



Community Planning and Capacity Building

Recovery Support Function

March 2024 Bulletin

Funding Opportunities

[NFWF America the Beautiful Challenge 2024](#)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is accepting applications for the 2024 America the Beautiful Challenge. Projects throughout the U.S., U.S. territories, and Tribal Nations are eligible for funding and can be on public lands, Tribal lands, and private lands, and ideally span multiple landownership boundaries, jurisdictions, and/or states. Locations will be prioritized where projects are guided by existing conservation or restoration plans.

- Pre-proposals are due by April 4, 2024.

[USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant Program](#)

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established the US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over 5 years, 2022-2026. The SS4A program supports the development of a comprehensive safety action plan that identifies the most significant roadway safety concerns in a community and the implementation of projects and strategies to address roadway safety issues. Eligible applicants include political subdivisions of a State, which includes counties, cities, towns, transit agencies, and other special districts, metropolitan planning organizations, and Federally-recognized Tribal governments.

- Applications for Planning and Demonstration Grants are due by April 4, 2024.
- Applications for Implementation Grants are due by May 16, 2024.

[DOE Resilient and Efficient Codes Implementation Program](#)

The US Department of Energy (DOE) will continue to support States, and Tribal and local governments pursuing more efficient building energy codes that save money for American homes and businesses, while maximizing the benefits of the clean energy transition, empowering workers, supporting resilience, and advancing environmental justice. Funding provided through this announcement is specifically designed to update building energy codes and ensure the cost-effective implementation of these updated codes at the state and local level.

- Concept paper submissions are due by April 5, 2024.

[OPR Extreme Heat & Community Resilience Program](#)

The California Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program coordinates the state's comprehensive response to this climate impact and builds capacity for heat action planning — creating frameworks to reduce the risks of extreme heat events and the Urban Heat Island effect – and project implementation in the most heat-burdened communities by providing funding and technical support. The Program also drives the state's work to implement California's Extreme Heat Action Plan - a comprehensive, coordinated effort across State agencies to advance equity, including reducing the economic and health disparities exacerbated by extreme heat.

- Applicants must submit the Pre-Application Interest Form and full application by April 23 at 5:00 p.m., PST.

[OPR Adaptation Planning Grant](#)

The OPR Adaptation Planning Grant provides \$25 million to help fill local, regional, and tribal planning needs, provides communities the resources to identify climate resilience priorities, and supports the development of a pipeline of climate resilient infrastructure projects across the state. OPR staff and technical assistance providers are hosting a series of application workshops through May to help applicants navigate the application process.

- Pre-Application Interest Form is due May 6, 2024.

[EPA Clean Ports Program](#)

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced two separate Notices of Funding Opportunities to disburse \$3 billion Inflation Reduction Act allocations - the Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition AND the Climate and Air Quality Planning Competition. The two opportunities will be used to fund approximately \$2.8 billion in zero-emission technology deployment at ports, as well as approximately \$150 million for climate and air quality planning.

- Applications for both programs are due May 28, 2024.

[DOE Communities Sparking Investment in Transformative Energy Program](#)

The DOE will provide an anticipated \$18 million for local governments and federally recognized Indian Tribes to implement municipally- or Tribal-led high-impact clean energy projects in disadvantaged communities, energy communities, small- and medium-sized jurisdictions, and Tribal communities. Projects may span a range of geographic scopes and wide variety of technology areas, including, but not limited to, building efficiency and/or electrification, clean transportation, energy infrastructure upgrades, microgrid development and deployment, renewable energy, and workforce development.

- Applications are due by May 31, 2024.

[USDA Strategic Economic and Community Development Program](#)

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD) funding is authorized through a Farm Bill provision that supports

regional economic and community development planning. SECD supports projects that promote and implement strategic community investment plans. These plans use the unique strengths of rural communities to advance prosperity. USDA Rural Development helps finance these projects to build community prosperity by using community assets, identifying resources, convening partners, and leveraging federal, state, local or private funding.

- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Webinars

[CalOES Hurricane Hilary Flood Mitigation Funding Opportunity Webinar](#)

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) Hazard Mitigation Branch is currently accepting applications for DR-4750 Hurricane Hilary Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). This webinar will discuss HMGP funding for flood control projects.

- The webinar will take place March 19, 2024, from 12:45-2:15 p.m., PST.

[HCD Proposed CDBG-DR Action Plan Webinars – in English and Spanish](#)

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) will host statewide public webinars on the proposed Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Action Plan, covering the 2023 disasters. As a result of the January 2023 winter storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides, the State of California received \$115,022,000 of CDBG-DR funds to address disaster impacts and mitigate future disasters. The CDBG-DR funding must be spent within areas impacted by the disaster, including Merced, Santa Cruz, San Luis Obispo, San Joaquin, and Ventura Counties.

- The English webinar will take place on March 20, 2024, from 6:00-7:00 p.m., PST.
- The Spanish webinar will take place on March 21, 2024, from 6:00-7:00 p.m., PST.

