

Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Building Code Activities

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funding opportunity provides information on eligible building code activities. This offers additional information on eligibility requirements, available funding, how to submit building code activity subapplications, and helpful resources.

Eligibility Criteria

Building code activities—along with hazard mitigation planning and planning-related activities, partnership activities, and project scoping activities—comprise subcategories of [capability and capacity building activity types](#) that may be funded under the BRIC grant program.

Building code activities are one of several eligible activities under the BRIC State or Territory Allocation and BRIC Tribal Set-Aside. They are also the only eligible activities under the BRIC State or Territory Building Code Plus-Up and BRIC Tribal Building Code Plus-Up. They are not eligible for funding under the BRIC National Competition.

Note: Subapplicants are exempt from hazard mitigation plan requirements for capacity and capability building activities, including building code activities.

Building code adoption/enhancement activities should be based on the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC) models. These parent codes and their companions must be published by the International Code Council (ICC) or an equivalent.

Building codes can be classified as parent or companion codes. Parent codes target the design and construction of the building. There are other codes that target specific systems, such as mechanical or plumbing, or other relevant topics like energy efficiency. These are referred to as "companion codes" and must be coordinated with the parent code.

The eligible building code activities below must reflect the two latest published editions of the codes.

Eligible Building Code Activities

Eligible building code activities for the BRIC program are those that:

- Evaluate the adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk.



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- Enhance existing adopted codes to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards.
- Develop professional workforce capabilities through technical assistance and training.

A non-exhaustive list of eligible building code activities can be found in the [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide, Part 11, Section F](#).

Building Code Plus-Up

In fiscal year 2024, BRIC will allow up to \$2 million per state and territory (\$112 million total). These funds will be set aside for building code activities through the State or Territory Building Code Plus-Up. BRIC will also allow up to \$2 million per applicant (\$25 million total) for federally recognized tribes through the Tribal Building Code Plus-Up.

Building Code Activities in FEMA GO

The [FEMA Grants Outcomes \(FEMA GO\)](#) management system is used for the BRIC program. FEMA GO is where applicants and subapplicants submit, track, and manage all applications. This section briefly explains how to submit building code activity subapplications in FEMA GO. They can be submitted under the annual State or Territory Allocation, or Tribal Set-Aside, and the State or Territory Building Code Plus-Up, and/or Tribal Building Code Plus-Up.

Submit a subapplication in FEMA GO.

- To begin a building code activity subapplication in FEMA GO, select the “Project” Subapplication Type.
- In the “Scope of Work” section, select “Codes and Standards” as the Primary Activity Type.
- Choose a Sub-Activity Type that best describes your building code activity.
- Select a Primary Community Lifeline. If applicable, select secondary and tertiary lifelines as well.
- Answer the following:

Question: “Are you doing construction during this project?”

- Please answer “No” for building code activities.

Prompt: “Please identify the entity that will perform any long-term maintenance and provide a maintenance plan, schedule and cost information. The subapplicant or owner of the area to be mitigated is responsible for maintenance (including costs of long-term care) after the project is completed.”

- To answer this prompt, describe how building codes will be enforced and updated.
- In the Additional Comments section, describe how education and outreach will be used for the building code activity.
- In the Cost Effectiveness section, select “Not Applicable.”

Tip: To maximize available funding, we encourage applicants to first submit building code subapplications to the Building Code Plus-Up funding category. If you exceed the funding limit in this category, you can submit additional building code subapplications under the State or Territory Allocation or the Tribal Set-Aside funding categories.

Resources

The resources below can assist BRIC applicants and subapplicants. More information can be found on the [FEMA BRIC webpages](#).

- [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide](#)
- Hazard Mitigation Assistance [Mitigation Action Portfolio](#)
- Additional information about building codes can be found at the following sites:
 - ICC [Training Program](#) and [Certifications](#)
 - U.S. Fire Administration [Online Learning Opportunities](#)
 - FEMA [Building Science Resources](#)
 - FEMA [Building Code Adoption Playbook](#)
 - FEMA [Building Codes Toolkit for Homeowners and Occupants](#)
- See Appendix A of [Consensus-Based Codes and Standards and Specifications V2.1 – Section 1235\(b\) Disaster Recovery Reform Act](#). This list is non-exhaustive.
- More information on the FEMA GO system can be found on the [FEMA GO webpage](#).