



# Virginia Emergency Shelter Upgrade Assistance Grant Fund

## ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

Cities, Counties, Towns

APPLICATIONS OPEN  
July 29, 2025

APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
October 1, 2025

The Emergency Shelter Upgrade Assistance Grant Fund program is to be used solely for the purposes of providing matching funds to localities to install, maintain, or repair **permanent** infrastructure related to backup energy generation for emergency shelters, including solar energy generators, and to improve the hazard-specific integrity (wind retrofit) of shelter facilities owned by the locality.



## Funding Priorities

Project supports/protects vulnerable and marginalized populations

Project is a long term risk based solution

Localities that submit applications for their primary shelter solutions will have priority. This will be verified by Local Capabilities Assessment Report (LCAR) submissions

Project identifies alternative solutions

## Eligible Projects

- ✓ Purchase and installation generator for a local shelter
- ✓ Purchase and installation of generator transfer switches or “quick connects” for a local shelter
- ✓ Purchase and installation of a solar power generation solution for a shelter
- ✓ Wind hardening or “retrofit” of a local shelter

## Eligibility Criteria

Local governments must have a current and locally-adopted emergency operations plan, in compliance with the Code of Virginia §44.146.19(E) (revised every 4 years) by the application deadline.

## Funding Limits

**\$2.5M**

Appropriated by the General Assembly to this fund for FY 26

**\$450,000**

Limit (state share) for any single grant award



Local governments can submit **one** shelter upgrade application per year, but the application can involve multiple locations

Local governments can only receive and implement one shelter upgrade grant at a time. Construction on any previous awards must be complete at the time of application.

Shelter Upgrade Fund may match any existing FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants to upgrade shelters

State cost share is limited to the Local Council of Governments Fiscal Stress Index, which could be anywhere between 60-75% of total project costs

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Katie Vugdalic, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, at [katie.vugdalic@vdem.virginia.gov](mailto:katie.vugdalic@vdem.virginia.gov)

For more information please visit [www.vaemergency.gov/](http://www.vaemergency.gov/)

FY 24 Virginia Emergency Shelter Upgrade Assistance Grant Fund