

DMVA PROGRAM 01 – BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES (BRIC)

I. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program aims to categorically shift the federal focus away from reactive disaster spending and toward research-supported, proactive investment in community resilience. Examples of BRIC projects are ones that demonstrate innovative approaches to partnerships, such as shared funding mechanisms, and/or project design. The BRIC Assistance Listing Number is 97.047.

II. PROGRAM PROCEDURES

Funds are awarded to the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) upon approval of the BRIC application by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Grant Programs Directorate (GPD).

A cost share is required for all sub-applications funded under BRIC. The non-federal cost share funding may consist of cash; donated or third-party in-kind services and materials; or any combination thereof. FEMA will provide 100% of the federal funding for management costs. Cost share amounts are as follows:

- Generally, the cost share for this program is 75% federal cost share funding/25% non-federal cost share funding.
- Economically Disadvantaged Rural Communities (EDRCs) are eligible for an increase in funding, up to a 90% federal cost share/10% non-federal cost share. EDRCs are communities of 3,000 or fewer people, identified by the applicant, with residents having an average per capita annual income no more than 80% of the national per capita income, based on the best available data.
- For insular areas – including American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands – FEMA automatically waives the non-federal cost share for the recipient when the non-federal cost share for the entire award is under \$200,000. The applicant may request the waiver when they apply.
- FEMA provides 100% federal cost share funding for management costs.

Program compliance is based on federal fiscal year guidance.

The period of performance is 36 months; it starts on the date of the recipient's federal award. Any subsequent amendments to the federal award will not extend the POP unless explicitly stated. The applicant may submit a request for a longer POP. A longer POP must be requested, documented, reasonable and justified. Extensions to the POP are allowed.

III. COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS AND SUGGESTED AUDIT PROCEDURES

A. TYPES OF SERVICES ALLOWED AND UNALLOWED -

Compliance Requirement: BRIC funds may be expended for emergency management personnel, management and administration, travel, planning,

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training, exercises, and equipment, DHS&EM limits application of funds to jurisdiction expenditures for wages and salaries of emergency management staff or contractors.

Suggested Audit Procedures: Review the current year Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) publication and State and local BRIC agreements to determine if there are special requirements and/or products to be developed; and test expenditure records to determine if expenditures are eligible.

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

B. ELIGIBILITY -

The auditor is not expected to verify eligibility other than that required by section III (A) above.

C. MATCHING, LEVEL OF EFFORT AND/OR EARMARKING REQUIREMENTS -

Compliance Requirement: The federal funds must be matched by State and local funds. Funds from other federal programs cannot be used to provide the local match.

Suggested Audit Procedure: Review local fund documents to insure that no federal funds were used to provide the required local match.

D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS -

Compliance Requirement: The local jurisdiction must provide DHS&EM a quarterly financial billing and narrative report of EMPG activities.

Suggested Audit Procedure: Review reports for timeliness.

E. SPECIAL TESTS AND PROVISIONS -

Compliance Requirements: The local jurisdiction must be able to show NIMS adoption and implementation through completion of the Alaska Assessment.

Suggested Audit Procedures:

- a) Review State of Alaska state preparedness report.
- b) Review jurisdictional Alaska assessment report.
- c) Review federal financial report.
- d) Review biannual strategy implementation report (BSIR).