

Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program

Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection Florida Department of Environmental Protection



TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Hurricane Restoration and Reimbursement Grant Program

- Ch. 2022-272, Laws of Florida.
- Emergency Rule.
- Application requirements.
- Review Process.



Hurricane Ian track (Source: Zoom Earth)

Hurricane Nicole track (Source: Zoom Earth)





Senate Bill 4A; 2022-272 Laws of Florida

- Passed during the December 2022 Special Session.
- Establishes \$50 Million for the Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program.
- Requires DEP to establish emergency rules related to grant program, which are to be published by Jan. 31, 2023.
- Program expires July 1, 2023.
- Allows for application submittal beginning Feb. 1, 2023.
 - Grants awarded on first-come, first-served basis, based on eligibility and submittal of a COMPLETE application.
 - $\circ~$ Priority given by calendar day to low-income and moderate-income applicants.
 - Grants given until funds run out or the program expires (July 1, 2023), whichever comes first.



Senate Bill 4A; 2022-272 Laws of Florida

- Eligible counties include: Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Nassau, Palm Beach, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sarasota and Volusia.
- Provides reimbursements grants up to \$150,000 with a 50/50 homeowner match requirement.
- To be eligible for reimbursement, activities must have been made in preparation for or to remedy coastal beach erosion or damage sustained from Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole.
- You must meet all eligibility requirements and provide necessary documentation:
 - Eligible Applicant/Grantee.
 - Eligible Residential Property.
 - Eligible Project.
 - Eligible Costs.



ELIGIBLE APPLICANT & ELIGIBLE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

"<u>Eligible Applicant</u>" means the individual, corporation, trust, or other legal entity eligible to be a grantee. An agent may make application upon behalf of an applicant, but such agent is not the applicant, grantee, or otherwise eligible for reimbursement.

"Grantee" means an eligible applicant that is the recorded deeded landowner for the eligible residential property who has complied with all documentation requirements and received a grant from the Department

"Eligible residential property" means a parcel that is a coastal property on the beach located in Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Nassau, Palm Beach, Saint Johns, Saint Lucie, Sarasota, or Volusia County that is either:

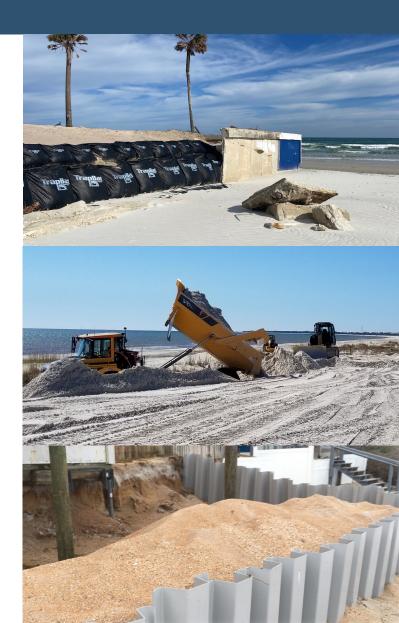
- 1. A single-family, site-built, residential property where the homeowner has been granted a homestead exemption on the home under chapter 196, F.S.;
- 2. A residential condominium, as defined in chapter 718, F.S.; or
- 3. A cooperative, as defined in chapter 719, F.S.



ELIGIBLE PROJECT

"Eligible project" means construction activities that occurred after September 23, 2022, related to sand placement, temporary coastal armoring, or permanent coastal armoring construction projects intended to prepare for or remedy coastal beach erosion or damage sustained from Hurricane lan or Hurricane Nicole.

- Project must be at eligible residential property.
- Projects must be permitted or authorized under chapter 161, F.S., prior to the commencement of authorized work, exempt from permitting requirements, or otherwise authorized by law.
- The address on any issued permit under chapter 161, F.S., must match the address on the eligible residential property.





ELIGIBLE COSTS

"<u>Eligible costs</u>" construction costs associated with execution of an eligible project that have been incurred and for which the grantee has evidence of payment. Construction costs may include design, engineering, construction-related monitoring required by permit or contract, surveys, materials, labor, contractors, and construction oversight. Eligible costs do not include permit fees or repair of residential structures. Reimbursement of eligible costs may be no greater than \$150,000 per parcel and no greater than 50% of the total incurred costs.





GRANT APPLICATION REQUIRED SUBMITTALS

- a. The parcel identification number for the applicable county;
- b. A valid social security number or tax identification number;

c. Proof the eligible applicant resides at the address to which a check is asked to be mailed, if different than the eligible residential property address;

d. A copy of the permit issued under chapter 161, F.S., prior to the commencement of work for which a grant is sought, or applicable statutory exemption or other authorization;

e. Documentation of eligible project expenses (e.g., for a completed project, photos of the completed project; for projects not yet fully complete, a copy of the design and engineering plans or similar evidence of work);

f. Paid invoices and associated documentation showing work conducted for the eligible project, dates of work, and proof of payment;

g. If applicable, Form 3, DEP-62ER23-2, Attestation of Low-Income or Moderate-Income;

h. Any other information required by the application or rule.



LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME ATTESTATION – FORM 3

Income is based <u>on household income</u>. That is, the adjusted gross income (as reported to the IRS) of all persons in a housing unit, excluding boarders or renters therein.

Is your household income less than \$95,160? If so, your household qualifies as a low- or moderate-income household.

