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Homeowners Can Receive Up to \$3,000 for an Earthquake Retrofit

The California Residential Mitigation Program will expand its seismic retrofit incentive program, *Earthquake Brace + Bolt: Funds to Strengthen Your Foundation*, in 2015. Owners of houses in these zip code areas will be eligible for an incentive payment of up to \$3,000 to help pay costs associated with retrofitting their houses to lessen earthquake damage.

About the Program

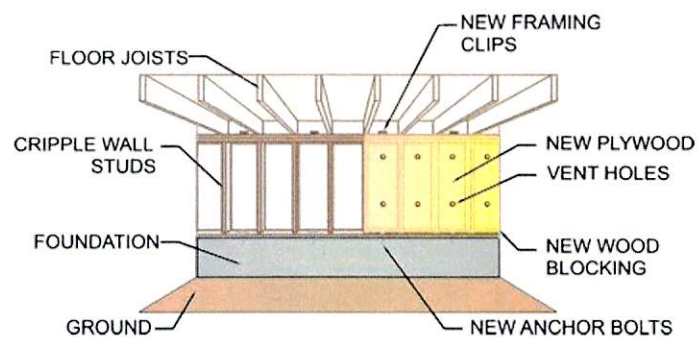
Earthquake Brace + Bolt (EBB) was developed to help homeowners lessen the potential for damage to their houses during an earthquake. A residential seismic retrofit strengthens an existing house, making it more resistant to earthquake activity such as ground shaking and soil failure, by bolting the house to its foundation and adding bracing around the perimeter of the crawl space.

A typical retrofit may cost between \$2,000 and \$10,000 depending upon the location, the size of the house, and the amount of work involved.

Strengthen Your Home

Surrounding the crawl space under the first floor, many houses have a short wood framed wall ("cripple wall") that needs to be strengthened to prevent the house from sliding or toppling off of its foundation during an earthquake. Strengthening involves adding anchor bolts and bracing in the crawl space.

Adding anchor bolts in the crawl space improves the connection between the wooden framing members of a building and its concrete foundation help to keep the house from sliding. Bracing the cripple walls in a crawl space with plywood will keep the house from toppling off of the foundation during an earthquake.



How to Qualify

In order to participate in the program, EBB requires homeowners to pre-qualify through a series of questions, in order to determine whether their house meets the Program criteria specified in California's Building Code.¹ Qualifying houses were constructed before 1979,

have a raised, wood first floor, and have a cripple wall that does not exceed four feet in height.

¹ *International Existing Building Code Chapter A3 as adopted into California Existing Building Code, Chapter 24, Title 10.*

Program Locations

In 2015, EBB will come to selected zip codes in both Northern and Southern California.

Program Zip Codes in Northern California	
Oakland:	94609, 94618, 94610, 94602, 94607
San Francisco:	94121, 94127, 94132, 94112
San Leandro:	94577, 94578, 94579
Program Zip Codes in Southern California	
Los Angeles:	90041, 90042, 90031, 90065, 90039, 90026
Pasadena:	91103, 91105, 91107, 91104, 91106, 91101
Santa Monica:	90401, 90404

Homeowner Registration and Selection

Homeowner registration will be open from January 15 through February 15, 2015.

Once registration opens, homeowners interested in participating should:

- Check to make sure their house is located in a Program Zip Code; and,
- Answer the pre-qualification questions posted on the Program website to see if their house meets the basic requirements.

If these basic requirements are met, homeowners may register for EBB online. 2015 program registration will open on January 15. Space is limited. Homeowners can also call, (877) 232-4300, for a paper application.

When registration closes, participating homeowners will be selected through a random drawing process. Homeowners who are selected will be notified via email and provided more detailed information for participation in the Program

For more information on the Earthquake Brace + Bolt Program, go to www.earthquakebracebolt.com.



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The California Residential Mitigation Program is a joint-exercise-of-powers entity formed by its members, the California Earthquake Authority, a public instrumentality of the State of California (CEA), and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, (Cal OES). CRMP is a legally separate entity from its members.

