# 2022 Prepare California Match – BRIC and FMA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is pleased to announce an additional funding opportunity under the Prepare California Initiative. Cal OES will offer matching funds for the non-federal cost share for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) project scoping activities and competitive mitigation projects for high hazard risk and socially vulnerable communities. This NOFO outlines the eligibility requirements and process for applying for the matching funds. Eligible subapplicants include local governments (cities, counties, and special districts) and tribal governments that apply through Cal OES. Per FEMA, private non-profits (PNPs), businesses, and communities, are **not eligible** subapplicants for the BRIC or FMA programs and this subsequent match funding program.

### Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Match

Through FEMA’s annual competitive grant program, $2.3B is available in federal funding for eligible FEMA BRIC projects and project scoping activities. Cal OES will provide state funding to cover the required local match (non-federal cost share). Prepare California Match – BRIC is a competitive state grant program that provides local match (non-federal cost share) funding to qualified entities for competitive BRIC mitigation projects and project scoping activities that directly and primarily benefit eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk communities and reduce risk to loss of life and property from natural hazards. The match funds will be provided to projects and project scoping activities that are selected by FEMA for future funding.

#### Eligible Subapplicants for Prepare California Match - BRIC

Eligible Subapplicant Entity Types

To be eligible for Prepare CA Match –BRIC, entities must be Cal OES BRIC subapplicants such as counties, cities, special districts, and tribal governments. The eligible entity must apply for a project that protects a community considered socially vulnerable and at high hazard risk according to the [Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance Division’s Vulnerability Map](https://calema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/3c78aea361be4ea8a21b22b30e613d6e)[[1]](#footnote-2).The mitigation projects and project scoping activities must demonstrate that mitigation activities directly and primarily benefit a qualified socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community or communities.

Communities that are eligible FEMA subapplicants but do not meet the criteria for Prepare California Match - BRIC are still eligible to apply for the BRIC funding opportunity. However, they will be responsible for the non-federal cost share for their project.

Local or Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

Per FEMA, Prepare California Match - BRIC subapplicants must have a FEMA approved-and -locally adopted LHMP at the time of subapplication submission (12/2/22) and at time of the FEMA Notice of Grant award. Any entity (e.g., county, city, town, special district) which has a FEMA approved-and-locally adopted LHMP may apply on behalf of an eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community without a hazard mitigation plan. Visit the [Cal OES Local Hazard Mitigation Program](https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/recovery-directorate/hazard-mitigation/state-hazard-mitigation-planning/) website to view county-specific LHMPs. State agencies meet this requirement through their inclusion in the 2018 California State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

#### Prepare California Match - BRIC Program Criteria

Per FEMA’s [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-07/fy15_HMA_Guidance.pdf), projects must be eligible, feasible, and cost effective. While projects must be stand-alone mitigation activities that will reduce risk as their primary benefit, Cal OES strongly encourages the submission of projects that achieve multiple benefits.

The BRIC program is included in the Justice40 initiative. The Justice40 Initiative outlines how certain federal investments might be made toward a goal that 40% of the overall benefits of such investment flow to disadvantaged communities. The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Social Vulnerability Index (CDC SVI)](https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html) tool is used by FEMA when evaluating if the community is disadvantaged. To be eligible for the Prepare California Match - BRIC program, the subapplicant’s project benefitting area must align with the Cal OES map. However, project scoping activities and projects that demonstrate that the activity or project is benefitting a disadvantaged community by using the CDC’s SVI tool will be given additional consideration under Prepare CA Match – BRIC.

Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) Subapplication Criteria

Prepare California Match - BRIC C&CB subapplications should be for project scoping activities that involve [nature-based solutions](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_riskmap-nature-based-solutions-guide_2021.pdf) or for activities that involve heat, drought, or utility protection (i.e., undergrounding or microgrids). Other C&CB activities will not be prioritized for Match funding (ex: partnerships, planning, planning related, or scoping that does not address one of the hazards or project types above).

Mitigation Subapplication Criteria (Projects)

Prepare California Match - BRIC Mitigation subapplications must incorporate the following components:

* Capacity building, partnership building, community engagement, and/or education component.
* Demonstration of effective risk reduction and resiliency on a community wide scale.
* Nature-based solutions, future conditions, ancillary benefits, innovation, and climate adaption.
* Building Code Effective Grading Schedule (BCEGS) rating for residential and commercial of 5 or less (1-5).
* Well-defined implementation plan.
* Maximize the FEMA BRIC [technical](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy22-bric-technical-evaluation-criteria-psm.pdf) and [qualitative](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy22-bric-qualitative-evaluation-criteria-psm.pdf) scoring rubrics.

