

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)

Flood Response: County Risk and Needs Assessment Grant Program (Capital Budget Sec. 1047 | Program Code: 92000007)

Dear Counties and Flood Management Partners,

The Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division (EMD), is pleased to announce the official Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Flood Response: County Risk and Needs Assessment Grant Program. This state-funded initiative is associated with the December 2025 severe weather and flooding events identified under Emergency Proclamation 25-07.2.

The County Risk and Needs Assessment Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible Washington State counties to support flood risk and needs assessments addressing flood response, preparedness, and prevention.

The purpose of this funding is to assist counties in evaluating flood-related risks, identifying waterway and debris clearance needs, assessing flood prevention strategies, and prioritizing future mitigation and capital investments to reduce future flood impacts and improve community resilience.

Program Overview

The County Risk and Needs Assessment Grant Program is a state-funded competitive grant program administered by the Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division. Grants are available only for counties that were impacted by the December 2025 severe weather and flooding events described in Emergency Proclamation 25-07.2.

Funding is intended to support county-led risk and needs assessment activities related to flood response, preparedness, prevention, and future mitigation planning in the flood-impacted areas. Proposals will be prioritized based on their ability to:

- Identify and assess waterway and debris clearance needs
- Update and document flood-related risks and vulnerabilities
- Feasibility, mapping, and technical studies
- Evaluate opportunities to reduce future flood impacts
- Support future capital investment priorities and mitigation planning
- Improve flood preparedness and long-term community resilience

Funding Available

A total of \$2,000,000 is available through the County Risk and Needs Assessment Grant Program pursuant to Washington Substitute Senate Bill 6003, Section 1047, funded through the Natural Climate Solutions Account for Fiscal Years 2026–2027. This grant program is 100 percent state-funded through appropriations from the Washington State Natural Climate Solutions Account. No cost share is required for participation in this program.

Grant awards are limited to a maximum of \$300,000 per county.

The funding availability period is March 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, with performance periods established through executed grant agreements. The Washington Military Department reserves the right to partially fund projects, prioritize applications based on statewide program needs, and redistribute unused funds based on program demand.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to the 28 Washington State counties specifically identified in Emergency Proclamation 25-07.2: Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Franklin, Ferry, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pacific, Pierce, Pend Oreille, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Spokane, Stevens, Thurston, Wahkiakum, Whatcom, and Yakima Counties.

Counties may administer projects directly or through:

- Flood control districts
- Flood control zone districts
- Special purpose districts with legal authority over flood control or waterway management within the county

The county remains the official grant recipient and is responsible for all grant administration, reporting, and compliance requirements.

Counties are expected to consult and coordinate with relevant flood control or waterway management districts in conducting the assessment activities funded through this program.

Eligible Activities

Eligible activities are limited to flood risk and needs assessments related to flood response, preparedness, and prevention work associated with areas impacted by the December 2025 severe weather and flooding events.

Eligible work may include:

- Identification of waterway and debris clearance needs
 - Assessment of river, stream, and waterway conditions contributing to flood risk
 - Evaluation of flood prevention and mitigation strategies
 - Prioritization of future capital investments and mitigation opportunities
 - Data collection, mapping, engineering analysis, and planning activities
 - Assessment of impacts to critical infrastructure and public facilities
 - Coordination and stakeholder engagement activities directly related to the assessment
 - Planning and administrative costs directly associated with grant management and assessment activities
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Application Process

Applicants must submit the application questionnaire to hma@mil.wa.gov by Friday July 17th at 1700 PST.

Project Prioritization

Project proposals must meet the grant's objective by supporting flood response, preparedness, and prevention assessment activities

Applications will be evaluated and prioritized using a risk-based approach focused on public safety, flood mitigation potential, infrastructure protection, project feasibility, and long-term community resilience.

Evaluation factors may include:

- Protection of life safety and public health
- Identification of significant flood risks or vulnerabilities
- Identification and evaluation of practical mitigation and capital investment priorities
- Protection of critical infrastructure and public facilities
- Quality and completeness of the proposed assessment approach
- Potential impacts to vulnerable or historically impacted communities
- Readiness to proceed and project feasibility
- Coordination with relevant flood management entities
- Geographic distribution and statewide program balance
- Usage of integrated floodplain management practices and/or nature-based solutions

Preference may be given to projects demonstrating significant future multi-benefit mitigation benefits, urgent flood risk concerns, or strong potential to inform future capital investments and flood prevention strategies.

Key Dates

- Program Announcement: June 17, 2026
- Application Period Opens: June 17, 2026
- Application Deadline: July 17, 2026
- Anticipated Award Announcement: August 24, 2026
- Grant Performance Period: August 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

Projects should be capable of initiating promptly following award.

Award and Administration

Awards are subject to:

- Funding availability
- Eligibility review
- Project prioritization
- Completion of required grant documentation

Funds will be obligated through a grant agreement between the Washington Military Department and the county. Funding under this program must not duplicate funding from other local, state, or federal programs.

The Washington Military Department reserves the right to request additional information or clarification during application review.

Contact Information

For questions regarding this funding opportunity, please contact:

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