



[FEMA Cost Estimating Format Training](#)

FEMA uses a program called Cost Estimating Format to standardize their cost estimating procedures. The tool is a forward pricing mechanism that accounts for soft costs and unexpected expenses incurred during construction. Project Officers must use this tool when preparing their grant applications or Project Worksheets. ATCS Project Managers are instructors for this tool.

Our managers provided training for hundreds of project officers during the Florida hurricanes, the California landslides and the Hurricane Katrina Public Assistance programs. The course is a three day course that explains how to use the RSMeans estimating manuals, the Cost Estimating Format and its application to the Project Worksheet.

The tools used are RSMeans estimating software and the Cost Estimating Format. Students are first instructed on the proper techniques for doing an estimate for repair of damaged structures. They are then taught how to use the estimating tools and how these tools are integrated into their Project Worksheets.

The training involves hands on estimating practice. This practice allows for a standardized quality estimate. It also establishes the benchmark that FEMA expects from a construction estimate.