

# Fiscal Year 2021 Notice of Funding Opportunity for Hazard Mitigation Grants

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)  
September 13, 2021



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# Agenda

- BRIC Introduction for Indian Tribal Governments
- BRIC Changes for FY 2021
- Applicant Eligibility
- BRIC Funding and Uses of Assistance
- Cost Share Requirements
- Application Cycle and Funding Deadlines
- Sampling of Requirements
- FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO)
- Questions
- Job Aids and Resources



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# Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)



## Legislation



- Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) Section 1234, which amends Section 203 of the Stafford Act
- Funded by a 6% set-aside from federal post-disaster grant funding
- Eligible applicants – states and territories with major disaster declarations in past seven years
  - Federally recognized tribes with major disaster declaration in past seven years or located in a state with major disaster declaration in past seven years



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# BRIC's Guiding Principles



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Support Community  
Capability & Capacity Building



Encourage and Enable  
Innovation



Promote Partnerships



Enable Large Infrastructure  
Projects



Maintain Flexibility



Provide Consistency





## BRIC Priorities

- Mitigate the risk to public infrastructure
- Incentivize resilient investments in disadvantaged communities, as referenced in EO 14008 (Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad)
- Mitigate risk to one or more community lifelines
- Incorporate nature-based solutions
- Enhance climate resilience and adaptation
- Incentivize the adoption and enforcement of the latest published editions of building codes

BRIC encourages mitigation projects that meet multiple program priorities

# Overview of BRIC Changes for FY 2021

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## ■ Funding

- *Total funding:* doubled to \$1 billion
- *State/Territory Allocation:* increased by \$400,000 per Applicant (to \$1 million per Applicant)
- *Tribal Set Aside:* increased by \$5 million (to \$25 million total)

## ■ Non-financial Direct Technical Assistance

- Doubled number of communities (up to 20 communities)
- Streamlined process

## ■ Competition criteria

- Incorporation of equity across multiple criteria
- Tiered building codes points
- Increased points for BCEGS
- Total of 230 points available