Local Cost Share (Non-Federal Share)

Prepare California Match - BRIC will fund the required local cost share (non-federal share) associated with the FEMA BRIC program. Eligible subapplicants will not have to provide any local match, but it is recommended that subapplicants consult the FEMA technical scoring criteria and consider “overmatching” to obtain a more competitive score. Information related to the FEMA technical scoring criteria can be found [here](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_fy22-bric-technical-evaluation-criteria-psm.pdf).

Period of Performance (POP)

Per FEMA BRIC requirements, awards can have a period of performance up to 36 months. With justification, subapplications can utilize a longer period of performance for complex projects. The longer POP will need to be clearly justified in the subapplication’s scope and schedule.

Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)

A BCA is required for BRIC Mitigation projects. The FEMA BCA must utilize the FEMA software ([Version 6.0](https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-bca-toolkit-60-installation-instructions)) and must be well documented and supported. BRIC BCAs are submitted to FEMA’s National Technical Review (NTR) team. The NTR team does not issue BCA requests for information (RFIs) as they review. Therefore, BCAs must be FEMA credible at time of subapplication submission.

Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP)

Compliance with [all applicable](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/laws) [federal](https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/environmental-historic) and California EHP laws, executive orders, and regulations to assess potential impacts of a proposed project on affected physical, cultural (historic and archaeological), biological, and social resources is a condition of FEMA BRIC funding. Consequently, all BRIC project subapplications must undergo an [EHP review](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic) as part of FEMA’s eligibility review process prior to award.

Procurement

All contracts and purchases must comply with federal procurement guidelines outlined in 2 CFR 200 to be eligible for funding. Additionally, contracts and purchases must also comply with all applicable California and local procurement laws, regulations, and policies.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200, contractors who assist with grant subapplication development will be ineligible to compete for subsequent procurements/contracts on the same grant award due to a conflict of interest in which an unfair competitive advantage is present [i.e., future Phase I (design/EHP) and/or Phase II work (construction)].

#### Prepare CAlifornia Match – BRIC Funding Priorities

Cal OES will select subapplications based on outlined priorities below. Subapplications will be more competitive if they incorporate one or more of the following priorities:

* Demonstrate a significant level of protection increase and benefits to eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk communities.
* Support community lifelines through the protection of critical infrastructure.
* Demonstrate effective risk reduction and resiliency on a community wide scale.
* Use nature-based solutions, advance climate adaptation goals, and/or have other defined ancillary benefits.
* Consider future conditions in project planning and design.

Cal OES will also consider the degree to which projects align the BRIC technical and qualitative criteria.

#### Prepare California Match - BRIC Notice of Interest and Subapplication Submission Process

Interested subapplicants must submit a notice of interest (NOI) via the [Engage Cal OES Portal](https://caloes.force.com/s/login/) and identify Prepare California Match - BRIC in the title (e.g., *Prepare CA BRIC: City of Mitigation, Microgrid Project*) prior to submitting a subapplication. The NOI is intended to provide an opportunity to propose mitigation actions that reduce risk to life and property from future natural hazards.

Prepare California Match - BRIC subapplicants should clearly describe in the NOI[[2]](#footnote-3) how their mitigation action fulfills both the above mentioned program criteria **and** one or more of the funding priorities (as applicable). NOIs also need to describe how the mitigation action will directly and primarily benefit a specific eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community.

All Prepare California Match - BRIC NOIs must be submitted by September 16, 2022. Cal OES will review all NOIs for eligibility, and eligible submissions will be invited to submit full grant subapplications in FEMA GO. NOIs submitted after the posted deadline may be invited to submit full grant subapplications if funding remains available. If an eligible subapplicant would like to apply for Prepare California Match - BRIC and has already submitted an NOI under the Cal OES portal, they should contact Cal OES via email at HMA@caloes.ca.gov.

After receiving approval to apply, subapplicants must submit full and complete subapplications to Cal OES in the FEMA GO portal by December 2, 2022.

Eligible subapplications that are not initially selected to receive the non-federal cost share via the Prepare California Match - BRIC program will be considered under the traditional FEMA BRIC funding opportunity, where the subapplicant is responsible for the non-federal cost share. Cal OES will also retain eligible subapplications that are not selected for submission to FEMA for future consideration if additional state and/or federal funding is available.

Projects must be selected by FEMA under the 2022 BRIC opportunity to receive the Prepare CA Match – BRIC funds. Prepare CA Match – BRIC funds will be returned to Cal OES if the project is not selected by FEMA.

