

# Texas Water Development Board

## Flood Infrastructure Fund SFY 2024-2025 IUP

STATE OF TEXAS

Texas Water  
Development Board

**Flood Infrastructure Fund**  
Intended Use Plan

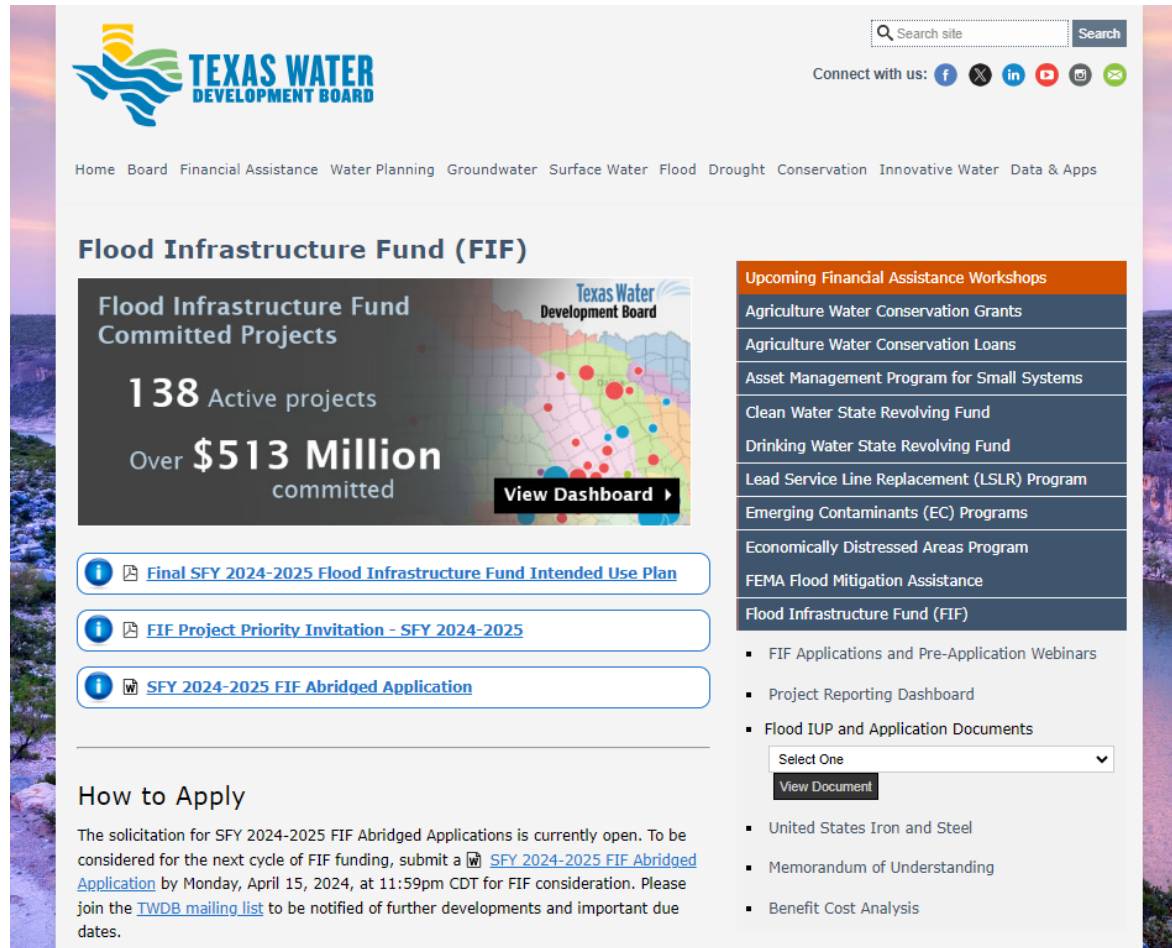
SFY 2024-2025

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
PO BOX 13231 ■ AUSTIN, TX 78711



[www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/FIF](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/FIF)

# Please visit the FIF webpage for more information



**TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Home Board Financial Assistance Water Planning Groundwater Surface Water Flood Drought Conservation Innovative Water Data & Apps

## Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)