[FEMA Achieving Equitable Recovery: A Post-Disaster Guide for Local Officials and Leaders Webinar – In Spanish](#)

FEMA will host a webinar in Spanish for the newly released Achieving Equitable Recovery: A Post-Disaster Guide for Local Officials and Leaders. This webinar follows three earlier webinars in English that took place on January 24, January 31 and February 13, 2024. This guide supports local officials and leaders in their efforts to build equity into the recovery process by establishing more diverse partnerships, conducting inclusive strategic public engagement, identifying needs of the whole community, leveraging mitigation opportunities, and identifying opportunities to help leverage additional funding opportunities.

- The webinar will take place on March 21, 2024, from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., PST.

[FEMA Office of Business, Industry and Infrastructure Integration Individual Assistance Webinar](#)

This meeting is held to update FEMA National Business Emergency Operations Center members, business and industry organizations, and FEMA partners on the initiatives and tools available during all stages of the disaster lifecycle. Each month features different topics presented by experts from FEMA, other interagency partners, and business and industry organizations. This month, we will showcase the updates being made to FEMA's Individual Assistance (IA) Program—a significant step toward improving the disaster survivor experience by simplifying processes, removing barriers to services, and increasing eligibility for certain types of IA assistance.

- The webinar will take place on March 26, 2024, from 12:00-1:00 p.m., PST.

[FEMA After-Action Review Webinar](#)

After-action reviews are critical for emergency managers to identify strengths, potential best practices, areas for improvement and mission critical issues during and following real-world incidents. During this webinar, FEMA will equip participants with a systematic approach to successfully collect and analyze data to inform real-world incident after-action review products. The webinar will also review resources focused on developing data collection and analysis plans that are available on the CITAP's website on the FEMA Preparedness Toolkit.

- The webinar will take place March 27, 2024, from 8:00-9:00 a.m., PST.

[FEMA Elevating Dam Safety Through Hazard Mitigation Planning Webinar](#)

FEMA Region 3 hosts a webinar series for anyone who wants to reduce risk in their community. Dam failure can cause flooding risks and require monitoring and planning to keep the public safe. This may include safety programs, data collection, and non-localized mitigation measures. This webinar will explore the High Hazard Potential Dam Grant Program, the latest hazard mitigation planning requirements, and effective planning partner outreach.

- The webinar will take place March 27, 2024 from 8:00-9:00 a.m., PST.

[USDOT Equity in Roadway Safety Webinar Series: Tools and Strategies for Equitable Design](#)

The USDOT Federal Highway Administration sponsors a webinar series to share equitable strategies and tools that can be integrated into transportation programs and projects to close disparities in roadway fatalities on the way to our shared goal of zero deaths. In these sessions, State, regional and local transportation professionals share innovative examples to inspire transportation professionals to equitably implementation transportation improvements. Recording of prior sessions are available and in 2024, the series will focus on equitable design strategies, dive deeper into equitable data analysis, and roadway safety for people experiencing homelessness.

- The webinar will take place on March 27, 2024, from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., PST.

[FEMA Resilient Nation Partnership Network Stories of Resilience Webinar Series](#)

The Resilient Nation Partnership Network (RNPN) represents a diverse network of voices united in their commitment to help communities act and become more resilient toward natural disasters and climate-related events. Every Thursday in April, the RNPN and Sundance Institute will explore how stories can build community resilience during this year's forum on "Stories of Resilience: Voices that Inspire." The event will bring filmmakers, artists, and community leaders together to show how stories inspire behavioral change, boost empathy, and imagine different futures.

- Events will take place April 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., PST.

Training

[Mobilizing Faith-Based Community Organizations in Preparing for Disasters \(MGT-405\)](#)

This 8-hour, virtual course trains faith-based community organization (FBCO) representatives, management-level emergency managers, and first responders from small and rural communities to strategically mobilize and engage members of FBCOs, including religious charities, nonprofits such as the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, churches (both affiliated and unaffiliated), temples, synagogues, mosques, and NGOs etc., in a reciprocal approach to disaster planning that is integrated into current local and statewide emergency management efforts. This course emphasizes grassroots mobilization and coordination efforts as a means of engaging all faith communities, thereby reaching those marginalized communities most vulnerable to disaster, most frequently excluded from the planning process, and ultimately, most difficult to aid in recovery. Course is available April 10-11, 2024, from 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is March 27, 2024.

[Emergency Operations Plans for Rural Jurisdictions \(MGT-383\)](#)

This 8-hour, virtual course is designed to provide rural first responders with the knowledge and skills to develop an emergency operations plan (EOP) for their local jurisdiction or region. Participants are provided with knowledge on the planning process, the different types of emergency operations plan formats, and the components of each. Participants engage in scenarios that are designed to reinforce the lessons learned and to enable them to determine the best format for their jurisdiction and to organize the various planning components into an EOP. Course is available April 18-19, 2024, from 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is April 11, 2024.