## ■ Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities

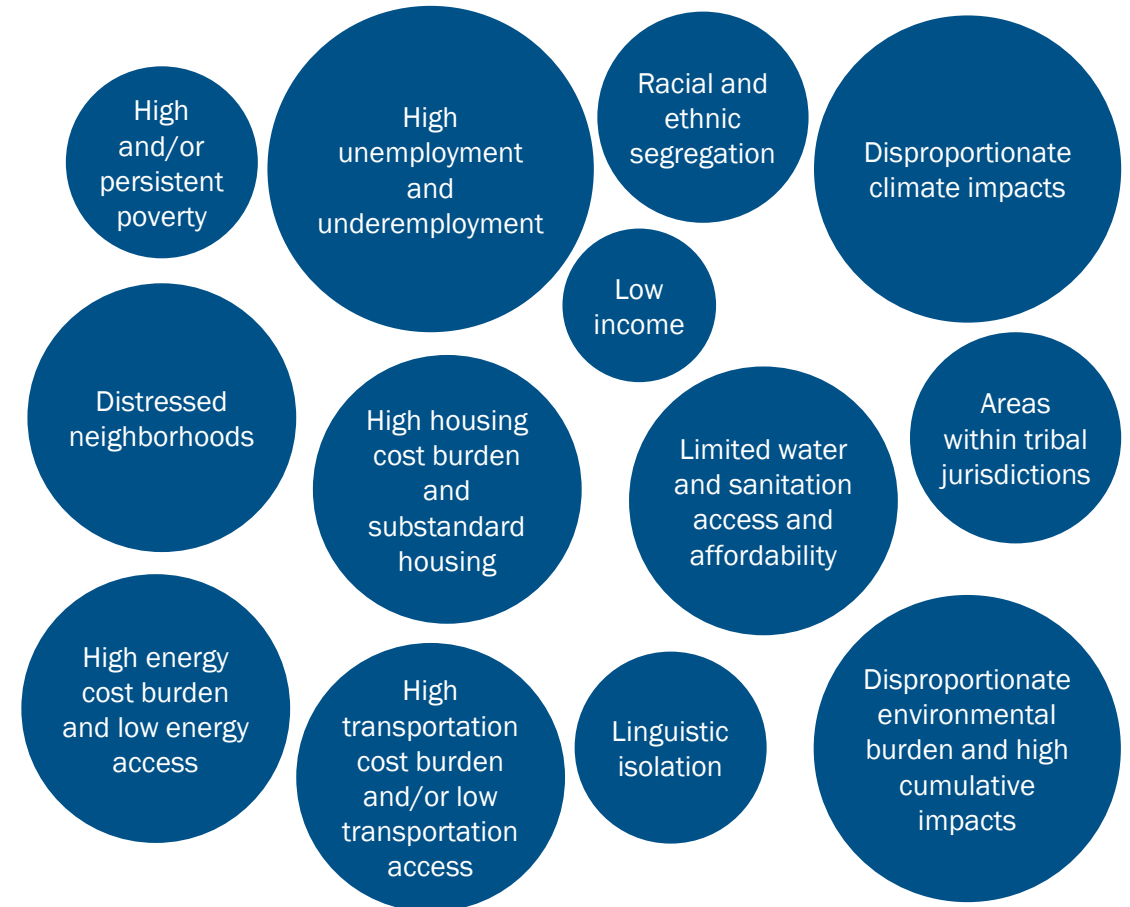


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# Justice 40 Initiative

- The BRIC Program is prioritizing assistance that benefits disadvantaged communities as referenced in Executive Order 14008 - Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad (2021)
- This is occurring through the National Competition, Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities, Tribal Set Aside, Direct Technical Assistance and the Capability and Capacity Building project types

Disadvantaged communities may be characterized by:



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# Applicant and Subapplicant Eligibility

## Who is eligible for BRIC funding?

### Applicants:

- ✓ All 50 States
- ✓ U.S. territories
- ✓ Federally recognized Tribal Governments
- ✓ District of Columbia



Alaska



Hawaii



American Samoa



Guam



Northern Marianas



Puerto Rico



U.S. Virgin Islands



Federally recognized Tribal Gov'ts.



District of Columbia

### Subapplicants:

- ✓ Local Governments
- ✓ Tribal Governments
- ✓ State Agencies
- ✓ Tribal Agencies





# Applying as an Applicant

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- ✓ Develop an application and subapplication
- ✓ BRIC Tribal Set-Aside
- ✓ Management Costs (subapplication and application)
- ✓ Potentially eligible for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community designation
- ✓ Must have a Tribal Mitigation Plan by the application deadline and at the time of obligation of the award



# Applying as a Subapplicant

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- ✓ Develop a subapplication
- ✓ BRIC Funding Mechanisms
- ✓ Management Costs (subapplication)
- ✓ Potentially eligible for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community designation
- ✓ Must have a FEMA-approved Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline and at the time of obligation of grant funds for mitigation projects



# FY 2021 BRIC – Available Funding



## \$1 Billion

- **State/Territory Allocation: \$56 million** (up to \$1 million per Applicant)
  - All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories may apply under the State/Territory Allocation
  - Any funds not awarded from the State/Territory Allocation will be re-allocated to the national competition
- **Tribal Set-Aside: \$25 million**
  - All Indian tribal governments (federally recognized) may apply under the Tribal Set-Aside
  - Any funds not awarded from the Tribal Set-Aside will be re-allocated to the non-financial Direct Technical Assistance for tribes or the national competition
- **National Competition for Mitigation Projects: \$919 million** (estimated)



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# FY 2021 BRIC – Uses of Assistance

## Total Available BRIC FUNDING \$1 Billion

Uses of Assistance	\$56 M State/Territory Allocations	\$25M Tribal Set-Aside	\$919M National Competition for Mitigation Projects
Management Costs	✓	✓	✓
Capability and Capacity Building Activities	✓	✓	
Mitigation Projects	✓	✓	✓







## BRIC Funding Limits

- **State/Territory Allocation:** The combined cost for any C&CB activities and/or mitigation projects under the State/Territory Allocation must not exceed \$1 million federal cost share per Applicant
  - Up to \$500,000 may be used for mitigation planning and planning-related activities per Applicant
- **Tribal Set-Aside:** The combined cost (federal share) of the Applicant's C&CB activities under the Tribal Set-Aside must not exceed \$1 million federal cost share per Applicant
  - Up to \$500,000 may be used for mitigation planning and planning-related activities per Applicant
- **National Competition:** \$50 million (federal share) per subapplication
  - No limit on the number of project subapplications submitted per Applicant