**Flood Infrastructure Fund Committed Projects**

138 Active projects

Over **\$513 Million** committed

[View Dashboard](#)

- [Final SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund Intended Use Plan](#)
- [FIF Project Priority Invitation - SFY 2024-2025](#)
- [SFY 2024-2025 FIF Abridged Application](#)

### How to Apply

The solicitation for SFY 2024-2025 FIF Abridged Applications is currently open. To be considered for the next cycle of FIF funding, submit a [SFY 2024-2025 FIF Abridged Application](#) by Monday, April 15, 2024, at 11:59pm CDT for FIF consideration. Please join the [TWDB mailing list](#) to be notified of further developments and important due dates.

#### Upcoming Financial Assistance Workshops

- Agriculture Water Conservation Grants
- Agriculture Water Conservation Loans
- Asset Management Program for Small Systems
- Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
- Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Program
- Emerging Contaminants (EC) Programs
- Economically Distressed Areas Program
- FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance
- Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)
  - FIF Applications and Pre-Application Webinars
  - Project Reporting Dashboard
  - Flood IUP and Application Documents
    - Select One
    - [View Document](#)
  - United States Iron and Steel
  - Memorandum of Understanding
  - Benefit Cost Analysis

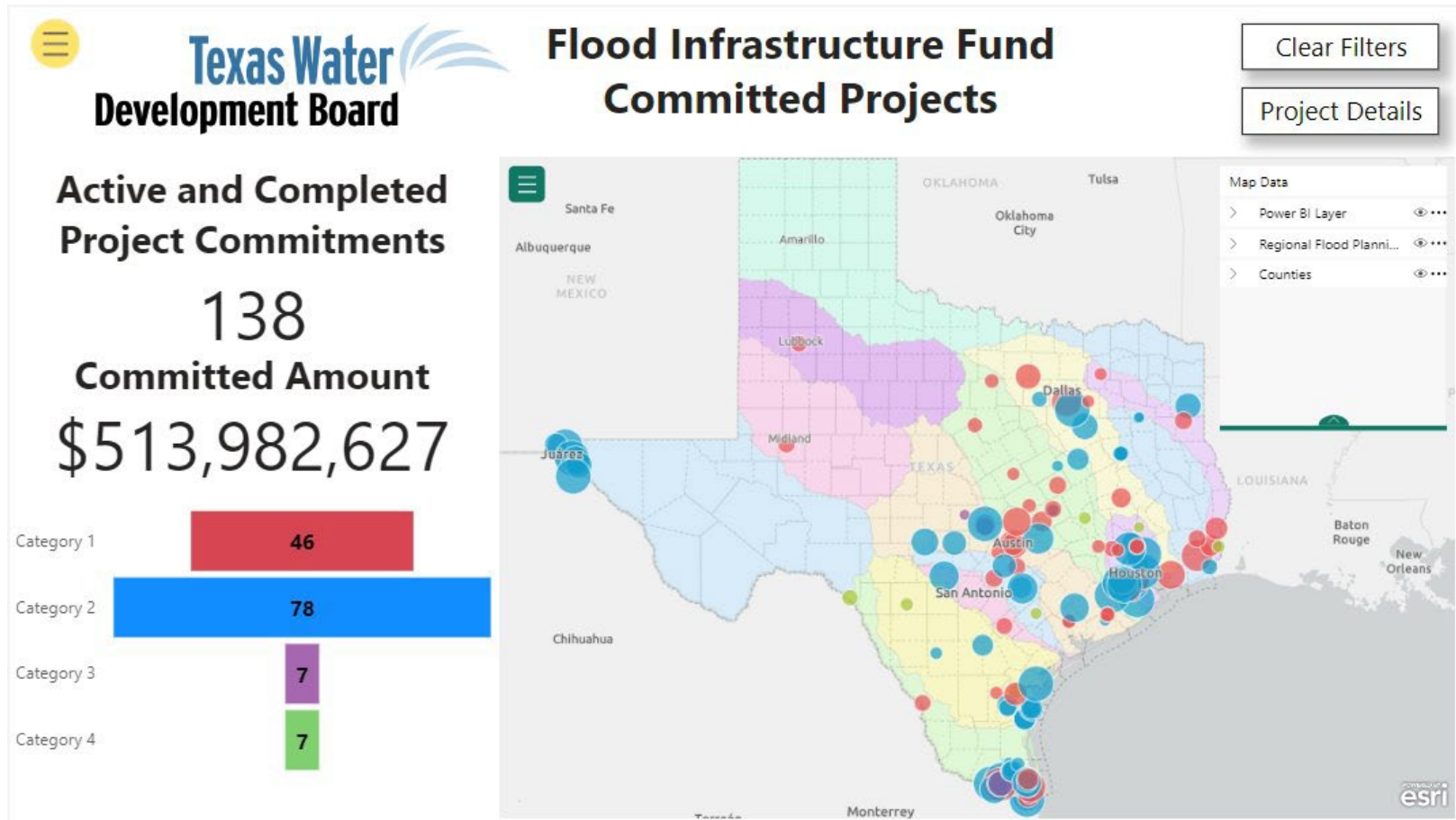
<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/FIF/index.asp>

