



## Accessing FEMA's Dedicated \$137 Million for Code-Related BRIC Grants

November 9, 2023

# AGENDA

- Panelist Introduction
- History of FEMA's BRIC program
- Overview of FEMA's BRIC Program and Dedicated Codes Plus Up
- Code perspectives from a State Emergency Management Director
- How the Code Council can help you apply.
- How to use BRIC for code activities.
- Success Story – Greene County, Virginia
- Open Q&A to all panelists

## Today's Speakers



**Aaron Davis**

VP Federal Relations, ICC



**Camille Crain**

BRIC Section Chief, FEMA HQ



**Russell J. Strickland**

Secretary of Emergency Management  
State of Maryland



**Stella Carr**

Energy & Resilience Project Manager, ICC



**Krystal Samuels**

Sr. Permit Tech/Office Manager  
Greene County, Virginia



**Terry Beigie**

Grant Writer  
Greene County, Virginia

# Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) History

- FEMA's primary pre-disaster mitigation program since FY 2020.
- FEMA describes BRIC Building Code Activities as “Low-Cost, High Impact Hazard Mitigation.”
- “Codes Plus Up” refers to the FY23 allocation of \$137M specifically for codes. States/tribes can use their set-aside funding and Codes Plus Up funding for codes-related projects
- Federal cost share is no less than 75% and, in some communities, may cover 90% of the cost.
- Strong codes boost mitigation project competitiveness: State/Local AHJs adopting the 2018 or 2021 IBC and IRC and with Building Code Effectiveness Grading Scale (BCEGS) ratings 1-5 are earn more points towards competitive mitigation awards.

# BRIC Grant Logistics



Frequency: **Annual**

NOFO Release: **October 16, 2023**

Applicant Deadline: **Check State sub-applicant deadlines for NOI/ application**

Applicant: **State Hazard Mitigation Officer/Emergency Management Office**

Possible Sub-Applicants: **Building and/or fire prevention departments, other state code offices/agencies, (more broadly) your jurisdiction for other hazard mitigation planning, emergency management, and/or competitive mitigation projects.**

Local Cost Share: **25%** (Staff Time and in-kind contributions may count towards that local cost.

Economically disadvantaged communities and Community Disaster Resilience Zones (CDRZ) may have a reduced local cost share (10%).

Direct Technical Assistance Available? **Yes.**

Can my ICC GR Manager help direct me to the right people? **Yes!**

## Federal Building Code Investment through BRIC

Fiscal Year	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total Program Investment	\$500 million	\$1 Billion	\$2.3 Billion	\$1 Billion
C&CB State/Territory Set-Aside	\$600,000/ea.	\$1 Million/ea. \$56m state/territory \$25m tribal set-aside	\$2 Million/ea. \$112m state/territory \$50m tribal set-aside	\$2 Million/ea. \$112m state/territory \$50m tribal set-aside <b>*Codes Plus Up*</b>
Code Projects Funded	14 state/local 4 tribal	5 state/local 6 tribal	9 state/local 2 tribal	
Code Investment	\$2,293,395	\$2,207,502	\$3,323,675	Up to \$137 million

