

Resilient Communities Program



The Resilient Communities Program (RCP) is a competitive grant program designed to support local governments in their efforts to strengthen community infrastructure to withstand future storms.

The program is administered by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) using Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

RCP provides up to \$5 million to fund infrastructure projects that address unmet recovery and mitigation needs in counties impacted by Hurricane Ida.

PROGRAM GOALS

1. Reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of loss of life, injury, damage to and loss of property, and suffering and hardship by lessening the impact of future disasters.
2. Recover from the disaster impacts of Hurricane Ida.
3. Protect publicly funded recovery investments in impacted communities.

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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To apply to the program, local or tribal governments must be located in one of the following storm-impacted counties: Bergen, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union, and Warren. Activities must respond directly to Hurricane Ida disaster-related risks and impacts or projected hazard risks derived from a hazard risk-based needs assessment.



Examples of Eligible Activities

Examples of eligible activities may include but are not limited to:

- Property acquisition and demolition
- Property acquisition and relocation
- Structure elevation
- Construction or reconstruction of infrastructure
- Installation of public works, facilities
- Structural retrofitting
- Infrastructure retrofits
- Site or other improvements
- Dry floodproofing

PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND SCORING CRITERIA

DCA will evaluate each application that meets minimum eligibility requirements. A specific scoring rubric can be found in the application. Project proposals will be assessed based on the following priorities.

- Mitigate risk to public infrastructure, people, and property.
- Protect and benefit disadvantaged communities.
- Provide a cost-effective solution to identified natural hazard risk(s).
- Promote resiliency through ancillary or triple bottom line benefits (social, environmental, and economic benefits).
- Consider climate change and future conditions.
- Leverage federal, state, and local partnerships.
- Incorporate public input and meaningful stakeholder engagement into design and project scope.
- Demonstrate a plan to be implemented and completed by the applicant within budget and timeframe required.
- Incorporate nature-based solutions.
- Project plan derived from a previous qualifying resilience/ infrastructure planning awards
- Project is ready for construction: planning and engineering is advanced enough that, with sufficient funding, construction can begin within a short time.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must first register with DCA at nj.gov/dca/ddrm/programs/ida/infrastructure.shtml beginning June 28, 2023. Once registered, the Applicant will be able to access the application materials and additional resources. All applications must be submitted by December 15, 2023 via email to ResilientCommunities@dca.nj.gov.

Application Requirements

Applications will need to include the following information.

- **Project Description:** A description of the project and how it will mitigate one or more hazards.
- **National Objective:** A description of the nature of the activity and the specific area served by the proposed project.
- **Disadvantaged Communities:** A description of the communities served. This program prioritizes projects that benefit the most at-risk and vulnerable populations.
- **Project Budget:** A proposed project budget with a detailed description of anticipated costs by category.
- **Cost-effectiveness:** A completed cost-effectiveness worksheet provided with the application.
- **Project Implementation and Timeline:** Clear evidence of management capacity and a plan to implement the project within budget and on time.
- **Public Notice and Engagement:** Proof that public notice and community outreach requirements have been met.
- **Partnerships:** Information about how partnerships will be utilized to complete the project.

LEARN MORE

For more information about New Jersey's disaster recovery and mitigation efforts, visit www.nj.gov/idaprograms.



DIVISION OF
Disaster Recovery
& Mitigation