis Counseling; 83.540, Disaster Legal Services Program; 83.541, Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA); 83.556, Fire Management Assistance; 83.558, Individual and Household Housing; 83.559, Individual and Household Disaster Housing Operations; 83.560 Individual and Household Program-Other Needs; 83.544, Public Assistance Grants; 83.548, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.)

**Michael D. Brown,**

*Under Secretary, Emergency Preparedness and Response.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Federal Emergency Management Agency

#### Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of Pre-Disaster Mitigation competitive grants.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) gives notice of the availability of Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) competitive grants for fiscal year (FY) 2003. FEMA will provide PDM funds to assist States and communities to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. For FY 2003, these funds will be awarded on a competitive basis with a National priority on funding mitigation projects that address National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) repetitive flood loss properties.

**DATES:** States and Federally recognized Indian Tribal governments complete grant applications must be received electronically or on paper by the appropriate FEMA Regional Office on or before midnight, Eastern Time, October 6, 2003. If the non-federal cost share requirement cannot be met by the application deadline due to pending State and/or local legislative approval or fiscal year timelines, the Applicant still must submit the application by October 6, 2003, including a notation in the Budget Narrative and a letter to the FEMA Regional Director providing an explanation and stating that the cost share will be available by November 4,

2003. The Applicant must follow-up with a written certification to the FEMA Regional Director by November 4, 2003 to verify that non-federal cost share funding is approved and available for immediate use if the application is selected by FEMA.

**ADDRESSES:** FEMA Regional Offices:

*FEMA Region I—Serving Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts:* J.W. McCormack POCH Building, Boston, MA 02109.

*FEMA Region II—Serving New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands:* 26 Federal Plaza, Rm. 1307, New York, NY 10278-0001.

*FEMA Region III—Serving the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia:* 1 Independence Mall, 6th Floor, 615 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404.

*FEMA Region IV—Serving Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee:* 3003 Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta, GA 30341.

*FEMA Region V—Serving Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin:* 536 S. Clark Street, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605.

*FEMA Region VI—Serving Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas:* FRC 800 North Loop 288, Denton, TX 76209-3698.

*FEMA Region VII—Serving Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska:* 2323 Grand Avenue, Suite 900, Kansas City, MO 64108-2670.

*FEMA Region VIII—Serving Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming:* Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267, Denver, CO 80225-0267.

*FEMA Region IX—Serving Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the Territory of American Samoa, the Territory of Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:* 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, CA 94607-4052.

*FEMA Region X—Serving Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington:* Federal Regional Center, 130 228th Street, SW., Bothell, WA 98021-979.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karen Magnino, Program Planning Branch, Mitigation Division, FEMA, 500 C Street, SW., Room 444, Washington, DC 20472, (202) 646-3807 or e-mail: [Karen.Magnino@dhs.gov](mailto:Karen.Magnino@dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Appropriations

\$150 million was made available for the PDM grant program under Consolidated Appropriations

Resolution, 2003, Public Law (Pub. L.) 108-7. In general, grants are to be awarded on a competitive basis and without reference to State allocations, quotas, or other formula-based allocation of funds. Funds should be used primarily to fund mitigation activities that address natural hazards, but multi-hazard projects and plans may also address hazards caused by non-natural forces.

From the \$150 million FY 2003 appropriation for the PDM program, \$975,000 was rescinded by a general provision in the law that directs every program, project, and activity be reduced by 0.65 percent. FEMA made available \$250,000 (\$248,375 after rescission) to each of the fifty States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa for state and local hazard mitigation planning. A Notice of Funds Availability for the PDM planning grants was published on March 3, 2003. \$3.6 million of PDM funds will be available as Disaster Resistant University (DRU) grants, through separate notice, to State, local and Tribal governments for pre-disaster mitigation activities that benefit universities. Approximately \$131.5 million is available for PDM competitive grants, technical assistance and program support.

#### Authorities

The PDM program was authorized by section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5133, as amended by section 102 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA), Pub. L. 106-390, 114 Stat. 1552, to assist States and communities to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations. The PDM program provides a significant opportunity to raise risk awareness and to reduce the Nation's disaster losses through pre-disaster mitigation planning, and the implementation of planned, pre-identified, cost effective mitigation measures that are designed to reduce injuries, loss of life, and damage and destruction of property from all hazards, including damage to critical facilities.

44 CFR Part 201, Hazard Mitigation Planning, establishes criteria for State and local hazard mitigation planning, pursuant to section 322 of the Stafford Act, as amended by section 104 of the DMA. After November 1, 2003, FEMA-approved local mitigation plans will be required as a condition of receiving