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# NY Rising Housing Program

## Fact Sheet for Optional Items

Revised September 5, 2017

### NY Rising Housing Program (applies to all Programs)

In addition to the repair or reconstruction of your property, the Program may provide funding for certain optional items like elevation, mitigation or bulkhead repair. Optional items are intended to increase the resiliency of your property. Program funds for these items are available only to Applicants whose properties sustained damage in one of the eligible storms. Receipt of any NY Rising Program funds for elevation or optional mitigation (even if only for design fees) obligates you and your successors to retain flood insurance on your property in perpetuity, if the property is in the 100-year floodplain. Applicants will be required to sign a Grant Agreement before receiving funding for optional items. Award amount for optional items is subject to Program Design Standards and Award Caps, minus any Duplication of Benefits (DOB). The eligibility requirements and funding process for each of these items is explained below:

**The Optional Measures Program is no longer accepting new applications. Applicants participating in any of the optional measures must adhere to important deadlines outlined in the *Announcement of Deadline* notices sent by the program, and posted at the Program's website: <https://stormrecovery.ny.gov/housing/single-family-homeowner-program>**

### OPTIONAL ELEVATION

Applicants whose properties are located in the 100-year floodplain, but are not substantially damaged and/or substantially improved, may choose to elevate their homes to resist future damage. Eligible Applicants who opt-in for Optional Elevation will first receive 10% of the optional elevation award to cover the cost of hiring a design professional and secure the necessary permits from the local municipality. All necessary design documents and permits for elevation must be submitted before the Program will issue the first construction payment for elevation – which is 50% of the remaining elevation award. (Please see the documents “*Elevation Design Guidance*” and “*Program Maximum Design Criteria for Structural Elevation*” for a full description of the Program's Optional Elevation design requirements. These documents, like all Program documents, are available at <http://www.stormrecovery.ny.gov/housing-forms-and-resources>. **The Program is no longer accepting new applications for optional elevation.**

### OPTIONAL MITIGATION

The Program may provide funds to pay for one or more of the following measures to protect your home against future storm damage:

- Installation of roof strapping
- Installation of backflow valves
- Installation of flood vents



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- Elevation of electrical systems and components
- Securing fuel tanks
- Installation of cost-effective flood resistant building materials below base flood elevation

**Note:** most of the above measures are included in the elevation process. If you are elevating or have already elevated, only two optional mitigation measures are available to you are roof strapping and backflow valves.

Your optional mitigation award is determined by the Program after a review and approval of the proposed scope work prepared by your design professional. The award will include a design fee of 10% of the estimated cost of the optional mitigation work to cover the cost of your design professional. Optional mitigation funding is not available to Applicants who are reconstructing.

### BULKHEAD

The Program will fund bulkhead work for an Applicant whose bulkhead was damaged in one of the qualified storms. The award is determined by the scope of work submitted and approved by the Program minus any DOB received for bulkhead. The Program will only fund bulkhead repair or replacement in place and in kind. Your engineer will need to provide all the necessary design documentation detailed in the *"Bulkhead Design Guidance"* document found on our website. Your award will include \$2,500 to cover the cost of hiring a design professional. Applicants may be eligible for Bulkhead reimbursement award for any work contracted within one year of the impacted storm.

### WHAT HAPPENS AFTER OPTING IN?

After you have opted-in for any of these items you should consult the document *"After Opting In"* which can be found on the website. It will provide you and your designer with more information about which documents are required to meet the Program requirements. All design documents should be sent to [review@recreatenys.org](mailto:review@recreatenys.org) and programmatic documents should be sent to your Customer Representative.

In all cases, you will be required to sign a Grant Agreement /Amendment outlining the terms and obligations of the award, before receiving any payment. After you have opted-in and signed a Grant Agreement or Amendment, the Program will release any design advance funds due to you. **However, the Program will not release any payments for the construction of any optional item until you have submitted all the required design documents as well as all basic programmatic documents necessary for your participation in the Program.** Please check with your Customer Representative to determine if any of these documents are missing from your file.

If you accept a design fee advance and decide not to proceed with the implementation of the scope of work for that item, you will need to provide evidence of design costs incurred. Please note, however, that an Applicant who receives any funding under NY Rising and whose property is in the 100-year floodplain is required to maintain flood insurance on the property in perpetuity.