

# Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program for Hurricane Michael



## Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What federal regulations or guidelines refer to the amount of money the state of Florida receives for disaster recovery (CDBG-DR) funding?**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has issued statements on Hurricane Michael funding in 85 Fed. Reg. 17 (Monday, January 27, 2020). The applicable Presidential Disaster Declaration is FEMA 4399-DR.

2. **What is the applicable appropriation law for the state of Florida's CDBG-DR programs?**

This program is a Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program funded through the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-254) and the Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20).

3. **How much money is allocated for the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program?**

\$223,032,145 overall for the Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program. \$111,516,145 will be available in this first round of competitive funding. DEO plans to open a second cycle of funding with the remaining \$111,516,000 at a later date.

4. **What is the program length?**

The contract length for the General Infrastructure Repair Program is two (2) years with a possible 12-month extension.

5. **What is meant by “meeting a National Objective?”**

Projects funded under the General Infrastructure Repair Program will be required to meet at least one of HUD's National Objectives. In this program, we will focus on the objectives of LMI or urgent need.

For more information, please see:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/sites/onecpd/assets/File/Basically-CDBG-State-Chapter-3-Nat-Obj.pdf>

6. **Is there a minimum amount of funding applicants can request?**

The minimum amount of funding for each project is \$250,000.

7. **Does this program require a local match portion to participate?**

The Rebuild Florida General Infrastructure Repair Program does not require a local match in order to receive funding. However, if an applicant is expected to contribute funds for the proposed project please note it in the budget template.

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7. **Are applicants still required to show proof of a Public Comment period due to COVID-19?**

Yes, applicants must still submit their proposals to their communities to satisfy HUD's public comment requirement. Due to COVID-19, some public comment requirements have been adjusted.

8. **Does every applicant need to submit a work plan, even if the project is already underway?**

Yes, every applicant must submit a work plan of the project that shows both the timeframe and entities involved throughout the project's duration. DEO has provided a work plan template for each applicant to submit with the respective project.

9. **What are the expected criteria for the project budget required for submission?**

Each applicant must submit a budget for the proposed project. DEO has provided a fillable PDF budget template for applicants to utilize as they formulate their items. This Template provides greater detail on what is expected for the project budget. Please make sure to include all administrative costs associated with administration of the project and grant in the budget.

10. **What is the application due date?**

Applications must be received by 5:00 pm EST Monday November 30, 2020. To receive an application please register at the following [LINK](#).

11. **Who are considered eligible applicants?**

Eligible applicants are Counties, municipalities as defined in section 180.01 F.S. and State Agencies as defined in section 120.52, F.S.

12. **What are the policies on co-applicants for a project?**

Eligible co-applicants, such as school districts, nonprofit and not for profit organizations, and non-governmental organizations may partner with a state agency, county, or municipality. An interlocal agreement or Memorandum of Understanding must be signed among all parties prior to execution of the subrecipient agreement with DEO.

13. **If an applicant posts the project for public comment, does it still need to be advertised in a newspaper?**

Yes, the notice of the post of the project would need to be advertised in a newspaper.

14. **Can public notice be posted on the applicant's website?**

Yes, it can be posted on the website in addition to a newspaper of general circulation.

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15. **Does a hard copy of the application need to be submitted to DEO?**

No, we are not requiring a hard copy version of the application packet be submitted to DEO.

16. **Is there a limit on the number of projects that can be submitted?**

Yes. Each entity may submit up to five (5) separate projects to be considered for CDBG-DR funding.

17. **When does the environmental review take place in the life of the project?**

The environmental review or assessment generally takes place after the applicant has executed an agreement with DEO, and it is required to be completed prior to release of funds to the applicant by DEO.

18. **In terms of LMI data calculation, should we use a specific website to pull that information? How is it calculated?**

DEO accepts LMI calculated from both census data or survey data. Please use this [link](#) from HUD's website for valid ways to determine your LMI data.

19. **Will DEO consider an extension of the application deadline due to COVID-19?**

Not at this time.

20. **Can this grant be used to fund the local match requirement for the FEMA HMGP program?**

DEO is currently working with our partners with Florida Division of Emergency Management on a separate program to provide local matching funds for the HMGP program.

21. **Will DEO host a webinar about the upcoming General Infrastructure Repair Program?**

Yes, DEO hosted a webinar on Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm EST. The recording is available [here](#).

22. **How do we notate the census data in our application?**

If you are providing census block data to represent LMI in your service area, list the data in the following format:

Block group BLANK, Census Tract BLANK, County number BLANK.

23. **What document or information should we be using and referencing to ensure we are properly conducting LMI surveys?**

Refer to HUD's CPD 19-02 Memo: <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Notice-CPD-1902-Low-and-Moderate-Income-Summary-Data-Updates.pdf> which references the key requirements for conducting LMI service-area surveys for the application.

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24. **Is there a limit on the amount of applications that can be submitted by eligible entities?**

Yes, each eligible entity is limited to 5 applications for this first round of Infrastructure funding. If you are an eligible co applicant, you are also limited to 5 applications. For example, Green County is planning on submitting 5 individual applications; along with this, Green County School District would like to partner with Green County on 5 applications. As an eligible co-applicant, the Green County School district can partner with the primary applicant, Green County, on 5 applications. Therefore, Green County will have submitted 10 total applications as the primary applicant.