

Seismic Mitigation Program

Frequently Asked Questions

The purpose of this publication is to provide additional information and clarification in response to frequently asked questions received by the DSA. This information is intended for school district applicants seeking funding for rehabilitation or replacement of eligible buildings under the Seismic Mitigation Program (SMP). For reference and outline of DSA requirements and procedures, see [DSA Procedure 08-03](#).

1. Question: *Would a building that has recently undergone a seismic rehabilitation be eligible for funding under the Seismic Mitigation Program?*

Answer: Seismic strengthening work for which the construction contract was signed on or after May 20, 2006 may be eligible for SMP funding. The following is the procedure for seeking SMP funding for work completed.

- A. Follow the instructions for Phases 1, 3, and 4 in Procedure 08-03 and the additional instructions below:
- B. Phase 1: Eligibility must be proven for the building based on the conditions prior to the seismic rehabilitation or voluntary seismic strengthening.
 - Complete and submit the Eligibility Evaluation Report for the building based on conditions prior to the seismic rehabilitation or voluntary seismic strengthening.
 - Provide a signed copy of the contract for the rehabilitation work, showing the date on which the contract was signed. The contract for the rehabilitation work must have been signed on or after May 20, 2006 for the project to be eligible for funding from SMP.
- C. Phase 3: Rehabilitation projects funded by the Seismic Mitigation Program, must comply with comprehensive seismic upgrade standards contained in the California Building Standards Code (Sections 3417 through 3423 for 2010 Standards). See Section 3.2 of Procedure 08-03 for more information. If the previous seismic rehabilitation work was less than required under the SMP, then Phase 3 and 4 shall include the scope of additional work necessary to achieve compliance with the SMP requirements.
 - Arrange a meeting with DSA Regional Office to determine if the rehabilitation was in compliance with Section 3.2 of Procedure 08-03.
 - Complete the Evaluation and Design Criteria Report, including any additional and/or remedial work required under SMP.
 - See Procedure 08-03, Sections 3 and 4, for further instructions, including requirements for submittal of a cost estimate for DSA concurrence with minimum work required for seismic rehabilitation.

2. Question: *Would a building that has been recently replaced due to seismic safety concerns be eligible for funding under the Seismic Mitigation Program?*

Answer: Replacement projects may be eligible for SMP funding if the contract for the construction of a replacement building was signed on or after May 20, 2006. The following is the procedure for applying SMP funding for completed replacement.

Follow the instructions for Phases 1, and 2 in Procedure 08-03 and the additional instructions below:

- A. Phase 1: Eligibility of the building that was demolished must be established.
- Complete and submit the Eligibility Evaluation Report for the building that was demolished based on building conditions prior to demolition.
 - An official from the school district shall provide a letter certifying the start and end dates of the demolition of the building. The letter must identify the DSA application number for the original construction of the demolished building.
 - Provide a signed copy of the contract for the construction of the replacement building, showing the date on which the contract was signed. The contract for the replacement building must have been signed on or after May 20, 2006 for the project to be eligible for funding from SMP.
- B. Phase 2: Prepare a Replacement Option Analysis. Follow the instructions for Phase 2 in Procedure 08-03. In the comparison cost estimate, provide DSA application number for the new building.

3. **Question:** *I have submitted a report that was rejected under the old SMP regulations. Can I resubmit the report for consideration under the current SMP regulations?*

Answer: The school district can re-apply by following the instructions in Procedure 08-03, Section 1. However, the district may not resubmit the old report. The resubmittal must be prepared using the [Eligibility Evaluation Report template](#), which can be downloaded from the DSA web site, Publications page.

4. **Question:** *How would I determine the capacities of concrete anchors when using ASCE 31-03?*

Answer: ASCE 31-03 Section 1.5 references ACI 318-99 to determine the capacity of concrete elements and it shall be used in conjunction with ASCE 31-03 loads. However, since ACI 318-99 does not contain concrete anchor capacity criteria, evaluators have the choice to use either of the following two options:

- 1) Utilize 2001 CBC Section 1923A, or
- 2) Utilize ACI 318-08 Appendix D excluding Sections D3.3.4, D3.3.5, D3.3.6 (i.e. no 0.4 factor) when anchors are designed to be force controlled in ASCE 31-03. All sections of ACI 318-08 Appendix D are applicable for deformation controlled items.

In addition, ASCE 31-03 Section 4.2.4.4 requires that the component strengths be determined with phi factors equal to 1.

The elimination of sections D3.3.4-6 in option 2 is justifiable since force controlled items are designed to remain elastic. Also for out of plane wall anchors, 2010 CBC 1908A.1.31 eliminates these same sections. AISC 341 does not require any of section D3.3 to be applicable for foundation connections of steel frame systems.