#### Prepare California Match - BRIC Award and Grant Monitoring

Upon FEMA award, subrecipients will submit requests for reimbursement as work is completed. Cal OES requires subrecipients to submit reimbursement requests quarterly via submission of the quarterly report. Reimbursement requests will be subject to FEMA and Cal OES supporting documentation requirements to substantiate costs and validate eligibility against the approved subapplication and scope of work. Please note, work started prior to FEMA review and approval is ineligible for reimbursement unless pre-award costs were obligated within the approved budget. Pre-award costs will not be reimbursed if the project is not selected for funding by FEMA. Furthermore, projects that break ground prior to FEMA approval are not eligible to receive funding.

Subrecipients are responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of their grant. Consistent with FEMA BRIC, subrecipients are subject to quarterly progress and financial reporting, a closeout process, and site visits as deemed necessary by Cal OES.

#### Prepare California Match - BRIC Technical Assistance

Cal OES is pleased to provide technical assistance to interested subapplicants. Our subject matter experts are available to discuss project eligibility, the application process, or other related matters. Please reach out to HMA@caloes.ca.gov with questions or to schedule a call.

### Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Match

Through FEMA’s annual competitive grant program, $800M is available in federal funding for eligible FEMA FMA projects and project scoping activities. Cal OES will offer state funding to cover the required local match (non-federal cost share). The Prepare California Match - FMA is a competitive state grant program that provides local match (non-federal cost share) funding to qualified entities for competitive FMA mitigation projects and project scoping activities that directly and primarily benefit eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk communities and reduce risk to loss of life and property from natural hazards. The match funds will be provided to projects and project scoping activities that are selected by FEMA for future funding.

#### Eligible Subapplicants for Prepare California Match - FMA

Eligible Subapplicant Entity Types

To be eligible for Prepare CA Match – FMA, entities must be Cal OES FMA subapplicants such as counties, cities, special districts, and tribal governments. Furthermore, the eligible entity must apply for a project that protects a community considered socially vulnerable and at high hazard risk according to the [Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance Division’s Vulnerability Map](https://calema.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/3c78aea361be4ea8a21b22b30e613d6e)[[3]](#footnote-4).The mitigation projects and project scoping activities must demonstrate that mitigation activities directly and primarily benefit a qualified socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community or communities.

Communities that are eligible FEMA subapplicants but do not meet the criteria for Prepare California Match - FMA are still eligible to apply for the FMA funding opportunity. However, they will be responsible for the non-federal cost share for their project.

Local or Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)

Per FEMA, Prepare California Match - FMA subapplicants must have a FEMA approved-and -locally adopted local or tribal hazard mitigation plan (LHMP) at the time of subapplication submission (12/2/22) and prior to the FEMA Notice of Grant award. Any entity (e.g., county, city, town, special district) which has a FEMA approved-and-locally adopted LHMP may apply on behalf of an eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community without a hazard mitigation plan. Visit the Cal OES [Local Hazard Mitigation Program](https://www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/operations/recovery-directorate/hazard-mitigation/state-hazard-mitigation-planning/) website to view county-specific LHMPs. State agencies meet this requirement through their inclusion in the 2018 California State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

The subapplicant must participate in, or be located in, a jurisdiction that participates in the NFIP and is in good standing. Visit the [FEMA National Flood Insurance Program](https://www.fema.gov/flood-insurance) website for more information. All subapplicants must be participating in the NFIP, and not be withdrawn, on probation, or suspended. California communities may confirm their NFIP status using the [Community Status Book Report](https://www.fema.gov/cis/CA.html).

Community Rating System (CRS) and Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP)

Subapplicants should also participate in the Community Rating System (CRS), a system that encourages community floodplain-management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP standards, as well as the Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) program, a collaboration of communities committed to maintaining up-to-date flood hazard maps and other flood information.

#### Prepare CALIFORNIA MATCH - FMA Program Criteria

The FMA program is included in the Justice40 initiative. The Justice40 Initiative outlines how certain federal investments might be made toward a goal that 40% of the overall benefits of such investment flow to disadvantaged communities. The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Social Vulnerability Index (CDC SVI)](https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html) tool is used by FEMA when evaluating if the community is disadvantaged. To be eligible for the Prepare California Match - FMA program, the subapplicant’s project benefitting area must align with the Cal OES map. However, project scoping activities and projects that demonstrate that the activity or project is benefitting a disadvantaged community by using the CDC’s SVI tool will be given additional consideration under Prepare CA Match – FMA.

