

Lesson 1: What is eGrants?

Objectives

Upon completion of this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain the purpose of eGrants
- Identify eGrants users
- Describe the subgrant application process within eGrants

eGrants System

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's eGrants system was developed to provide State and Territory governments, Federally-recognized Indian Tribal governments, and local governments with the ability to apply for and manage their grant application processes electronically.

Specifically, eGrants functions include:

- The creation and submission of pre-applications to State, Territory, and Tribal officials
- The creation and submission of subgrant applications to State, Territory, and Tribal officials
- The review and processing of subgrant applications
- The creation and submission of grant applications to FEMA
- The review and processing of grant applications for award

Grant Types

FEMA currently offers three types of mitigation grants.

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)—FMA was created to reduce or eliminate claims under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FMA grants are available through eGrants. FMA provides funding to assist communities in implementing measures to reduce or eliminate long-term risk of flood damage.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)—Funding for the PDM program is provided to assist State, local, and Tribal governments in implementing cost-effective hazard mitigation activities. PDM grants are available through eGrants.

Hazard Mitigation Program (HMGP)—The HMGP program is not available on eGrants at this time. HMGP provides grants to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster.

Currently, eGrants only provides an online application and grants management for FMA and PDM.

eGrant Users

The people who use the eGrants system are:

- State and U.S. Territory officials
- Federally-recognized Indian Tribal officials
- Local community officials

These individuals' responsibilities include completing subgrant and/or grant applications.

Applicant Categories

There are two major categories of applicants who use the eGrants system:

1. Grant applicants are State, Territory, and Indian Tribal officials.
2. Subgrant applicants are Local officials and Indian Tribal officials.

Pre-applications

For some Local and Tribal officials, the first step in the subgrant application process is the completion of a pre-application. However, pre-applications are not required by all State, Territory, and Tribal governments. Officials from these governments determine when, or if, this requirement is appropriate. When implemented, it applies to all eGrant users within that official's State, Territory, or Tribal area.

When pre-applications are required, they apply only to project subgrant applications, not planning or technical assistance applications. If a pre-application is required, it will appear as a menu option at the beginning of the eGrants process. If it's not required, it will not appear.

How Applications Are Processed

The application process in eGrants follows a specific work flow. Initially, a local official creates a subgrant application and submits it to the appropriate grant applicant for review.

Next, a grant application official reviews the subgrant application. He or she may request revisions. If revisions are requested, the local official may revise the application and resubmit it. Once the subgrant application is reviewed and complete, the grant applicant may include it in a larger grant application that is submitted to FEMA. Subgrants not selected to go in a grant application are stockpiled for future consideration.

Note: When a State, Territory, or Tribal official submits a grant application, FEMA reviews the application and makes suggestions to the official.

Summary

- eGrants allows users to create, submit, review, and process subgrant and grant applications.
- Both FMA and PDM grants can be processed using eGrants at this time.
- eGrants is designed for use by State, Tribal, Territory, and Local government officials.
- The eGrants process involves the creation and submission of a subgrant application to the grant applicant. The grant applicant may then include that subgrant application in the larger grant application submitted to FEMA.

Lesson 1 Resources

The following is a list of additional resources related to this lesson:

FEMA's Home page – <http://www.fema.gov/>

FEMA's DHS Integrated Security and Access Control System (ISAACS) Home Page (Secure site; may have long load time and/or security dialogue pop-up) – <https://portal.fema.gov/famsVuWeb/home>

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program – <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/fma/index.shtml>

Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program – <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pdm/>

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) – <http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/hmgp/index.shtml>