FY 20 - 22  
no. of projects

40

Funding  
to Date

\$7,824,572

# Fiscal Year 2023 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Notice of Funding Opportunity

## Building Code Plus-Ups for State, Territory, and Tribal Applicants

International Code Council | November 9, 2023



# FEMA



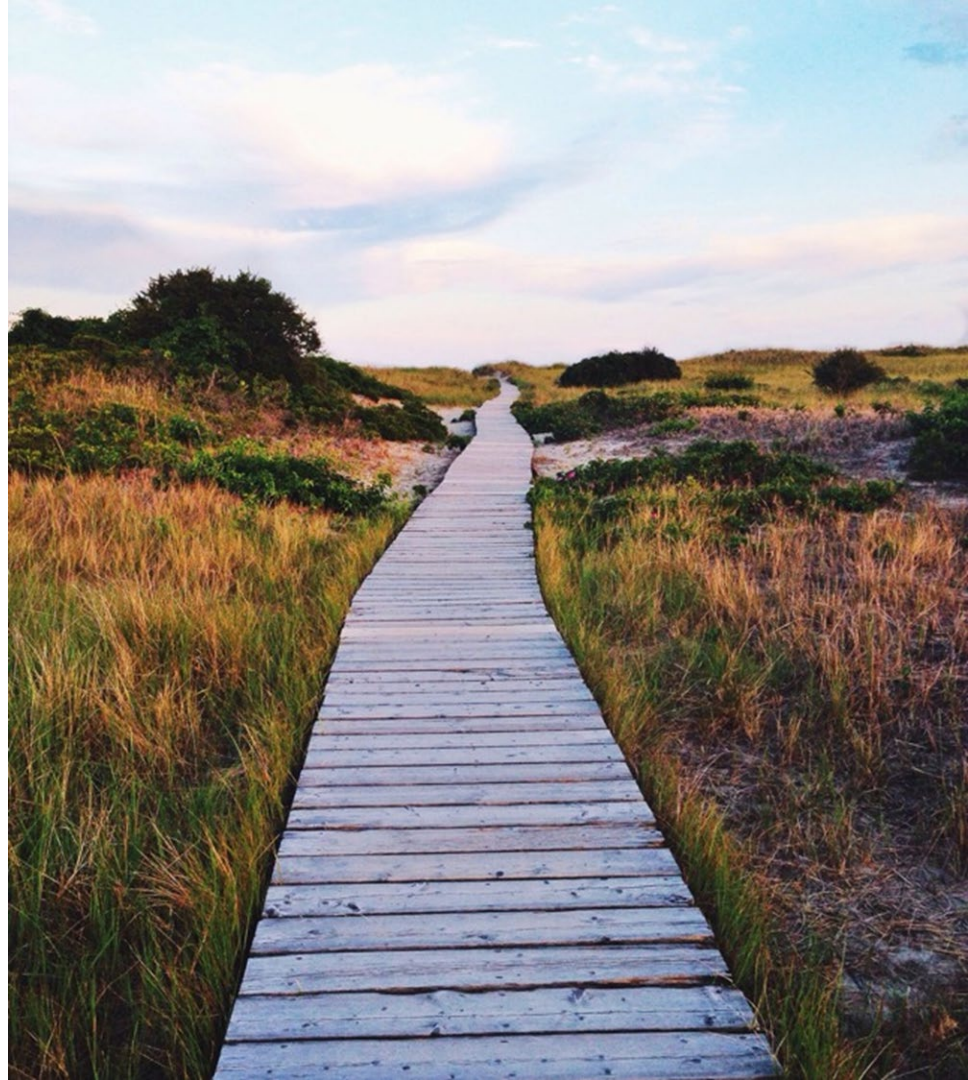
## Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Priorities

- Incentivize natural hazard risk reduction activities that mitigate multi-hazard risks to public infrastructure and disadvantaged communities as referenced in EO 14008.
- Incorporate nature-based solutions. This includes those designed to reduce carbon emissions.
- Enhance climate resilience and adaptation.
- Increase funding to applicants that facilitate the adoption and enforcement of the newest editions of building codes.

*\*BRIC encourages mitigation projects that meet multiple program priorities\**



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# Available Funding for FY23 BRIC

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**\$1 billion is available for the BRIC program in Fiscal Year 2023.**

- **State/Territory Allocation: \$112 million (up to \$2 million per applicant)**
  - A total of \$1.5 million must be used for capability- and capacity-building activities per applicant.
  - A minimum of \$400,000 must be used on any combination of capability- and capacity-building activities and projects primarily benefiting Community Disaster Resilience Zones.
- **Building Code Plus-Ups Added**
  - State/Territory Building Code Plus-Up: \$112 million (up to \$2 million per applicant).
  - Tribal Building Code Plus-Up: \$25 million
- **Tribal Set-Aside: \$50 million**
  - The combined cost of the applicant's capability- and capacity-building activities under the Tribal Set-Aside must not exceed \$2 million per applicant.
  - Up to \$1 million may be used for hazard mitigation planning and planning-related activities per applicant.
- **National Competition for Hazard Mitigation Projects: \$701 million (\$50 million per subapplication)**



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# Building Code Plus-Up Overview