[Planning for Coastal Hazards \(MGT-486\)](#)

This 4-hour, virtual course provides key information for advanced practitioners involved in planning for coastal hazards and climate change. The course will focus on the planning aspect of coastal hazards, covering coastal hazards planning principles, coastal planning and management context, and planning strategies that can be employed to reduce hazard risk and increase resilience in coastal communities. The course content will aim to bridge

concepts related to climate adaptation, hazard mitigation and coastal management, highlighting the mutual objectives and ways to achieve them through planning. This course builds upon *AWR-379 Coastal Hazards Awareness* and *PER-376 Coastal Hazard & Vulnerability Assessment Tools*. These courses are not pre-requisites but participants are encouraged to take these or one of the following courses prior to this course: *AWR-228 Community Resilience* or *AWR-362 Flooding Hazards*. In lieu of completing these courses, participants may have a working knowledge of the fundamentals of natural hazards and planning in coastal areas. Course is available April 9, 2024, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is April 19, 2024.

[Coastal Hazard and Vulnerability Assessment Tools \(PER-378\)](#)

This 4-hour, virtual course provides training on the available tools for the assessment and planning for natural hazards and vulnerabilities that uniquely affect coastal communities. Examples of these hazards are short term events such as high surf, storm surge, and tsunami inundation, or long term threats from sea level rise and coastal erosion. The course will include a guided exercise in which participants will learn to apply these tools in conducting a vulnerability assessment in their coastal communities. This course will build on the first course of the series, *Coastal Hazards Awareness*, by supplementing the awareness knowledge with tools and skills for practical use. Course is available May 14, 2024, from 1:00-5:00 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is May 14, 2024.

[Flooding Hazards: Science & Preparedness \(AWR-362\)](#)

This 8-hour, virtual course addresses the current science of the causes of floods (both meteorological and otherwise), flood forecasting, flood risk assessment, and best practices for preparation and mitigation for both short- and long-fuse flooding events. Key concepts and discussion topics will be reinforced with facilitator-led group activities that utilize real-world flood scenarios. These activities will illustrate the diverse challenges and complexities that can occur during actual flood events while building participants' experience and confidence in anticipating, heeding warnings, and responding to floods. Course is available May 15-16, 2024, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is May 15, 2024.

[Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions \(MGT-461\)](#)

This eight-hour management-level course is designed to provide emergency managers, first responders, transportation professionals, security and safety professionals, and government administrators with the ability to utilize current tools and technologies to institute best practices and strategies to plan for and execute an emergency evacuation. This course discusses the hazard conditions for which an emergency evacuation could be an appropriate protective action and inform participants on resources and methods to help them better prepare for an emergency evacuation. This course will allow participants to explore data, modelling tools, and simulations that assist with the implementation of an emergency evacuation. Course is available May 21-22, 2024 from 12:30-4:30 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is May 21, 2024.

[Community Resilience \(AWR-228\)](#)

This 8-hour, virtual course demonstrates how to integrate risk and community-based collaborative strategies into plans and programs and introduces tools that help communities assess individual risks and vulnerabilities as well as introduces strategies to become more resilient and better prepared for natural disasters. This one-day training course will provide state and local government agency staff and other stakeholder groups with background on natural hazards. In addition, the course will guide an approach to (1) assess community resilience and (2) develop next steps for improved resilience. Through increased awareness of natural hazards and best practices, the course will enhance community resilience for state and local government agency staff that routinely interface with the community, private sector, and other stakeholder groups. Course is available June 4-5, 2024, from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., PST.

- Deadline to register is June 4, 2024.

Resources

[APA Planning, Mitigating, and Advocating for Community Resilience Online Course](#)

The American Planning Association (APA) developed this two-part course to introduce planners to the critical role they can play in leading mitigation planning efforts and the suite of planning tools that are available for building resilience, mitigating natural hazards, and contributing to the safe and equitable well-being of their communities. In this course, planners will learn how to facilitate a mitigation planning process, how to collaborate with their colleagues, how to assess community-wide risk, and ultimately, how to advocate for a stronger and more resilient future. This free course is eligible for 1.75 CM credits for members of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

[USDOT Transportation Data + Equity Hub](#)

The USDOT Data + Equity Hub provides tools, metrics and data to analyze communities' access to the transportation they need, and the challenges they face. Tools include an Equitable Transportation Community Explorer, a National Transit Map, a Justice40 Data Story, National Household Travel Survey, and many more.

[Census Community Resilience Estimates](#)

The US Census Community Resilience Estimates (CRE) provide an easily understood metric for how socially vulnerable every neighborhood in the United States is to the impacts of disasters. As the nation's leading provider of quality data about its people and economy, the Census Bureau is uniquely positioned to provide the most accurate and timely measures for an individually focused community resilience indicator. We use detailed demographic and economic data about individuals to build these estimates. The CRE for Equity dataset and profiles provides information about social vulnerability and equity for the nation, states, counties, and census tracts.



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