

South Carolina Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund

Hazard mitigation project low-interest loan opportunity



What: Potential for low-interest (1%) loan to fund qualifying mitigation projects or non-federal match for eligible mitigation projects

Who: Eligible applicants are local government entities in South Carolina that have adopted a FEMA-approved local hazard mitigation plan

Due date for project letter of interest: **April 15, 2024**, to SCEMD (*use Letter of Interest Form attached*)

Eligible project types include:

- Projects that mitigate impacts/risk from natural hazards including drought, extreme heat, severe storm, hurricane/tropical storm, wildfire, flood, earthquake, storm surge, and coastal erosion.
- Adoption and enforcement of more recent published editions of relevant building codes, specifications, and standards for the purpose of protecting health, safety, and general welfare of buildings' users against disasters and natural hazards.
- Local government implementation of zoning and land use planning changes focused on:
 - Development or improvement of zoning and land use codes that incentivize and courage low-impact development; wildland-urban interface land management; natural infrastructure; green stormwater management; conservation management adjacent to floodplains; implementation of watershed or greenway master plan, or reconnection of floodplains.
 - Creation of land use incentives that reward developers for increasing reliance on low-impact development, stormwater management best practices, increased open space and improvement of neighborhood catch basins to mitigate urban flooding, augmenting natural infrastructure adjacent to construction projects, or addressing minimizing wildfire ignition.
 - Study and creation of an erosion response plan that accommodates river, lake, forest, plains, and ocean shoreline retreat or bluff stabilization based on increased flooding and hazard impacts.
 - Study and creation of agricultural risk compensation districts where there is a need to remove or set back levees protecting developed agricultural land, allowing agricultural producers to be compensated for assuming increased flood risk as part of efforts to mitigate flood impacts on nearby or downstream populations and critical infrastructure.

Next steps and timing: Additional detail will be provided to entities that submit letters of interest, and a virtual information session will be offered March 8, 2024.

After the end of the six-week public notice period and review of proposed projects based on federal and state priority criteria, SCEMD will update its FY2023 Intended Use Plan with new projects to be included and will make the Intended Use Plan available for public comment from April 18 to April 26. SCEMD will finalize and submit its application to FEMA no later than April 29. FEMA will review and determine if South Carolina's application merits award of capitalization grant funds for the revolving loan fund. Loans will be initiated within two years of receipt of loan funds from FEMA.

Email your jurisdiction's letter of interest and form (attached; also available at <https://scemd.org/stay-informed/notices-and-agenda/>; scroll down to Notices) to mitigation@emd.sc.gov no later than April 15. For more information or to ask questions, email mitigation@emd.sc.gov.

South Carolina Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund FY2024 Letter of Interest

To: South Carolina Emergency Management Division

From:

Re: Interest in applying for low-interest loan to support hazard mitigation project

With this memorandum, *(name of county/local government entity)*
submits its interest in the project described on the following pages being included in South Carolina's Intended Use Plan for the FY2024 Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund Program. The jurisdiction understands that the award of funds to the state will be determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and if loans are made available to the state, project eligibility and compliance with federal regulations and repayment terms and reporting will be addressed with the jurisdiction before a loan is approved.

For jurisdiction/agency:

Signature

Title

Date

FY2024 SC Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund Project Proposal **Form**

Individual completing form (Name, title, and phone number)

Project Title

Loan Applicant/Borrower

Community Name(s) Where Project is Located

Community Identification Number (CID)

County(ies)

Census Tract(s)

Community Rating System Class Rating

Project Type (if not listed, complete manually)

Will this loan be used toward the non-federal cost share for a mitigation grant under another grant program?

Primary Safeguarding Tomorrow RLF Program Priority

Vulnerable Area(s) Listed in 42 U.S.C. 5135 § (b)(1)(E) and 42 U.S.C. 5135 § (d)(3)(C)

Major Economic Sector (if applicable) Listed in 42 U.S.C. 5135 § (d)(3)(D)

What community lifeline does the project stabilize?

Project Description

Primary Hazard Listed in the Entity Hazard Mitigation Plan Mitigated by the Project

Primary Hazard Listed in the Local Government Hazard Mitigation Plan Mitigated by the Project

Secondary Hazard Mitigated by the Project

Project Location (Lat/Long)

Estimated Total Cost

Requested Loan Amount

Population Served

Project Anticipated Start Date

Project Anticipated End Date

For non-revenue generating projects, please identify the local government's revenue stream to support projects.