



## HURRICANES FLORENCE AND MICHAEL 2020 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND SUBGRANTS

### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

*Q: How long do we have to complete the work?*

A: The initial term of all subgrants will be determined based upon the project scope, but in all cases, subgrant work and all deliverables must be completed by September 30, 2023, the end of the federal grant term from NPS.

*Q: Can we be reimbursed for storm damage that has already been repaired? What about architectural drawings and specifications for repairs?*

A: Expenses related to emergency repair planning and/or repair work that has already been completed are not eligible. Drawings and specifications are eligible for reimbursement when performed as part of the scope of work on an awarded project.

*Q: Can properties that were funded by FEMA receive this funding and if so, does the scope of work need to be entirely different?*

A: It will depend on what FEMA funded and what this subgrant is funding. By law, Federal assistance cannot duplicate the benefits provided by other sources. This means that if property owners have already received assistance (federal, local, private insurance) to repair their properties from one program, this subgrant may not provide assistance to cover the same repair/assistance work. ESHPF usually supplements the historic preservation efforts that FEMA and insurance might not fund. For example, insurance may fund the “repair” of a building but not with materials or methods that preserve its historic integrity. If a historic property had a slate roof that was damaged in the storm(s) and insurance is offering to pay for three-tab asphalt shingles, ESHPF could be used to pay the difference between asphalt shingles and slate. An itemized list of what FEMA or insurance funded will be required to document there is no “double dipping” or duplication of assistance. Also keep in mind that ESHPF funding *cannot* match FEMA funding.

*Q: Can we fund a project FEMA might fund?*

A: We encourage you to focus on prioritizing projects that might not receive other funding opportunities. Consider damaged resources that were underinsured or uninsured and otherwise might be lost or damaged beyond repair if not funded through this program.

*Q: Are archeology projects eligible?*

A: Yes. Phase I Archeological Survey and limited Phase II testing to determine eligibility is permitted. Phase III is allowed only for projects where both the damage and continued threat are severe enough to warrant salvage archeology. All archeological projects should be focused on determining degree of damage to sites that resulted from Hurricanes Florence and Michael. Any survey work must relate to an existing or new National Register nomination.

*Q: Is architectural survey eligible?*

A: Yes, but the primary purposes of the survey must be to assess degree of storm damage, determine National Register eligibility, and provide preparedness for future disasters.

*Q: Can a museum be funded if it was damaged by the hurricane?*

A: Yes and no. If the museum is in a historic structure, the repairs to that building and securing the collection during construction may be funded. ESHPF does not fund conservation of collections, acquisition or replacements.

*Q: Can historic cemetery repairs be funded?*

A: Yes. However, like everything else, the cemetery must be listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register individually or part of a district.

*Q: Can we elevate buildings in flood prone areas?*

A: Any proposals for elevating buildings must follow the NPS guidance in [Guidelines on Flood Adaptation for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings](#) (November 2019). First, NPS recommends an assessment of whether the structure would still be eligible for the National Register after elevation. Discuss this with the HPO to determine if it will retain its listing prior to applying for funding.

*Q: Are federally owned properties eligible? Can a federal agency be an applicant?*

A: ESHPF funds cannot be used on federally owned properties nor can a federal agency be a recipient of grant funds.

*Q: What if there is no documentation to prove damage was made by Hurricane Florence and/or Michael?*

A: Local property assessment records, aerial photographs, photographs taken for other occasions, and Google Street Views are ways to determine condition prior to the storm. There will need to be a reasonable amount of documentation that damage was caused by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, which can be also be obtained through written and certified statements from property owners if no other documentation exists.

*Q: Do we complete the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) review?*

A: All development and archeological survey projects will require NEPA review. NPS will make the final review, but applicants are required to complete a questionnaire to assist the NPS with its determination.

*Q: How long do we have to complete a nomination for the National Register?*

A: The nomination package must be submitted to HPO for approval before the end of the subgrant period. HPO will require review of a draft nomination prior to submission of a final draft.

*Q: Who should we contact if we have specific questions about eligibility?*

A: Address all questions related to this subgrant program to [hurricane.grants@ncdcr.gov](mailto:hurricane.grants@ncdcr.gov) (preferred) or 919-814-6591.