

**WF-9**

# FEMA Mitigation Funding Opportunity

# Advance Assistance

## Overview

Advance Assistance provides early funding to accelerate the identification and implementation of mitigation activities. Applicants and sub-applicants may use Advance Assistance to develop mitigation strategies and obtain data to prioritize, select and develop complete mitigation applications in a timely manner, resulting in either an improvement in the capability to identify appropriate mitigation projects or in the development of an application-ready mitigation project.

Wildfires are unplanned fires that burn in natural areas like forests, grasslands or prairies. These dangerous fires spread quickly and can be devastating. FEMA has funding available to assist in identifying and formulating complete grant applications.

## Eligible Activities

## \*Note: This list presents potential project scoping activities. This list is not exhaustive; Applicants and sub-applicants may have needs that extend beyond what has been included here.

* Scoping and developing hazard mitigation projects, including engineering design and feasibility studies
* Conducting meetings, outreach, and coordination with potential sub-applicants and community residents to identify potential future mitigation projects, including for ignition resistant construction retrofits and defensible space
* Evaluating facilities or areas to determine appropriate mitigation actions
* Incorporating environmental planning and historic preservation considerations into project planning activities
* Collecting data for benefit-cost analyses, environmental compliance, and other program requirements
* Conducting hydrologic and hydraulic studies for unmapped flood zones or other areas where communities propose to submit hazard mitigation projects
* Coordinating, scoping, and developing regional or multi-community hazard mitigation projects that require coordination to cohesively address resiliency and sustainability goals
* Utilizing third-party cost estimation services for project budgeting across sub-applications
* Contracting services to address data consistency needs for other project application categories, such as environmental planning and historic preservation, cost-sharing mechanisms, and work schedules

## Overall Complexity

| Application | Environmental | Legal |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Low | Low | Low |

## Application Requirements:

* Must be a local government, Tribe, or PNP
* Must have a FEMA approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
* Must fulfill appropriate state emergency management agency application requirements including, scope of work, budget, schedule, etc.
* Must include narrative discussion of the benefits of the project (no formal benefit-cost analysis is required)
* Must fit within program or state funding limits
* 25% local match required

## Environmental Requirements:

Advance Assistance activities are categorically excluded from NEPA review as the activities involve no ground disturbance.