# Flood Infrastructure Fund

- 86th Texas Legislature in 2019
  - SB7: Flood Mitigation Funding (FIF)
  - SB8: Flood Planning
- Financing for drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects
- Since 2020...
  - 138 active and completed FIF projects!
  - Over \$510 million committed by TWDB Board!



# FIF Project Reporting Dashboard



<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/fif/dashboard.asp>

# SFY 2024-2025 FIF IUP

- During the 88th Legislative Session, Senate Bill 30 provided approximately \$624 million from the general revenue fund in additional funding to the FIF program.
- TWDB anticipates utilizing \$375 million during this two-year cycle (SFYs 2024-2025).
- FIF opened for solicitation on 12/15/23 and abridged applications are due 4/15/24.

# Eligible Applicants & Projects

- Eligible Projects
  - Only Flood Management Evaluations (FME), Flood Mitigation Projects (FMP), and Flood Management Strategies (FMS) **recommended in an amended regional flood plan approved by the TWDB are eligible for financial assistance**
- Eligible Applicants
  - All Categories: Cities, counties, and certain districts or authorities
  - FME Only: Cities, counties, certain districts or authorities, and nonprofit water supply corporations operating under Chapter 67 of the Texas Water Code

# New Project Categories

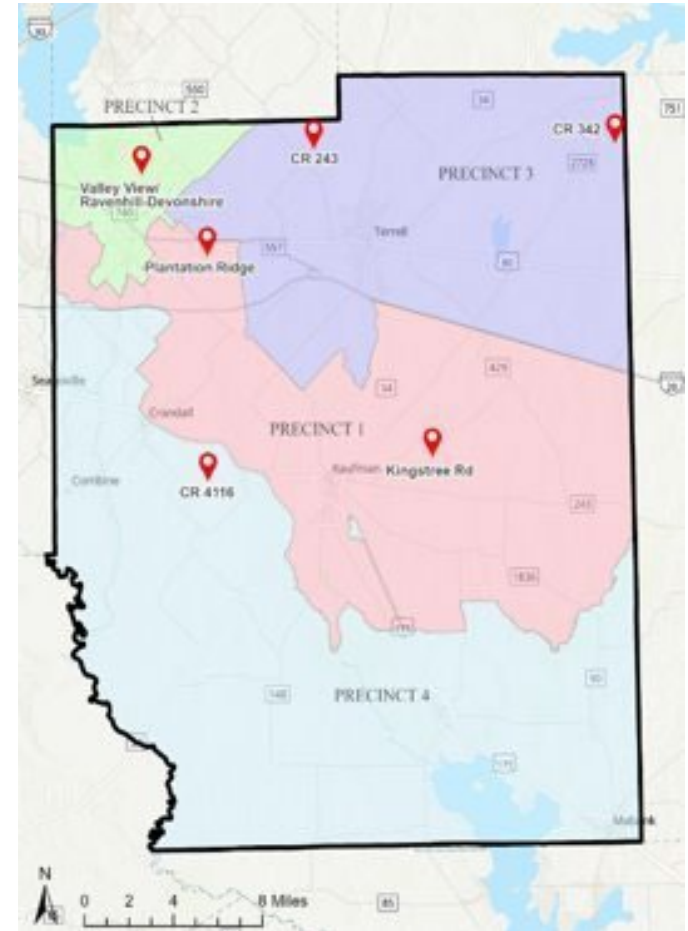
- Flood Management Evaluation (FME) Category
  - Formerly Category 1
- Flood Mitigation Project (FMP) Category
  - Formerly Category 2
- Flood Management Strategy (FMS) Category
  - Formerly Category 4

Note: Federal award matching funds projects will have to be in one of these categories.



