

NON-FEDERAL MATCH PROGRAM

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

June 28, 2023

The questions below were discussed during a webinar hosted by the Louisiana Office of Community Development on May 2, 2023. The answers were provided during the webinar and are posted here for further reference.

1. One slide said the work cannot have started prior to environmental review but Cats A & B are emergency work following the storm. Can you explain?

The HUD environmental review process must be completed before any funds may be committed for eligible program activities. FEMA is conducting their own Environmental reviews. OCDs are A's & B's only so they will be Categorically Excluded Activities. OCD will be adopting the FEMA Environmental results.

2. Is this for residential or commercial properties, or both?

This program does not provide assistance for individual residential properties, but is for public infrastructure through FEMA PA. The program provides non-federal match funding for FEMA PA grants to offset the burden of local match requirements as part of recovery efforts following the eligible 2020-21 Storms.

3. If Category A or B work (following Hurricane Ida, for example) has been completed or is currently underway, am I correct in understanding that work is NOT eligible for funding under this program?

No, that work would be eligible as long as it is located in a MID area and meets the large project criteria of over \$100,000. The work can be completed or underway.

4. If a zip code is applied to the parish and the applicant is the actual parish, will only work that took place within that zip code be eligible. For example, for Debris Removal, the parish picked up parish wide, but only debris picked up within the allocated zip code is eligible? Secondly, parish-wide the PW meets the minimum \$100k local share but it may not if it only applies to the zip code area, would it still be eligible based on the total of the PW?

A. Since both HUD & State MIDs are used to define geographic eligibility, work performed in the entire parish should be eligible.

B. Funding is not restricted, and both are eligible.

5. Can you repeat the amount of funding available?



- Hurricanes Laura/Delta have an allocation of \$100,000,000
- Hurricane Ida & May '21 Severe Storms have an allocation of \$140,788,036

6. When does the application need to be completed by?

June 30, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. is the deadline to submit the application.

7. Will there be administrative costs allowed to cover the cost of these efforts?

If those costs are captured in the PW, they can be eligible, but no additional costs are allowed.

8. To clarify, Jefferson Parish is an applicant, but also has municipalities that are separate FEMA PA applicants within the parish. Can each applicant apply?

Yes, each can apply if the projects do not overlap.

9. Do you anticipate funds to be available later for Category E (permanent work)?

We do not know at this time.

10. The slide said May Storms and Delta were 75/25 but our project worksheets were obligated at 90/10. Is there a part we are not understanding?

Yes, Laura/Ida required a 90/10 match and Delta/Storms required a 75/25 match. FEMA decides the match amount.

11. When applicants register, it's often the situation that all initial version 0s of PWs are obligated yet. Can new PWs be added as they become obligated to the applicant's list?

A new PW can be added on a case-by-case basis depending on program availability. If there are still remaining funds, the program will remain open.

12. Could you please give more detail on the \$100k minimum threshold? Does that mean if our non-federal portion does not exceed \$100k we are ineligible for this?

No, if your PW match requirement is \$100k or more, and the project meets any other requirements, it would be eligible to participate. If the PA Match amount is less than \$100k, then the project would not be eligible.

13. I manage grants including FEMA claims for 2 different entities. Will I need two different accounts in IGX?

Yes, the two entities will need separate accounts for each organization.



14. What about projects that were deemed large prior to increasing the large project threshold to \$1,000,000? For example, a large project that is only \$250,000.
15. What if work was done across eligible parishes but FEMA did not require us to split the costs amongst parish. Will you require the costs to be split if all parishes where the work was completed are eligible?

If all parishes are within the eligible scope of work, we will not require the costs to be split across the parishes.

16. Regarding procurement, all of our CAT A and B work is already finished and procurement is already documented under State and FEMA guidelines. Are CDBG's guidelines different than what we already documented? We won't be able to retroactively procure something through a bid that has already been done.

If procurement follows the FEMA & State guidelines, we do not anticipate there would issues with OCD guidelines for emergency work, however this will need to be confirmed on a case-by-case basis.

17. If our local match is not as high as \$100K for any A or B project, are we still eligible to apply for this funding?

No. All thresholds need to be met. The project must be an A or B with a match of \$100K or more.

18. Is this funding on a first come first served basis? Is there a deadline for applying for the funding?

Yes. The funds will be obligated on a first come first served basis. The deadline to apply is June 30, 2023.

19. If we have a qualified PW that is currently approved and eligible for the program, but we are seeking a version to align costs upward, should we apply now and again when version is obligated or wait till the new version is approved?

We recommend that you apply now as you will have a 60-day window if the project meets our threshold. If project does not meet our threshold, we can handle the revisions later.

20. If we have an obligated PW, but revise the PW at a later date, increasing the total amount, but not changing the scope of the work, will the additional match be eligible?

A PW is not eligible if it's not obligated. Grantees can submit at a later time once the PW is obligated.

21. DAC is no longer used. Management cost is a separate PW in FEMA PA.

Any PWs solely for management costs (category 2) are not eligible under this program.