Additionally, per FEMA’s [Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-07/fy15_HMA_Guidance.pdf), projects must be eligible, feasible, and cost effective.

FMA Subapplication Criteria

Prepare California Match - FMA Mitigation subapplications should incorporate the following [nature-based solutions](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_riskmap-nature-based-solutions-guide_2021.pdf) (NBS) as a functional component of the competitive mitigation project or project scoping activities. Project scoping, localized flood risk reduction projects, and individual flood mitigation projects should include properties or infrastructure with NFIP coverage and benefit Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) or Repetitive Loss (RL) properties.

Local Cost Share (Non-Federal Share)

Prepare California Match - FMA will fund the required local cost share (non-federal share) associated with FEMA FMA (either 25% or 10% for projects protecting repetitive loss properties) of the total project costs. Subapplicants with projects that the benefiting area’s Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) score is not less than 0.5001 may receive 90% Federal cost share. Eligible Match subapplicants will not have to provide any local match to receive state and federal funding.

Note: Severe Repetitive Loss Properties do not have a cost share under FMA (non-federal cost share is 0%).

Period of Performance (POP)

Per FEMA FMA requirements, awards can have a period of performance up to 36 months. With justification, localized flood risk reduction projects can utilize a longer period of performance for complex projects. The longer POP will need to be clearly justified in the subapplication’s scope and schedule. C&CB and individual flood mitigation projects should utilize a 36-month period of performance.

Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA)

A BCA is required for FMA Mitigation projects. The FEMA BCA must utilize the FEMA software ([Version 6.0](https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/fema-bca-toolkit-60-installation-instructions)) and must be well documented and supported. FMA BCAs are submitted to FEMA’s National Technical Review (NTR) team. The NTR team does not issue BCA RFIs as they review. Therefore, BCAs must be FEMA credible at time of subapplication submission.

Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP)

Compliance with [all applicable](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/laws) [Federal](https://www.fema.gov/grants/guidance-tools/environmental-historic) and California EHP laws, executive orders, and regulations to assess potential impacts of a proposed project on affected physical, cultural (historic and archaeological), biological, and social resources is a condition of FEMA FMA funding. Consequently, all FMA project subapplications must undergo an [EHP review](https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic) as part of FEMA’s eligibility review process prior to award.

Procurement

All contracts and purchases must comply with federal procurement guidelines outlined in 2 CFR 200 to be eligible for funding. Additionally, contracts and purchases must also comply with all applicable California and local procurement laws, regulations, and policies.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200, contractors who assist with grant subapplication development will be ineligible to compete for subsequent procurements/contracts on the same grant award due to a conflict of interest in which an unfair competitive advantage is present [i.e., future Phase I (design/EHP) and/or Phase II work (construction)].

Capability and Capacity Building (C&CB) Subapplication Criteria

Prepare California Match – FMA C&CB subapplications should be for project scoping activities that involve [nature-based solutions](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_riskmap-nature-based-solutions-guide_2021.pdf) and provide flood risk reduction for NFIP structures. Other C&CB activities will not be prioritized for Match funding (ex: plan development and/or partnership development).

#### Prepare California Match - FMA Funding Priorities

Cal OES will select FEMA Match subapplications based on outlined priorities below. Subapplications will be more competitive if they incorporate one or more of the following priorities.

* Must be eligible, technically feasible, cost effective (through a BCA), and aligned with FMA’s prioritization scoring rubrics.
* Incorporate nature-based solutions, ancillary benefits, and future conditions.
* Project will directly benefit / protect a socially vulnerable community.
* Provides a community wide flood mitigation solution rather than “checkerboard” mitigation for multiple Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL) and Repetitive Loss (RL) structures.

#### Prepare California Match - FMA Notice of Interest and Subapplication Submission Process

Interested subapplicants must submit a notice of interest (NOI) via the [Engage Cal OES Portal](https://caloes.force.com/s/login/) and identify Prepare California Match - FMA in the title (e.g., *FMA Match: City of Mitigation, Flood Mitigation Project*) prior to submitting a subapplication. The NOI is intended to provide an opportunity to propose mitigation actions that reduce risk to life and property from future natural hazards.

Prepare California Match - FMA subapplicants should clearly describe in the NOI[[4]](#footnote-5) how their mitigation action fulfills both the abovementioned program criteria **and** one or more of the funding priorities (as applicable). NOIs also need to describe how the mitigation action will directly and primarily benefit a specific eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community.