# Flood Management Evaluation (FME) Category

- Must be a recommended FME in a regional flood plan.
- Studies to identify, assess, and quantify flood risk or identify, evaluate, and recommend flood risk reduction solutions.
- All activities under this category must be considered “flood control planning” as defined in Texas Water Code Section 15.405.





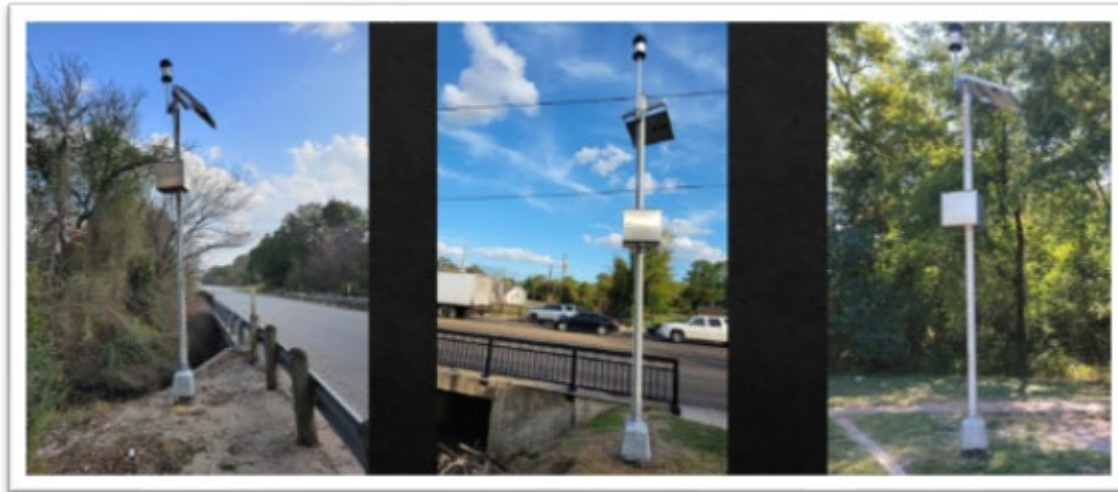
# Flood Mitigation Project (FMP) Category



- Must be a recommended FMP in a regional flood plan.
- Eligible applicants may undertake activities to construct or rehabilitate structural flood mitigation improvements or implement non-structural improvements.
- Planning, Acquisition, Design, Construction (PADC)

# Flood Management Strategy (FMS) Category

- Must be a recommended FMS in a regional flood plan.
- Examples include regulatory enhancements, development of entity-wide buyout programs, public outreach and education, warning systems, crossing barriers, and gages.
- This category may include projects that can be implemented quickly and are understood to be immediately effective in protecting life and property.



# Federal Award Matching Funds

- Includes FME, FMP, and FMS Categories
- The applicant must have received a federal award for flood-related activities contingent on the availability of local matching funds.
- A federal application must be submitted by abridged application submission date & federal funds must be awarded by TWDB commitment date.
- FIF eligible projects that received a FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant for FYs 2019-2022 may receive a grant for 70% of the required local match.

# Financing

- Grants and loans with an interest rate of 0%.
- Applicants may use own available funds or borrow FIF funds at 0% for any portion of the required local share not provided through the FIF grant funds.
- In-kind services may be substituted for any loan offered, but only with prior TWDB approval.
- Up to 10-year repayment period for planning, acquisition, and/or design (PAD) projects.
- Up to 30-year repayment period for construction projects.
- Applicants must be up to date with financial auditing requirements prior to commitment closing.



