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More Than 10,000 Vulnerable Homes in California Successfully Retrofitted to Help Reduce Damage from Future Earthquakes

State's Earthquake Brace + Bolt program offers grants of up to \$3K to California homeowners for seismic retrofits

Click [HERE](#) for video celebrating 10,000 retrofits

(SACRAMENTO) Today, the [Earthquake Brace + Bolt](#) (EBB) program has reached an important milestone of helping more than 10,000 [California homeowners](#) seismically retrofit their homes. With as many as 1.2 million vulnerable homes statewide and an increased risk of “the Big One” striking at any time, EBB is strengthening investments, families, and communities one home at a time.

The EBB grant program provides homeowners in eligible ZIP Codes with \$3,000 to help offset the cost of completing a seismic retrofit. Since its founding in 2014 by the California Earthquake Authority (CEA), EBB has expanded from only four ZIP Codes to 355 ZIP Codes in 2020. Currently, EBB has over \$13.2 million in funding and is offering over 4,400 retrofit grants for 2020 participants. Registration for the 2020 EBB program is open now and continues through March 19.

“EBB grants go to qualifying homeowners in select ZIP Codes—and those completing EBB retrofits who have a CEA earthquake insurance policy also may qualify for a CEA premium discount of up to 25 percent,” said CEA CEO Glenn Pomeroy. “CEA is continually seeking additional grant-funding sources, to help more Californians make their older houses safer through a building-code-compliant retrofit.”

Houses that qualify for EBB grants typically are pre-1980 construction (with pre-1940 houses more prevalent in the program), have a raised concrete foundation and may have wood-framed walls in the crawl space under the house. A retrofit can make the difference between complete destruction that makes a home uninhabitable and mitigating damage caused by a large quake.

“I’ve seen many houses slide off the foundation because there was nothing bolting the home down,” said CEA Chief Mitigation Officer and EBB Executive Director Janiele Maffei. “Homeowners should be aware and treat this issue with a sense of urgency since we never know when a large quake will hit California.”

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 waitlist.

EBB Program Locations in 2020

EBB retrofit grants are available in 355 select ZIP Codes within the following program areas.

Northern California

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

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

Southern California

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

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

Millbrae
Napa

Los Angeles
Mentone
Mission Hills
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 as a program within the California Residential Mitigation Program, a joint powers authority of the California Earthquake Authority and California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, EBB offers grants of up to \$3,000 to help California homeowners retrofit their houses to reduce potential earthquake damage. A residential seismic retrofit makes a house more resistant to earthquake activity, such as ground shaking and soil failure, by bolting the house to its foundation and adding bracing around the perimeter of the crawl space. Learn more at EarthquakeBraceBolt.com.

About CEA

The California Earthquake Authority (CEA) is a not-for-profit, privately funded, publicly managed organization that provides residential earthquake insurance and encourages Californians to reduce their risk of earthquake loss. Learn more at EarthquakeAuthority.com.

Assets

VIDEO: [EBB surpasses 10,000 retrofits](#)

VIDEO: [EBB Testimonials](#)

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