

Webinar Notes

NEBRASKA CDBG-DR NOI AND PRE-APPLICATION WEBINAR INFRASTRUCTURE MATCH PROGRAM

April 28, 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CST

Purpose of Meeting	Discuss the Notice of Intent (NOI), Pre-Application and Cross-Cutting Requirements for PA applicants and HMGP sub-applicants.
Facilitators	DED: Jenny B. Mason, Mackenzie Waldron, Susan Nickerson, Aaron Boucher Hagerty: Laura Munafo, Jason Ressler, Allison Longo, Caroline Pryor, Ashley Napier, Paola Villegas, James Ariail, Hilary Wentworth, Stan Gimont
Participants	Names and organizations omitted for privacy.

Questions and answers are lightly edited for clarity.

Q&A SESSION MEETING NOTES

The following table presents questions asked by participants during the Question & Answer (Q&A) session at the end of the meeting.

Question	Answer
How can I request and submit a Pre-Application?	Requests for Pre-Applications can be made via email to ded.cdbgdr@nebraska.gov . Submissions can be uploaded into the appropriate folder in the secured pre-application link.
My community/town/city was impacted by Winter Storm Ulmer over three years ago. Is my community/town/city still eligible to receive CDBG-DR Infrastructure Match dollars?	Yes, FEMA PA and HMGP obligated projects are eligible for Match as a result of Winter Storm Ulmer.
I'm concerned about the amount of documentation required for CDBG-DR Infrastructure Match dollars. What can DED do to help ease the burden?	DED is working to streamline processes as HUD does require significant documentation. DED is condensing areas where possible to alleviate undue burden on Applicants impacted by disasters.

Question	Answer
Where do I find the information being requested in the PA Pre-Application, FEMA PA Project Number?	FEMA's Grants Portal will have the information for PA projects, such as the Project Number. Applicants HMGP Sub-applications submitted to NEMA will have the required information need for the Pre-Application.
Why is the State asking Applicants to confirm which FEMA obligated projects they would like to pursue for Match?	There are a significant number of projects that have been submitted and obligated. DED is seeking from the Applicant which projects they would like to pursue for match. At this time, not all projects on the list may need match or are eligible.
Do Applicants/Sub-Applicants need to request two links if submitting pre-applications for both PA and HMGP?	No, Applicants will only receive one link. Within the link there are three folders: one PA folder, one HMGP folder, and an Opt Out folder. The Applicant will then upload the pre-application to its appropriate file.
What form should be used if FEMA/NEMA consolidated a project as both PA/HMGP?	Please fill out both applications, one for PA and one for HMGP. Note in the narratives that the projects are consolidated. The separate Pre-Applications based on the funding source will allow the DED to understand the PA and HMGP match need.
If the service area of the project does not reflect the National Objective of LMI, but an income survey was completed and reflects LMI, how does the Applicant reflect this in the Pre-Application.	The Applicant should still provide the Census Block groups even if it does not reflect the LMI national objective. The Applicant should note in the narrative the year of the survey and outcome. Upload the survey information into the supporting documents folder for DED review.
Will the PowerPoint presentation be made available to participants for future reference?	Yes, the PowerPoint and recorded presentation will be made available on the DED website.
Is a Pre-Application needed for each project?	Yes, one Pre-Application per project is required.
Some FEMA PA projects consist of multiple sites/longitudes, how do you want to see that reflected within the application?	If a FEMA PA Project Worksheet references multiple locations in the narrative, this should be the same for the Match Pre-Application. Please list out the locations in the narrative section of Pre-Application. For every location listed, please provide the latitude/longitude information.
Will the FEMA EHP documents already completed with each project be sufficient for HUD?	DED has a process in place that will allow for the adoption of the FEMA Environmental Review (ER). Adoption of FEMAs ER will be made on a project-by-project basis.
Is the fact that it is a FEMA PA or HMGP 4420-DR project not sufficient to support storm tie-back?	HUD requires a detailed narrative on what happened that made this project necessary. All projects must be related to recovery from damage caused by Winter Storm Ulmer. Applicants must document a tie to the storm that shows how project activities address a storm-related impact.