# Total Amount Available

<b>Total Funds Available for 2024-2025 FIF IUP</b>	
<b>New FIF Appropriations Allocated</b>	<b>\$312,474,540</b>
<b>Funds Rolled Over from SFY2020</b>	<b>\$62,525,460</b>
<b>Total FIF Funds Available for 2024-2025</b>	<b>\$375,000,000</b>

# Amount Available by Category

Category	Percent	Total	15% Target for Federal Matching
FME	25%	\$93,750,000	\$14,062,500
FMP	65%	\$243,750,000	\$36,562,500
FMS	10%	\$37,500,000	\$5,625,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$375,000,000</b>	<b>\$56,250,000</b>

# Allocation of Funds

- TWDB may limit the amount of grant and loan available in each category and the total amount provided to a project or applicant.
- TWDB does not anticipate allocating a large proportion of the total available grant and loan funds to a single project or applicant.
- The Board may bypass a higher scoring project to fulfill allocation goals.
- If a project does not move forward to commitment or closing, funds may be reallocated to other eligible projects in any category that are on the prioritization list.



# U.S. Iron & Steel Requirement



- Construction projects are required to use iron & steel products made in the United States
- If the recipient can justify a claim, a waiver *may* be granted

# FIF Eligibility & Minimum Requirements

# 1. Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR)

- Required for all construction-oriented projects (i.e., FMP Category Projects)
- A BCR greater than or equal to 1.0 is generally preferred to justify investments in the construction of flood projects.
- Information provided with the abridged application must include:
  - Description of the methodology used (FEMA & USACE recommended)
  - List of key assumptions/parameters
  - Detailed BCR calculation upon request
  - Identify and explain the responsible party for operation and maintenance (O&M) of the infrastructure and from what funding source O&M will be provided. O&M costs should be included within the BCA.

# 1. Benefit-Cost Ratio

Not  
Required For:

- FME Category Projects
- FMS Category Projects
- Federal Award Matching Funds if the following are true:
  - If a project has an associated BCA developed and reviewed for a federal award. Verification of the prior BCA approval is required.
  - When a federal grant program generally requires a BCA, but specifically exempts it for certain projects (e.g., projects with lesser costs or non-construction projects), then the TWDB will also not require a BCA for FIF consideration. However, the TWDB will require a BCA if the proposed project is construction-oriented.

## 2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- Required for projects that:
  - Involve construction/rehabilitation of structural mitigation or anything that retains, diverts, redirects, impedes, or otherwise modifies the flow of water **AND**
  - The project watershed is partially located outside the political subdivision that is filing the application
- Must be signed by governing bodies of all eligible political subdivisions in the watershed
- Not required if project watershed lies wholly within applicant's boundaries
- Breakdown by Category:
  - FME Category: Requirement does not apply.
  - FMP Category: Requirement applies.
  - FMS Category: Requirement applies **HOWEVER** most FMS projects will not meet the definition, so requirement will likely not apply.

# 3. Affidavit

- Applies to all Categories
- Affidavit attests that:
  - Applicant has acted cooperatively with other political subdivisions to address flood control needs.
  - All eligible political subdivisions substantially affected by the proposed flood project have participated in the process of developing the project.
- Required in **Full Application**:
  - The applicant has held public meetings to accept comments on the proposed flood project from interested parties (FMP Category and FMS Category).
  - The technical requirements for the proposed flood project have been completed and compared against any other potential flood project in the same area (Construction Only).

## 4. No Redundant Funding



- Applies to all Categories
- No funding for activities already performed and/or funded through another source
- Does not prohibit projects with multiple funding sources



# 5. National Floodplain Insurance Program

- Applies to all Categories
- Ordinances or orders at least equivalent to National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) minimum standards must be in place & enforced
- Exceptions: If project will fulfill requirements for NFIP participation
- FME & FMS: Communities without floodplain management standards may be part of a larger study or benefitted area



# 6. Best/Most Recent Available Data

- Applies to all Categories
- The proposed project must be developed using the best/most recent available data.



