

**Western States Seismic Policy Council  
2013 Awards in Excellence**

***Overall Award in Excellence for Mitigation Efforts***

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<b>Administering Agency:</b>	Oregon Military Department, Oregon Emergency Management
<b>Program Name:</b>	Oregon Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program
<b>Contact:</b>	Martin Plotner, OEM Director
<b>Address:</b>	3225 State Street, P.O. Box 14370 Salem, OR 97309-5062
<b>Telephone:</b>	503-378-2911
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM">www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM</a>

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**Program Summary**

The major purpose of the Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program is to help manage the high earthquake risk in the state of Oregon by using a seismic vulnerability assessment, rigorous cost benefit analysis and leveraged state bond funds to assist public schools and emergency response facilities in mitigating the seismic risk. Sustained efforts by long-time seismic safety champions such as former WSSPC Award winner Senator Peter Courtney, have helped make the program a reality.

The program provides grant funds to eligible applicants who have been selected by a grants review committee; awards, which range up to a maximum of \$1.5 million, are used to seismically upgrade eligible high-risk schools and emergency response facilities. The program also is designed to encourage leverage of other related pre-disaster mitigation activities, and includes outreach efforts to businesses, government, the general public, schools and non-profits to inform others about seismic risks and the grant program itself.

Because grant applications require a cost-benefit analysis, a relatively simple-to-use Oregon benefit-cost analysis tool was developed using the state's Department of Geology and Mineral Industries' enhanced rapid visual screening (E-RVS) method, and made available to applicants.

The program has issued three limited but successful rounds of grant awards: the first in 2010 and subsequent awards in 2011 and 2012. The grant program was established with the intent to help all Oregon communities meet life safety in emergency response facilities by 2022 and schools by 2032, as stipulated in Oregon Revised Statute 455.400. In order to assist Oregon communities meet the seismic safety laws, the grant program would need to expand its capacity and operate through 2032.