All Prepare California Match - FMA NOIs must be submitted by September 16, 2022. Cal OES will review all NOIs for eligibility and eligible submissions will be invited to submit full grant subapplications. NOIs submitted after the posted deadline may be invited to submit full grant subapplications if funding remains available. If an eligible subapplicant would like to apply for Prepare California Match - FMA and has already submitted an NOI under the Cal OES portal, they should contact Cal OES via email at HMA@caloes.ca.gov.

After receiving approval to apply, subapplicants must submit full and complete subapplications to Cal OES in the FEMA GO portal by December 2, 2022.

Eligible subapplications that are not initially selected to receive the non-federal cost share via the Prepare California Match - FMA program will be considered under the traditional FEMA FMA funding opportunity, where the subapplicant is responsible for the non-federal cost share. Cal OES will also retain eligible subapplications that are not selected for submission to FEMA for future consideration if additional state and/or federal funding is available.

Projects must be selected by FEMA under the 2022 FMA opportunity to receive the Prepare CA Match – FMA funds. Prepare CA Match – FMA funds will be returned to Cal OES if the project is not selected by FEMA.

#### Prepare California Match - FMA Award and Grant Monitoring

Upon FEMA award, subrecipients will submit requests for reimbursement as work is completed. Cal OES requires subrecipients to submit reimbursement requests quarterly via submission of the quarterly report. Reimbursement requests will be subject to FEMA and Cal OES supporting documentation requirements to substantiate costs and validate eligibility against the approved subapplication and scope of work. Please note, work started prior to FEMA review and approval is ineligible for reimbursement unless pre-award costs were obligated within the approved budget.

Subrecipients are responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of their grant. Consistent with FEMA FMA, subrecipients are subject to quarterly progress and financial reporting, a closeout process, and site visits as deemed necessary by Cal OES.

#### Prepare California Match - FMA Technical Assistance

Cal OES is pleased to provide technical assistance to interested subapplicants. Our subject matter experts are available to discuss project eligibility, the application process, or other related matters. Please reach out to HMA@caloes.ca.gov with questions or to schedule a call.

1. *The Vulnerability Map shows all census tracts that1) exceed the 70th percentile in SVI or have a median household income of less than 80 percent of the state median, and 2) exceed the 85th percentile in any of the five hazard categories, exceed the 70th percentile in overall hazard exposure, or have significant earthquake risk based on estimated shake intensity. Click on a census tract for more information about how the Overall Hazard Exposure Percentile is calculated. Hazard exposure is based on Cal OES’ analysis of several datasets related to wildfire, flood, earthquake, drought, and heatwave frequencies. These sources include* [*Pyrologix*](https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/32de73f1cfb040c79f80c189ccefe061.) *(wildfire),* [*First Street Foundation*](https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=4df5faffaa0744349ac575940d542879.) *(flood),* [National Risk Index for Natural Hazards](https://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/products-tools/national-risk-index) *(earthquake, drought, and heatwave), and* [Cal Adapt](http://cal-adapt.org/data/download) *(wildfire and heatwave). Social vulnerability scores are based on the* [2018 CDC Social Vulnerability Index](https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html)*.* [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Subapplicants should include Prepare California Match - BRIC-specific criteria in the “Brief Summary Section” of the NOI, **including** which city/cities or census designated place(s) their project is directly and primarily benefitting. When prompted to identify a match source, subapplicants should identify Prepare California Match - BRIC. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. 1 The Vulnerability Map shows all census tracts that are eligible for Jumpstart funding by meeting BOTH the social vulnerability AND hazard metrics. To meet the Social Vulnerability metric, a census tract must have a Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) score >.70 OR a median household income less than 80% of the state median in 2019. A census tract must also meet the hazard risk criteria by demonstrating a >.70 average in their top four hazards OR >.85 in any one hazard OR a significant earthquake exposure by exceeding the average expected ground motion with a 2% probability over 50 years. Hazard exposure is based on Cal OES’ analysis of several datasets related to wildfire, flood, earthquake, drought, and heatwave frequencies. These sources include Pyrologix (wildfire), First Street Foundation (flood), National Risk Index for Natural Hazards (earthquake, drought, and heatwave), California Department of Conservation Sheet Map 48: Earthquake potential for CA (earthquake), and Cal Adapt (wildfire and heatwave). Social vulnerability scores are based on the 2018 CDC Social Vulnerability Index and the American Community Survey 2015-2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Subapplicants should include Prepare California Match - FMA-specific criteria in the “Brief Summary Section” of the NOI, **including** which city/cities or census designated place(s) their project is directly and primarily benefitting. When prompted to identify a match source, subapplicants should identify Prepare California Match - FMA. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)