# 7. Request for Construction Funds

- For the FMP & FMS Categories, applicants must be able to document:
  - Planned operations & maintenance (O&M) costs associated with any proposed facilities (O&M costs are not eligible under FIF)
  - Considered possible floodwater capture techniques associated with the project for water supply purposes

# Additional Requirements & Exceptions for FMEs

- Required with full application:
  - Applicants must notify all cities, counties, non-profit water supply corporations, regional planning agencies, regional water planning groups, and all districts and authorities created under the Texas Constitution, Article III, Chapter 52, or Article XVI, Chapter 59, in the planning area by certified mail that an application for planning assistance is being filed with the TWDB.
  - Must provide evidence of notice of the filing of the application to all applicable entities.
- The applicant may request to submit the copy of the notice after the application due date. *If approved*, the applicant may submit the copy of the notice after the application has been submitted; however, the TWDB may not act on an application before the end of the 30-day notice period unless all political subdivisions to which notice is required to be sent agree in writing to waive the notice period.

# Additional Requirements & Exceptions for FMSs

Non-Study Funding Applications	Roadway Construction-Oriented projects	Flood Early Warning Systems (FEWS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detail of the current flood risk in the project area.</li> <li>• Detail of the revised flood risk of the project area if the project is constructed/implemented.</li> <li>• The level of protection (i.e., 4%, 2%, 1% annual chance storm events) provided by the proposed project must be reported, when possible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roadway classification</li> <li>• Traffic count</li> <li>• Detour distances</li> <li>• Accident data</li> <li>• Inundation risk including depths and velocities during 50%, 10%, 4%, 2%, 1% and 0.2% annual chance storm events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quantitative information on the population impacted.</li> </ul>

# Project Solicitation

**1. Submit  
Abridged  
Application**

**2. Project  
Prioritization**

**3. Invitation  
to Apply**

**4. Financial  
Assistance  
Commitments**

**5. Close on  
Financial  
Assistance**

# FIF Grant Qualifiers



# Flood Management Evaluation (FME) Category

Grant Qualifier	Grant %
If the AMHI of the study area $\leq$ 50% of the state-wide AMHI and the project area was the subject of a flood-related federal disaster declaration within the past 5 years, OR	100
If the AMHI of the study area $\leq$ 75% of the state-wide AMHI, OR	90
If the AMHI of the study area $>$ 75% and $\leq$ 125% of the state-wide AMHI, OR	75
If the AMHI of the study area $>$ 125% of the state-wide AMHI	50

The maximum grant percentage for an FME Category project is 100%.

# Flood Mitigation Project (FMP) Category

Grant Qualifier	Grant %
If the AMHI of the study area is $\leq$ 85% of the state-wide AMHI.	30
If the AMHI of the study area is $\leq$ 75% of the state-wide AMHI.	40
If the AMHI of the study area is $\leq$ 65% of the state-wide AMHI.	50
If the AMHI of the study area is $\leq$ 50% of the state-wide AMHI.	60
If the applicant meets the “Rural” definition.	5
If $\geq$ 30% of total costs are Green or Nature-Based <u>and</u> the project meets one of the income or rural applicant qualifiers above.	5

The maximum grant percentage for an FMP Category project is 70%.

# Flood Management Strategy (FMS) Category

Grant Qualifier	Grant %
If the AMHI of the study area $\leq$ 85% of the state-wide AMHI.	30
If the AMHI of the study area $\leq$ 75% of the state-wide AMHI.	40
If the AMHI of the study area $\leq$ 65% of the state-wide AMHI.	50
If the AMHI of the study area $\leq$ 50% of the state-wide AMHI.	60
If the applicant meets the “Rural” definition.	5
If $\geq$ 30% of total costs are Green or Nature-Based and the project meets one of the income or rural applicant qualifiers above.	5

The maximum grant percentage for an FMS Category project is 70%.

# Prioritization

# Prioritization Criteria

Criteria	Points	Methodology/Notes
Project's Technical Merits*	FME, FMP, or FMS score based on working state flood planning criteria and methodology.	The technical merit score is based on working ranking criteria & methodology anticipated to be used for the first State Flood Plan.
Flood Management Evaluations (FME) with an AMHI that is $\leq 85\%$ the statewide AMHI	10	Additional points if the entity's study area has an AMHI that is $\leq 85\%$ the statewide AMHI.
TIEBREAKER		
<u>Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)</u> The SVI uses 15 U.S. Census Bureau variables to help local officials identify communities that may need support in preparing for hazards or recovering from disaster. SVI values range from 0 to 1.	The tie is broken in favor of the project with the highest SVI.	Average SVI of the benefitting area, verified using online SVI map: <a href="http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pla-ceandhealth/svi/interactive_map.html">www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pla-ceandhealth/svi/interactive_map.html</a> May use the Census tract or County data depending on the size and shape of the benefitting area.