Question	Answer
Will subrecipients need to have certified CDBG administrators?	Subrecipients may contract with a CDBG Certified Administrator for assistance with application(s), reporting, and other requirements. Subrecipients are strongly encouraged to pursue this certification and/or hire a CDBG certified administrator; however, it is not a requirement for the Infrastructure Match Program. DED will provide resources to Applicants who are interested in receiving this certification. Please email DED at ded.cdbqdr@nebraska.gov .
What is the % of matching funds for a PA project?	The Infrastructure Match Program can reimburse up to 5% of the Applicant's cost share.
How much in administrative costs are allowable this grant?	Activity delivery costs are allowed for the Infrastructure Match Program. Activity delivery costs are costs that directly tie to the project such as performing your Environmental Review. A process will be put into place for addressing these costs.
Will we be limited to 10% of the obligated FEMA project for CDBG-DR? We have one project that is capped by FEMA, and we already know we will go over the obligated amount.	This is an ongoing conversation with HUD across all programs. If an Applicant has a project that may require more than 10%, please submit the Pre-Application and note that in the summary for DED. Additional follow-up information will be requested on a case-by-case basis.
Are public power districts eligible for the match funding?	Pursuant to the State Action Plan, all entities that are eligible for FEMA PA and HMGP projects are also eligible for the Infrastructure Match Program. Please review the Action Plan for more details.
If my project location is multiple miles long and linear, how should it be submitted in the application?	The intent is to get the start and end point locations. If it's linear a line to connect those two dots, it can have census block groups overlaid. The goal is to capture all the census block groups that the project overlaps. The Applicant can provide a series of latitude/longitude every mile or so to confirm the census block is accurate.
Are state parks and wildlife management areas (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission) eligible for the match funding?	If you have obligated FEMA PA or HMGP projects as a result of DR-4420, then you would be eligible for the Infrastructure Match Program.
If one project consists of 21 locations throughout the county (ex: bridges/culverts) does each one of them need a latitude/longitude or a separate application?	The pre-application should be comparable to your project worksheet. If your project worksheet lists 21 locations, you can fill out one pre-app for all 21 locations; however, in the narrative, Applicants will need to list out all locations with appropriate latitude and longitude for each.

Question	Answer
Is there a pre-application and an application requirement for this program?	Yes, there is a pre-application and a formal application. The pre-application identifies eligible scope of work, National Objective and tie-back. By identifying the service area of the project and the National Objective, the DED can then tier projects as outlined in the State's Action Plan. The application component is more formal and will require additional detail and backup documentation from those who are invited to apply.
Is there a list of those activities that can be used for activity delivery costs?	HUD has a document "Eligible Activity Delivery Costs" and is placed on the DED website. DED will also provide additional guidance on eligible activities.
Can applicants submit the FEMA PA project worksheet for each project's latitude and longitude?	This information needs to be submitted in the HUD format requested on the pre-application. Project worksheets do not always accurately reflect site specific latitude and longitude.
Are certain FEMA PA categories not eligible for this program?	Yes, categories A and B are not eligible for the Infrastructure Match program.

HELPFUL RESOURCES AND TOOLS

Resource Details	Link
Nebraska DED CDBG-DR Website	https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/programs/community/cdbg-dr/
Understanding Administration, Planning, and Activity Delivery Costs	https://www.hudexchange.info/sites/onecpd/assets/File/Admin-Planning-Activity-Delivery-Costs-2019-CDBG-DR-Clinic-Slides.pdf
HUD Guidance on CDBG-DR Costs	https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/CDBG-DR-Cost-Types-Summary.pdf
CDBG Low- and Moderate – Income (LMI) Data Training	https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/cdbg/cdbg-low-moderate-income-data/
Action Plan	https://opportunity.nebraska.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/StateofNebraskaDR-4420ActionPlan_Amendment-1_FINALclean-March2022.pdf