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STATE OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE \$13.2 MILLION AVAILABLE TO HELP CALIFORNIA HOMEOWNERS PREPARE FOR “THE BIG ONE”

Earthquake Brace + Bolt Program Offers \$3,000 Grants to Help Strengthen Homes, Available in 355 High-Hazard ZIP Codes in California

(SACRAMENTO) When he bought his home in 2012, David Beilfuss knew that it would be the biggest investment his family would make. The 1925 bungalow sits on a quiet street lined with picturesque oak trees in northeastern Pasadena. Though it is a safe, comfortable neighborhood for his children to grow up in, David feared that a unpredictable earthquake could bring the structure to the ground unless he spent the money needed for a seismic retrofit.

David isn't alone: **Today, there are more than 1.2 million vulnerable homes in California that reside in high-seismic-hazard areas.** Many homeowners know that their homes are at-risk when an earthquake occurs but are unaware that they can protect their homes with a seismic retrofit.

California's Earthquake Brace + Bolt grant program provides homeowners in eligible ZIP Codes with \$3,000 to help offset the cost of completing a seismic retrofit.

“Like many Californians, we are house-rich and cash-poor,” said David. “Our home could simply fall off its foundation in the event of an earthquake, leaving my family and me homeless. My wife and I knew that even with earthquake insurance we needed to do more to protect our family, our home, and our investment.”

David decided to retrofit his home with a grant from the Earthquake Brace + Bolt (EBB) program in 2019.

“By undergoing a seismic retrofit, older houses that were not built to withstand an earthquake are braced and bolted into their foundation,” said Janiele Maffei, Chief Mitigation Officer for the California Earthquake Authority. “This helps to prevent the home from sliding off its foundation in the event of an earthquake and reduces the amount of damage a house can incur.”

With \$13.2 million in funding, EBB will offer over 4,400 retrofit grants in 2020. To date, almost 10,000 Californians have strengthened their homes by successfully completing the retrofitting process with EBB. For the first time, homeowners in cities including Palo Alto, Lancaster, Oxnard, Palm Springs, and Fremont are eligible to apply for grants.

Registration for the 2020 EBB program opens February 19 and continues through March 19.

How to Apply for EBB Grants

Eligible homeowners have until March 19 to apply for retrofit funding through EBB. To apply and for detailed program information, visit EarthquakeBraceBolt.com. A full list of eligible [ZIP Codes](#) and a [searchable directory](#) with more than 1,000 licensed, FEMA-trained contractors is available. Once registration closes, participating homeowners will be selected through a random drawing and notified via email if they have been selected or if they are on the wait list.

EBB Program Locations in 2020

EBB retrofit grants will be available in 355 select ZIP Codes within the following program areas in 2020.

Northern CA

- Alameda
- Albany
- Aptos
- Arcata
- Atherton
- Bayside
- Belmont
- Berkeley
- Burlingame
- Castro Valley
- Colma
- Daly City
- El Cerrito
- El Sobrante
- Emeryville
- Eureka
- Ferndale
- Fortuna
- Foster City
- Fremont
- Gilroy
- Half Moon Bay
- Hayward
- Hillsborough
- Loleta
- Los Altos
- Los Gatos
- McKinleyville
- Menlo Park
- Millbrae
- Napa

Southern CA

- Newark
- Oakland
- Orinda
- Palo Alto
- Petaluma
- Piedmont
- Portola Valley
- Redwood City
- Richmond
- San Juan Batista
- San Bruno
- San Carlos
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- San Leandro
- San Lorenzo
- San Martin
- San Mateo
- San Pablo
- Santa Rosa
- Saratoga
- Sausalito
- Sonoma
- South San Francisco
- Ukiah
- Union City
- Watsonville
- Woodside
- Alhambra
- Altadena
- Arcadia
- Azusa
- Baldwin Park
- Banning
- Beaumont
- Beverly Hills
- Burbank
- Cherry Valley
- Claremont
- Colton
- Covina
- Corona
- Eastvale
- El Monte
- Fillmore
- Fontana
- Glendale
- Glendora
- Granada Hills
- Hemet
- Highland
- Huntington Park
- Irwindale
- La Crescenta
- Lancaster
- La Verne
- Littlerock
- Los Angeles
- Mentone
- Mission Hills
- Ojai
- Oxnard
- Pacoima
- Pacific Palisades
- Palm Springs
- Pasadena
- Pearblossom
- Pico Rivera
- Pomona
- Redlands
- Rosemead
- San Bernardino
- San Dimas
- San Fernando
- San Gabriel
- San Jacinto
- San Marino
- Santa Barbara
- Santa Monica
- Santa Paula
- Sherman Oaks
- Sierra Madre
- South Pasadena
- Sun Valley
- Sylmar
- Temple City
- Tujunga
- Upland
- Valley Glen

- Monrovia
- Montebello
- Monterey Park
- Montecito
- North Hollywood
- Valley Village
- Van Nuys
- Ventura
- West Hollywood
- West Whittier
- Whittier
- Wrightwood
- Yucaipa

About Earthquake Brace + Bolt (EBB)

Established by the California Residential Mitigation Program, EBB offers up to \$3,000 to help California homeowners retrofit their house to reduce potential damage from earthquakes.

Residential seismic retrofits bolt the house to its foundation and add bracing, if required, around the perimeter of the crawl space making it more resistant to earthquake activity. For more information, please visit <http://www.EarthquakeBraceBolt.com>.

About the California Residential Mitigation Program (CRMP)

CRMP was established in 2011 to help Californians strengthen their homes against damage from earthquakes. CRMP is a joint powers authority created by the California Earthquake Authority and the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services. For more information, please visit <http://www.CaliforniaResidentialMitigationProgram.com>.

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