Storm surges, nor’easters, heavy precipitation events, and sea level rise threaten municipalities around the state, and climate models predict that these hazards will increase in severity and frequency in the future.¹

Financial assistance programs are available to support the implementation of projects to prepare for and adapt to these threats. However, these programs are often unknown and unused.²

Many municipalities in Delaware miss out on these resources, creating a significant barrier to successful climate change adaptation and resilient community development.

¹ Visit http://climate.udel.edu/declimateprojections/ for further details on the predicted climate change impacts across Delaware.

² These were the key findings of a 2015 focus group study funded by Delaware Coastal Programs. See Decision-makers’ attitudes toward coastal management issues—focus group results to read the full study report.

Use This Tool for Municipalities

The Institute for Public Administration (IPA) at the University of Delaware, with support from Delaware Coastal Programs, compiled relevant financial assistance programs into a searchable web database for Delaware’s local governments.

The easy-to-use web page lists resources that support the implementation of climate change adaptation and resilient community development in the following categories:

- disaster preparedness
- disaster recovery
- education
- emergency aid
- energy conservation
- habitat restoration
- infrastructure upgrades
- planning
- property acquisition/easements
- renewable energy
- species protection
- storm-proofing retrofits
- stormwater management
- vulnerability assessment
- wetland protection

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Filter by Category

Use the sorting feature to quickly and easily filter programs by four categories:

1. **Type of assistance offered** (grant, loan, etc.)
2. **Project scope** (land acquisition, energy efficiency retrofits, etc.)
3. **Amount of financial assistance available**
4. **Whether or not matching funds are required**

After making these selections, a list of search results will appear, as shown in graphic below. Click on the program title to reveal more in-depth information about the program.

Online Access

Access the Delaware Database for Funding Resilient Communities from any computer, tablet, or mobile device by visiting www.bidenschool.udel.edu/ipa/resources/ddfrc

Watch the YouTube Tutorial

This two-minute video provides step-by-step instructions for using the search tool. Watch it online at https://youtu.be/i-4WNS9RYK8.

Provide Input

Financial assistance programs come and go, and the database must be continually updated as new programs emerge and others retire.

If entries require new content or contain errors, or if you wish to add a relevant program, please contact us by emailing resiliency@udel.edu.