# Cost Share Requirements

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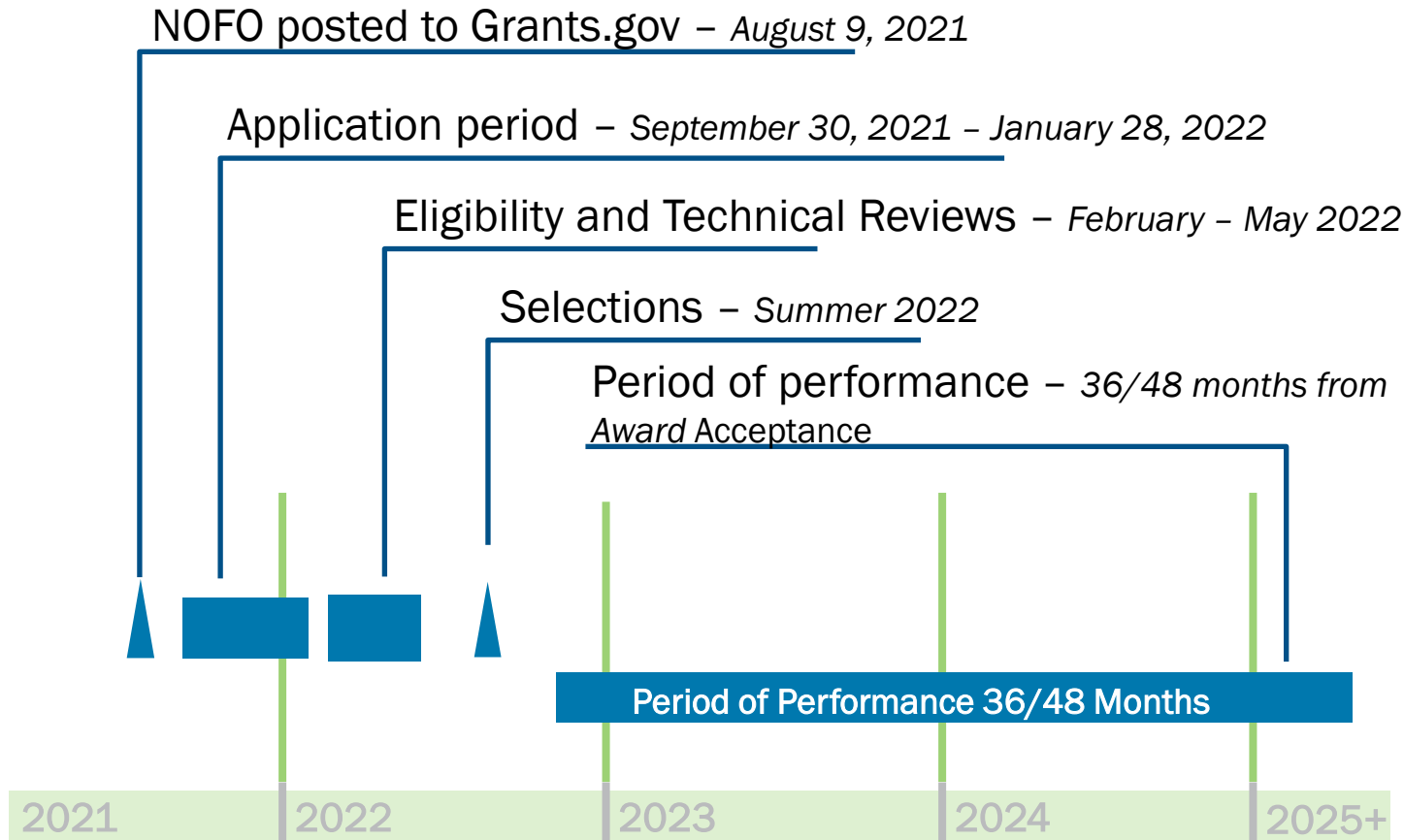
## Cost Share:

Generally, FEMA will pay up to 75 percent of the total cost

- BRIC:
  - FEMA will pay up to 90 percent for Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities
  - FEMA will pay up to 100 percent for management costs



# Non-Disaster Mitigation Grants Application Cycle and Funding Deadlines



Application period opens on **September 30, 2021**

Submission deadline for applications is **3:00 PM ET on January 28, 2022**

System-related issues must be addressed by **3:00 PM ET on January 26, 2022**

Pre-Award Selection Notice: **Anticipated in Summer 2022**

Period of Performance:

Start Date: **When the recipient accepts the Award**

End Date: All projects are **36 months** from the date of the Award EXCEPT for FMA Community Flood Mitigation Projects which are **48 months** from the Award date



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# Sampling of Requirements\*

- Applicants and subapplicants must have a FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plan by the application deadline AND at the time funding is obligated
- Applicants and subapplicants applying for mitigation projects must provide a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness
  - FEMA's Benefit-Cost Analysis Toolkit is a calculator developed using FEMA-approved methodologies and tools to show cost-effectiveness of projects
  - FEMA's BCA Helpline provides assistance with using the BCA Toolkit
- Applicants and subapplicants applying for mitigation projects must provide information needed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related DHS and FEMA instructions and directives