# Abridged Application

# Abridged Applications

SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund		Due 4/15/2024 at 11:59pm CDT
<b>Abridged Application</b>		Email to <a href="mailto:FIF@twdb.texas.gov">FIF@twdb.texas.gov</a>
<p>By submitting this Abridged Application, you understand and confirm that the information provided is true and correct to the best of your knowledge and further understand that the failure to submit a complete Abridged Application by the stated deadlines, or to respond in a timely manner to additional requests for information, may result in the withdrawal of the Abridged Application without review. Please reference the <a href="#">SFY 2024-2025 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) Intended Use Plan (IUP)</a> for further explanation of all information and questions included herein.</p>		
<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>		
Entity Name		
Entity Type (City, County, District, etc.)		
Primary Contact - Who should TWDB contact with questions during the review of this submission?	Name	
	Title	
	Phone	
	Email	
<b>PROJECT INFORMATION</b>		
Project Name (as Referred to by Applicant)		
<a href="#">Regional Flood Planning Area</a> (01-15)		
Indicate Type: FME/FMP/FMS under <a href="#">31 TAC § 361.10</a> (Only one type per abridged application)		
<input type="checkbox"/> FME <input type="checkbox"/> FMP <input type="checkbox"/> FMS		
Full Name of FME/FMP/FMS as presented in the Regional Flood Plan		
Unique 9-digit FME/FMP/FMS ID (Example: 013000001) from the associated Regional Flood Plan		
Is the geographic scope, project scope, and all the expected benefits of the project in this abridged application the same as those presented in the Regional Flood Plan? See the online link to review the associated project information and data.		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
If 'NO', please explain below why and generally explain how the project scope and/or benefits are different than what is presented in the Regional Flood Plan.		
Project scopes and claimed project benefits will be verified against the actual projects in the Regional Flood Plan during the application process. Any projects that are subsequently found to diverge from the information presented in this Abridged Application may be subject to reprioritization and/or removal from the prioritization list, regardless of their initial prioritization. Therefore, it is important that all project information be presented accurately in this abridged application.		
If 'NO', applicant <b>must</b> also fill in Attachment No. 3 with all project information including the items that are different compared to the information presented in the Regional Flood Plan.		
<b>NOTE: Regional flood planning data included in the draft FIF IUP materials, including associated with the abridged application, is not final and remains subject to change based on the final, Board-approved Regional Flood Plans.</b>		
<b>NOTE: Abridged Applications submitted with partial projects from the regional flood plan will be considered ineligible for the FIF (except for phased projects).</b>		
SFY 2024-2025 FIF Abridged Application		1 of 13

**Due Monday,  
April 15, 2024,  
at 11:59pm CDT**

# Abridged Application

- Every application must include the associated 9-digit, regional flood plan unique ID number reference and project name that corresponds to the specific recommended FME, FMP, or FMS.
- The working ranking criteria and weights anticipated to be used in ranking all projects within the 2024 State Flood Plan will be utilized for prioritization scoring under this IUP; therefore, individual FMEs/FMPs/FMSs cannot be combined.
- Applicants may submit multiple abridged applications regardless of the category.



# Abridged Applications & Regional Flood Plan Data

- Applicants must confirm the regional flood plan data is accurate when submitting the abridged application. If the data has changed, the applicant is required to submit all updated data, identify what has changed, and provide a description and justification for the change.
- Partial projects are ineligible.
- Phased projects are allowed and updated regional flood planning data is required to be submitted with the abridged application.

# FLOOD INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE



<https://texasfloodclearinghouse.org/>



# Questions?

Email [FIF@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:FIF@twdb.texas.gov)

or

call Sara Sopczynski  
(FIF Program Coordinator)  
at 512-936-0852