- The Building Code Plus-Up is similar to the BRIC State/Territory Allocation and Tribal Set-Aside funding in previous fiscal years but is limited to building code activities. This Building Code Plus-Up cannot be used for any other activities.
  - Note that the State/Territory Allocation and Tribal Set-Aside can still be used for building code activities as well.
- The adoption and enforcement of building codes, specifications, and/or standards is an important mitigation activity that provides significant resilience benefits.
- Many tribal nations, territories, and communities are using BRIC funds to enhance building codes



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# Building Code Plus-Up Overview

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- \$112M State/Territory Building Code Plus-Up (\$2M per state or territory)
- \$25M Tribal Building Code Plus-Up
- In addition to FY23 State/Territory Allocation (\$112M) and Tribal Set-Aside (\$50M)
- Purpose is to incentivize building code adoption and enforcement activities such as:



Evaluate adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk.



Enhance existing adopted codes to incorporate more current requirements or higher standards.






Develop professional workforce capabilities through technical assistance and training.



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# BRIC Building Code Activities Examples

Subrecipient	Project Description	Building Code Activity Type
<b>Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians, California (FY21)</b>	Determine the resilient building and residential code edition for adoption. Results of the Cost and Constructability Report will help inform this effort. 2021 IRC and IBC.	 <b>Evaluate Adoption and/or Implementation of Codes</b>
<b>Territorial Office of Fiscal Reform, American Samoa (FY20)</b>	Adopt the International Codes with legislation specifying American Samoa amendments. By adopting the International Codes, American Samoa will become like other US Territories CNMI, Guam, and Puerto Rico that have adopted the International Codes.	
<b>Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Washington (FY21)</b>	Use data generated in the wildfire mapping project along with procured legal services to evaluate and develop code updates for the Tribe.	 <b>Enhance Existing Adopted Codes</b>
<b>Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana (FY20)</b>	Update or enhancement of Indiana's existing building codes to incorporate the most recent editions or more current requirements to eliminate risk and damage from future natural hazards, increase resiliency, and promote a culture of preparedness. In conjunction with enhancement of Indiana's existing building codes.	
<b>City of Saint Paul, Minnesota (FY21)</b>	Ability to inspect virtually for building codes and standards in order to accommodate and create equity for staff, residents, contractors and whole community.	 <b>Develop Professional Workforce Capabilities</b>
<b>Maine Office of State Fire Marshall, Maine (FY20)</b>	Develop virtual training for Code Officials.	
<b>City of Hartford, Connecticut (FY20)</b>	Implement code enforcement throughout the complete geographical area of the City of Hartford. Pursuing accreditation through the IAS, a subsidiary of the International Code Council, a founding entity of the Alliance for National & Community Resilience ANCR™.	

## How to Apply

- Eligible applicants must apply for funding using FEMA Grants Outcomes (FEMA GO) at the [FEMA GO Portal](#).
- Visit [FEMA GO for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants](#) to view the technical user manuals and support materials.

## BRIC Application Deadlines

- The application period opened on Oct. 16, 2023.
- Applicants who experience system-related issues will be addressed until 3 p.m. on Feb. 27, 2024.
- Applications must be received in FEMA GO by Feb. 29, 2024, at 3 p.m. Eastern Time.



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## FEMA GO Information

- To begin a building code activity subapplication in FEMA GO, select the **“Project”** Subapplication Type.
- In the **Scope of Work** section, select **“Codes and Standards”** as the Primary Activity Type.
- Choose a **Sub-Activity Type** that best describes your building code activity.
- Select a **Primary Community Lifeline**; if applicable, select secondary and tertiary lifelines as well.
- In the **Additional Comments** section, provide insight on how education and outreach will be used to facilitate the building code activity.
- In the **Cost Effectiveness Section**, select **“Not Applicable.”**

## Questions

- *“Are you doing construction during this project?”*
  - Please answer “No” for building code activities
- *“Please identify the entity that will perform any long-term maintenance and cost information. The subapplicant or owner of the area to be mitigated is responsible for maintenance (including costs of long-term care) after the project is completed.”*
  - To fully address this question, focus on describing how building codes will be enforced and updated.



# Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Resources

- [BRIC Website](#)
- [FY 2023 BRIC Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Mitigation Action Portfolio](#)
- [BRIC Program Support Materials](#) (PSMs)
  - BRIC Tribal Information
  - BRIC Direct Technical Assistance
  - BRIC Technical Evaluation Criteria
  - BRIC Qualitative Evaluation Criteria
  - BRIC Building Code Activities
  - BRIC Hazard Mitigation Planning Activities
  - BRIC Partnership Activities
  - BRIC System-Based Mitigation
  - BRIC Project Scoping Activities
  - BRIC Project Subapplicant Tips
  - BRIC & FMA Submitting Phased Projects
  - BRIC & FMA Benefiting Area Map
  - BRIC & FMA Cybersecurity
  - BRIC & FMA Cost-Effectiveness and Benefit-Cost Analysis
- General questions about the BRIC program can be directed to the appropriate State Hazard Mitigation Officer or FEMA Regional Office.
- General BRIC Questions and State Application Deadlines: State Hazard Mitigation Officer



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Thank you



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[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)



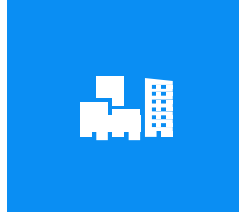
## Code Council Assistance for FEMA BRIC Codes Plus Up Applications

Presented by Stella Carr, *Energy & Resilience Project Manager*

# Building Code Adoption and Enforcement Activities



Help You Establish Your Scope  
of Work



Previous Successful Applications  
Template Materials



Application and Grant  
Process Webinars and  
Training

- Purchasing print or online publications to support building code activities.
- Code official training and certification, including ICC's When Disaster Strikes Institute.
- Electronic permitting, virtual inspection technology, and remote building codes administration.
- Building department accreditation.
- Consulting services to support activities related to building codes, including adoptions and updates.

# Examples of Previously Funded Code Activities

Statewide Code Training Programs

Statewide Earthquake Resilience Investigation (code review and study)

Statewide Building Code Adoption and Enforcement Activities

Statewide Post-Disaster Assessment Training (ICC's *When Disaster Strikes Institute*)

Development of a State Disaster Response Network

Remote Virtual Inspections

Building Department Accreditation

Modeling for Enhanced Building Code Flood Provisions

Fire Safety and Code Development

Territory-Wide Code Update

Tribal Code Adoption

Tribal Community Resilient Building Code Implementation

Building Code Studies to Increase State/Local Flood Resilience

Schedule A Meeting With Me To Discuss Your Next Steps

# Code Council Solutions Eligible for BRIC Grant Funding

- ✓ [Digital Codes Premium](#)
- ✓ [Third Party Plan Review](#)
- ✓ E-permitting with [Municipity](#)
- ✓ E-process and Records Management with [Laserfiche](#)
- ✓ [Remote Virtual Inspections](#)
- ✓ [Custom Local Building Codes](#) and
- ✓ [MapLink](#) for Tracking Zoning Requirements





# Application Success Story

## Greene County, Virginia



**Krystal Samuels**  
Sr. Permit Tech/Office Manager  
Greene County, Virginia



**Terry Beigie**  
Grant Writer  
Greene County, Virginia



FY 2022 BRIC Cycle  
**\$105,904**  
(pending)

## What Can You Do Now?

- ICC is hosting a webinar to help communities take advantage of these resources with FEMA's BRIC program lead November 9th at 12:30pm ET. Register [here](#).
- Determine whether your state has a BRIC pre-application deadline. Click [here](#) or [contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer \(SHMO\)](#) to confirm. State applications are due to FEMA by February 29th, 2024. Note: Local governments must apply through their states.
- Identify your department's needs that qualify for BRIC funding.
- Reach out to your jurisdiction's Mitigation or Emergency Management Officer, or grant writer (if applicable), share your department's needs, and discuss the application process.
- **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!**

**ICC Learn Live:**

Deep Dive on BRIC

November 29<sup>th</sup> at Noon EST

QUESTIONS

[FederalGrants@iccsafe.org](mailto:FederalGrants@iccsafe.org)



Family of Solutions

Thank you!

Questions: [FederalGrants@iccsafe.org](mailto:FederalGrants@iccsafe.org)