*\*Please refer to the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for a full list of all requirements*

## Resources

### Mitigation Planning

### FEMA Benefit-Cost Analysis Toolkit

### **FEMA BCA Helpline:**

[BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov) or  
1-855-540-6744

### **Environmental and Historic Preservation Helpline:**

[EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov) or  
1-866-222-3580



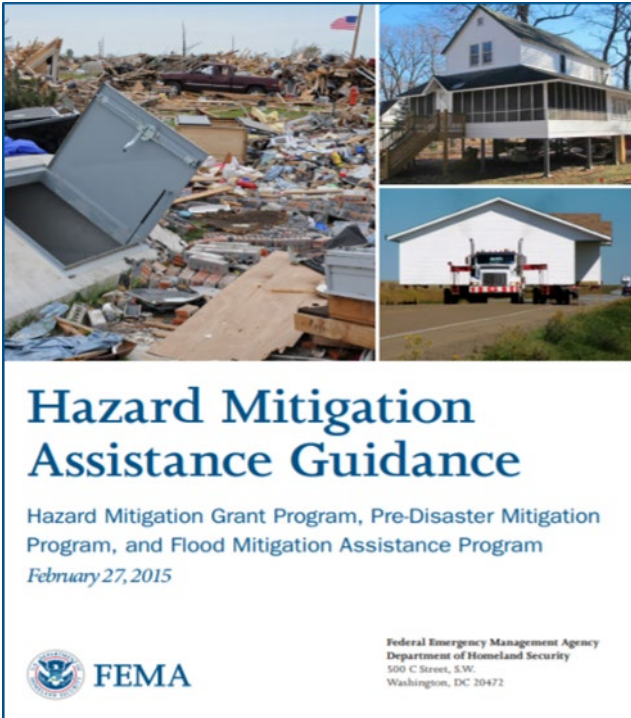


# BRIC Capability- and Capacity- Building Activities



# BRIC Eligible Activities

## Existing Activities are Still Eligible



## Expanded Eligibility Includes:

- Project scoping
- Building code activities
- Pre-award costs
- Additional activities for wildfire and wind implementation (DRRA Section 1205)
- Earthquake early warning (DRRA Section 1233)

## Projects Must:

- Be cost-effective
- Reduce/eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards
- Meet latest two consensus codes (i.e., 2018 or 2021 international building code)
- Align with Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Meet all environmental and historic preservation requirements



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# BRIC – Technical Criteria



Infrastructure project



Mitigates risk to one or more lifelines



Incorporates nature-based solutions



Applicant has mandatory tribal-, territory-, or state-wide building code adoption requirement  
(recent versions of International Building Code and International Residential Code)



# BRIC – Qualitative Criteria



**Risk Reduction /  
Resiliency Effectiveness**



**Climate Change and  
Other Future Conditions**



**Implementation  
Measures**



**Population  
Impacted**



**Outreach  
Activities**



**Leveraging  
Partners**



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## BRIC – Go/No-Go Milestones

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- The subapplicant, in coordination with the applicant, must identify at least one or more Go/No-Go milestones in the work schedule for **mitigation projects** submitted to the **national competition** that FEMA will review and approve
- Mitigation projects submitted under the state/territory allocation or tribal set-aside do not require Go/No-Go milestones



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# BRIC – Phased Projects

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- Phased projects are where FEMA provides funding for complex mitigation projects to Applicants to allow them to develop all the technical and environmental information, including design, engineering studies, and permitting, before issuing a full construction approval
- Phasing projects allow monies to flow and good mitigation projects to be developed and evaluated without a community assuming risk of not being funded, which can be especially helpful for smaller communities



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# Application Development Best Practices

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## Do's

- Use clear and consistent naming conventions for attachments
- Provide supporting documentation
- Consider project scoping or phasing for larger complex projects
- Match project or activities with program and NOFO priorities

## Don'ts

- Include inaccurate information
- Miss attaching key documents
- Provide unclear descriptions of the intended level of protection
- Fail to connect natural hazards to the project

# BRIC – Direct Technical Assistance

*Double the number of communities supported through Direct Technical Assistance*

Non-financial Direct Technical Assistance will be provided to up to **20 selected communities** to support the mitigation outcomes listed below:



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## BRIC – Direct Technical Assistance (continued)

FEMA may prioritize Direct Technical Assistance for communities that:

- Have not received a project award under the Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program, FMA, or the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) within the past 5 years
- Have not received an Advance Assistance award under PDM, FMA, or HMGP within the past 5 years
- Are Tribal entities
- Are Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities and/or benefit disadvantaged community
- Have demonstrated a compelling need (e.g., have significant social vulnerability, multiple major disaster declarations within the past 5 years, etc.)



