

## Hazard Mitigation

### What is Hazard Mitigation?

Hazard mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards and their effects. This definition distinguishes actions that have a long-term impact from those that are more closely associated with immediate preparedness, response, and recovery activities. Hazard mitigation is the only phase of emergency management specifically dedicated to breaking the cycle of damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. As such, states, territories, Indian tribal governments and communities are encouraged to take advantage of funding provided by [Hazard Mitigation Assistance \(HMA\)](#) grant programs in both the pre-and post-disaster timeframes.

### Hazard Mitigation Planning

Hazard mitigation falls into the general categories of preventive measures, property protection measures, public education and awareness, natural resource protection, emergency services, and structural projects (e.g., tornado safe rooms). Local and state governments must have approved hazard mitigation plans to be eligible for mitigation project funding.

Iowa's state hazard mitigation plan is an inter-agency plan developed by the state hazard mitigation team. The team performed a hazard analysis and risk assessment in which hazards that may affect the state were identified, profiled and ranked in order of priority. This information was then used to develop hazard mitigation goals, objectives, and measures to address the hazards.

### [Read our blog about tornado safe room funding, requirements, and planning.](#)

FEMA-approved local hazard mitigation plans are required in order to receive mitigation funding for state or local mitigation projects through the Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant program.

- [Local Mitigation Planning Handbook \(link to FEMA website\)](#)
- [Local Mitigation Plan Review Guide \(link to FEMA website\)](#)
- [Hazard Mitigation Plan Review Tool \(MS Word\)](#)
- [Local Plan Status \(PDF\) - \*\*UPDATED MAY 2018\*\*](#)

The HMA program has three sub-programs: Pre-Disaster Mitigation program (PDM), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). HMGP funding becomes available only when a Presidential

Disaster Declaration is made. PDM and FMA funding are available annually. [Click here to check if there are any current HMA grant program funds available.](#)  
*Click to expand the tab to view more.*

## State Hazard Mitigation Plan (2013)

### **PLAN ORGANIZATION** Section 1.0

#### **Plan Organization, Executive Summary and Community Profile**

**Iowa Map Book (13.7 MB)**

### **PREREQUISITE** Section 1.1

#### **Adoption and Assurances**

### **PLANNING PROCESS** Section 1.2

#### **Planning Process**

#### **Executive Order 62 & SHMT Members (Annex A & B)**

#### **REC Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (Annex C)**

### **RISK ASSESSMENT** Section 1.3

#### **Risk Assessment**

#### **Loss Estimation Model (Annex A)**

### **MITIGATION STRATEGY** Section 1.4

#### **Mitigation Strategy**

#### **Mitigation Measures-Actions (Annex A)**

#### **Capability Assessment (Annex B)**

**Sample Data Collection Worksheet**  
**(Annex C)**

**Notice of Interest (NOI) Templates**  
**(Annex D)**

## **LOCAL COORDINATION**

Section 1.5

**Local Coordination**

**Administrative Plan - HMGP**  
**(Annex A)**

**Finance Guide for Subgrantees**  
**(Annex C)**

**Sample Trip Report**  
**(Annex D)**

## **PLAN MAINTENANCE**

Section 1.6

**Plan Maintenance Process**

**2008 Iowa Losses Avoided - Property**  
**Acquisition**  
**(Annex A-1)**

**Iowa Mitigation Loss Avoidance Study**  
**2011**  
**(Annex A-2)**

**FEMA Loss Avoidance Study, Iowa**  
**Building Modification Projects**  
**(Annex A-3)**

**FEMA Loss Avoidance Study, Iowa Flood**  
**Reduction Projects**  
**(Annex A-4)**

**Southwestern Community College Loss**  
**Avoidance Study - Safe Rooms**  
**(Annex A-5)**

**Iowa Electrical Retrofit Loss Avoidance**  
**Study**  
**(Annex A-6)**

**Public Comments**  
**(Annex B)**

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**[Go to Hazard Mitigation Assistance \(HMA\) Grant Program page.](#)**