If not, is your household income less than the figure to the right for your county? If so, your household qualifies as a low- or moderate-income household. If not, you do not qualify as a low- or moderate-income household.

| County | Threshold |
|--------------|-----------|
| Lee | \$99,840 |
| Flagler | \$89,520 |
| Volusia | \$87,960 |
| Duval | \$103,800 |
| Nassau | \$103,800 |
| St. Johns | \$103,800 |
| Broward | \$98,520 |
| Palm Beach | \$108,360 |
| Collier | \$118,320 |
| Manatee | \$108,480 |
| Sarasota | \$108,480 |
| Brevard | \$98,760 |
| Martin | \$101,400 |
| St. Lucie | \$101,400 |
| Charlotte | \$91,200 |
| Indian River | \$95,880 |



APPLICATION AND ONLINE PORTAL

- The application is divided into four steps. These steps are designed to help you understand your eligibility, as well as ensure completeness of the application to expedite processing.
- Failure to accurately complete this information can result in your grant application being found incomplete.

| Section | Information Needed |
|---------|--|
| Step 1 | Home ownership questions to determine if eligible applicant and eligible property |
| Step 2 | Project questions to determine if eligible project |
| Step 3 | Costs questions to determine if you have incurred eligible costs for reimbursement |
| Step 4 | Submittal requirements (documents needed for reimbursement) |



ONLINE SUBMISSION – HRR PORTAL

• Applications can be submitted beginning Feb. 1, 2023, at 9 a.m. via the grant portal

FloridaDEP.gov/hurricane

- Applicants must sign up for a user account at the portal in order to apply (instructions online).
- If an applicant is not eligible, they will not be able to submit the grant application.



PAPER SUBMISSION – CERTIFIED MAIL

- Applicants can also apply via <u>certified mail</u> to the department. Mailing address: Department of Environmental Protection 2600 Blair Stone Road, MS 3522 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400
- The application is available at <u>FloridaDEP.gov/hurricane</u>, entitled Form 1 DEP-62ER23-2, Hurricane Restoration Reimbursement Grant Program Application
- The application will be date and time stamped when received by the department.

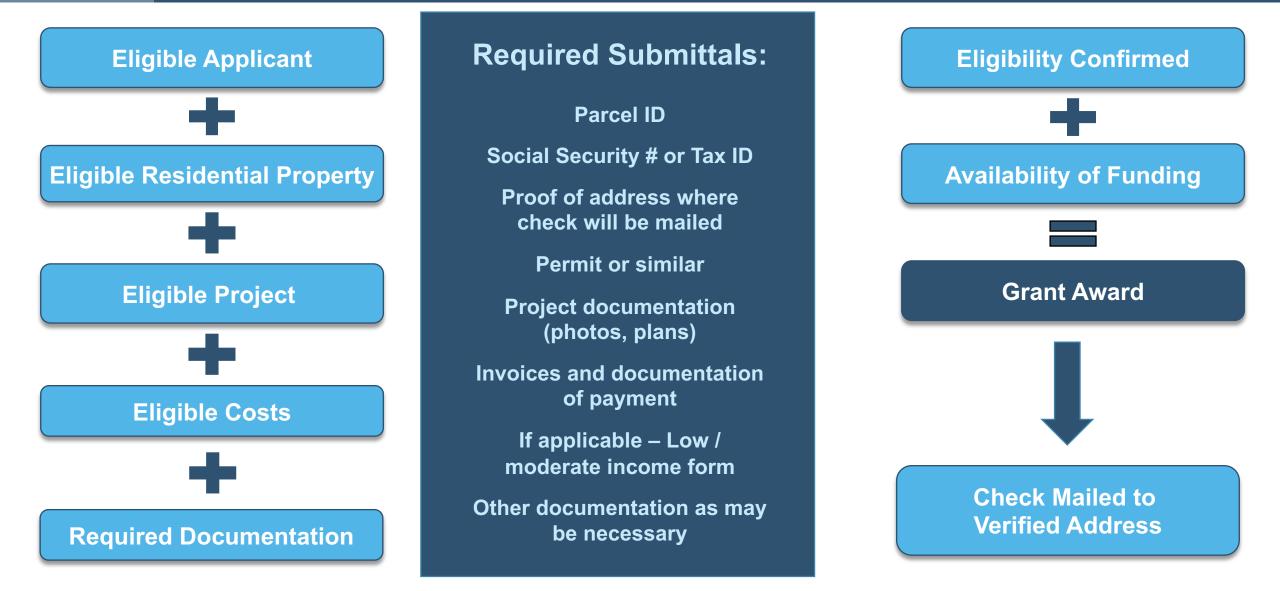


GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW

- By making application, the applicant agrees to enter into a grant agreement with the department and agrees to FORM 2 DEP-62ER23-2, Grant Terms and Conditions.
- The department will enter into a cost-share agreement with eligible applicants until funding is exhausted or the program expires.
- The online portal will automatically validate completion of many of the answers in sections 1, 2 and 3. However, DEP will also need to verify eligibility prior to grant award.
- DEP will review required submittals in section 4, and if not sufficient, will contact the applicant and provide 7 calendar days to provide the necessary supplemental information. Failure to cure within that time period will result in the application being declined.



HURRICANE RESTORATION REIMBURSEMENT GRANT PROCESSES





THANK YOU

Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection Florida Department of Environmental Protection

> Contact Information: 850-245-8558 HRRGP@FloridaDEP.gov