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# BRIC FY 2020 Tribal Selection Examples

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## Microgrid Project

- Paskenta Band Of Nomlaki Indians
- Strong alignment with BRIC priorities and competition criteria; infrastructure, lifeline, and partners, risk reduction, future conditions, and population impacted

## Project Scoping (C&CB project type)

- Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
- The Tribe proposes to conduct project scoping for Infrastructure Improvement-Replacement project to mitigate earthquake, severe storm, tsunami, and flood risk to sewer, water, storm water infrastructure



Swinomish Channel



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# Next Steps



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## How to Apply

- Eligible Applicants must apply for funding using FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) at the [FEMA GO Portal](#)
- Visit [FEMA Grants Outcome \(FEMA GO\) for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants](#) to view the technical user manuals and support materials
- For FEMA GO Technical Support, contact the Help Desk by calling 1-877-611-4700 or by email at: [femago@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:femago@fema.dhs.gov)



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## Application Deadlines

- The Application period opens on September 30, 2021
- Applications must be received in FEMA GO by January 28, 2022, at 3:00 PM Eastern Time (ET)

## Technical Assistance

- Applicants experiencing technical problems outside of their control must notify FEMA by 3:00 PM ET on January 26, 2022



# BRIC Program Support Materials

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- [BRIC Website](#)
- [FY 2021 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [BRIC Resources](#)
  - [BRIC Technical Criteria](#)
  - [BRIC Qualitative Criteria](#)
  - [BRIC Building Codes Activities](#)
  - [BRIC Mitigation Planning Activities](#)
  - [BRIC Partnership Activities](#)
  - [BRIC Project Scoping Activities](#)
  - [BRIC Phased Projects](#)
  - [BRIC Direct Technical Assistance](#)
  - [BRIC Tribal Information](#)
  - [Mitigation Action Portfolio](#)

[www.fema.gov/bric](http://www.fema.gov/bric)

## Need Help?

General questions about the BRIC program can be directed to the appropriate [State Hazard Mitigation Officer](#) or [FEMA Regional Office](#).

- **General BRIC Questions and State Application Deadlines:** [State Hazard Mitigation Officer](#)



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# Additional Resources

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- [Unified Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance & Addendum](#)
- Property Elevation and Acquisition Job Aids:
  - [Elevation Job Aid](#)
  - [Acquisition & Demolition Job Aid](#)
  - [Acquisition & Relocation](#)
- [HMA Cost Share Guide](#)
- [Benefit-Cost Analysis Toolkit](#)
- [Building Community Resilience with Nature Based Solutions: A Guide for Local Communities](#)

## FEMA GO Helpline:

[femago@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:femago@fema.dhs.gov)

1-877-611-4700

## BCA Helpline:

[BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:BCHelpline@fema.dhs.gov)

1-855-540-6744

## Feasibility and Effectiveness Helpline:

[FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-BuildingScienceHelp@fema.dhs.gov)

## Environmental and Historic Preservation:

[EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:EHPHelpline@fema.dhs.gov)

1-866-222-3580

## Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Helpline:

1-866-222-3580



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# 2021 BRIC and FMA Programs Webinar Series

Date and Time	Webinar Topic
July 28 2-3:30 pm ET	Climate Change, Future Conditions, and Nature-based Solutions
August 11 4-5:30 pm ET	BRIC and FMA FY 2021 NOFO Webinar #1
August 16 2-3:30 pm ET	BRIC and FMA FY 2020 Data and Trends
August 18 2-3:30 pm ET	Where Equity Fits into the BRIC and FMA Program Design and Community Resilience
August 24 2-3:30 pm ET	Severe Repetitive Loss/Repetitive Loss Mitigation Priorities
August 26 2-3:30 pm ET	BRIC and FMA FY 2021 NOFO Webinar #2
September 8 2-3:30 pm ET	BRIC FY 2021 NOFO Technical and Qualitative Criteria
September 13 2-3:30 pm ET	BRIC and FMA FY 2021 NOFO Tribal Webinar
October 13 2-3:30 pm ET	Federal Agency Roundtable



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# 2021 BRIC and FMA Programs Webinars and Office Hours

- Application Pitfalls Webinars:
  - Next one on September 20
- FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Assistance Division will hold office hours for the BRIC and FMA Programs on the following dates:
  - October 19, 21, 26, and 28



Full schedule of BRIC and FMA Programs Webinars and recordings are available at:  
<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/2021-building-resilient-infrastructure-and-communities-and-flood-mitigation-assistance-programs>



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