22. What if there are multiple cat B large projects that total \$1,000,000 +?



The program does not allow a grantee to combine projects to meet the eligibility threshold.

23. What is the site to apply for assistance?

The application link is: <https://igx.ocd.la.gov/IGXLogin>

23. Just to make sure I am understanding correctly, if our 10% for category A & B falls under 100K then we are not eligible for this grant?

If 10% falls under, the project is not eligible. If PW does not meet the threshold requirements, it is not eligible.

24. At what point does the expenditures need to be reported on SEFA?

The eligible entity will need to determine if a single audit is required based on total funding. OCD will confirm during the closeout of the Grantee's Agreement.

25. 4570 Emergency PWs received 90/10.

OCD is aware that some projects received different percentages. However, the match is all that OCD will pay.

26. Does the \$100,000 minimum refer to the 10% of the 90/10 split, or the entire project amount?

It refers to the total match amount. The project can be eligible as long as the Non-Federal Share cost is \$100k or more.

27. What are the Documentation Specifics? All FEMA PA Project docs or just procurement, invoices, version docs and proof of pays? Is there a specific listing of required docs?

There are no specific lists for required documents. You can find most documents in LAPA. OCD will request additional documents only if we require something that is not already in the LAPA system.

28. Did FEMA combine Laura and Delta as one disaster funded at 90%?

No FEMA looks at them separately. Our program combines them.

29. Can you qualify for this if your project status is closed?

Yes.

30. At what point in the process will applicants see the reimbursements of the match come through. For the 2016 storm, funds were received once the PW was "closed." Will it be the same for this program?



Yes, it is the same. It may be delayed if closed or in closeout process (Step 11).

32. Is a detailed guide available to help applicants complete the Project Worksheet?

FEMA should have already completed this, so we encourage you to reach out to your FEMA or GOHSEP Representative. If assistance is needed with our application, a project manager is available and you can email: OCD.Infrastructure@la.gov.

33. We have large Cat B projects that have been under CRC review with FEMA for 90+ days ... awaiting obligation. If FEMA has not obligated in 60 days, does that mean that these projects are automatically disqualified?

After the application period ends in 60 days, OCD will have to assess the program budget before we can consider adjusting eligibility criteria. We encourage applicants to reach out. We will also keep a list of those eligible, but don't qualify.

34. Is the minimum threshold based on each Cat A and B project or as a total of all Cat A and B?

The PW level doesn't matter if you have one or ten. Grantees are not eligible on a project level, not on an entity level.

35. Looking at the non-Federal Match Program Budget slide, it shows Non-Federal Share Estimates. Are these estimates only Cat A/Cat B or are these totals for all Categories of work?

The estimates were derived from the total of non-Federal match and not limited to Cat A/Cat.

36. Forgive me if you've covered this- are there any limitations for PNPs?

There are no restrictions on PNPs. Eligibility is determined on a project level.

37. Can we combine A & B local match together to meet the \$100K min?

No, you cannot combine matches to meet the threshold.

38. How will applications be chosen for funding?

Eligibility review of applications will occur on a first come, first serve basis. Based on the data OCD has, we feel there is adequate funding to cover the threshold for existing projects.

39. Can we submit more than one application if we get additional obligations after the initial submittal within the 60 day deadline?

One application can have multiple PWs. If more PWs are obligated within 60 days, please contact OCD to add additional PWs by emailing: OCD.Infrastructure@la.gov. If it is beyond those 60 days, adding PWs will be based on available funding.

40. How do we determine if our organization is currently registered in IGX?



If your Parish/Agency is part of the following programs, Grantees should already have an account: Resilient Communities Infrastructure, MIT, HMGP, Small Business Loans, and Hometown Revitalization. Send an email to: OCD.Infrastructure@la.gov to confirm

41. On Grants Portal, how can we download the PW version you are requesting for the application?

You may download the latest version from the LAPA website. You can get assistance by identifying with your SAL.

42. Is the match limited to \$100,000?

No, \$100,000 is the minimum amount. The maximum amount is \$31 million for Ida/May storms.

43. When does the 60 day clock start?

Today, May 2, after this webinar.

44. Is there a deadline for CDBG funds awarded through this process to be expended? (for example, we are renting buildings for a temporary school campus in Cat B that will be used for 3-5 years, with payments made monthly during this time).

If a PW is not closed, disasters have a 6 year Period of Performance to consider. The PW remains open and at closeout is the best way to receive reimbursement.

45. Please clarify, earlier it was stated (and is in the slide) that the MINIMUM award is \$100k; however, I just heard that \$100k was the MAXIMUM match available. Is that correct (that the minimum and maximum is \$100k)?

The minimum threshold is \$100k. The maximum amount is \$31 million for Ida/May storm.

46. So the match minimum is \$100K but also limited to \$100K, even if our non-federal match is more? Our pw is \$2.5M and the non-federal match is \$250K. So would we still only get \$100K?

You would receive the non-federal match of \$250k. The minimum amount is \$100k.