Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Opportunity ID: FTA-2020-015-TRI

October 13, 2020
Agenda

• Webinar Logistics
• Program Overview
• Eligibility Requirements
• Support for Rural Communities
• Evaluation Criteria
• Key Dates and Application Submission Requirements
• Links to Additional Information
• Grants.gov Walkthrough
Webinar Logistics

• Today’s webinar will not have a live question and answer component

• Please use the **Q&A Pod** at the bottom of your screen to submit questions, and FTA will review the questions submitted and post responses later after the webinar

• Additional questions can be submitted to the program manager, Jamel El-Hamri at jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov

• Presentation materials will be posted to FTA’s website at Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program
Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Program Overview

- **Funding:** $10M in research demonstration grants under the FTA Public Transportation Innovation Program (49 U.S.C. § 5312)
- **Goal:** fund innovative solutions to improve the operational efficiency of transit agencies, as well as enhance the mobility of transit users
- **Match:** 100% Federal funding, no match required, though still encouraged

### Four Areas of Focus for Projects

- Vehicle, facility, equipment, and infrastructure cleaning and disinfection
- Exposure mitigation measures
- Innovative mobility, such as contactless payments
- Measures that strengthen public confidence in transit
Eligibility Requirements

• Limited to FTA grantees or subrecipients who would be the primary beneficiaries of the innovative products and services developed
  • Eligible lead applicants include state and local governmental authorities, direct recipients of Urbanized Area (49 USC 5307) and Rural Area (49 USC 5311) formula funds, and Indian tribes
  • Eligible subrecipients include public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and private providers engaged in public transportation
  • Proposals for projects in rural (non-urbanized) areas who are not Section 5311 recipients must be submitted as part of a consolidated State proposal, except for projects proposed by Indian tribes
  • States and other eligible applicants also may submit consolidated proposals for projects in urbanized areas
  • Each applicant may only submit one proposal
Applications Encouraged to Support Rural Communities Using ROUTES Concepts

- Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES)
- Multi-modal initiative to address disparities in rural transportation infrastructure
- [https://www.transportation.gov/rural](https://www.transportation.gov/rural)
Evaluation Criteria

• Project Innovation and Impact
• Project Approach
• National Applicability
• Commercialization and/or Knowledge Transfer
• Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity
Key Dates and Application Submission Requirements

• NOFO Released on October 5, 2020.
• Applications Due by **11:59 PM EDT on November 2, 2020**
• Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov.
• Applications must include:
  • SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance,
  • Supplemental Form, and
  • Supporting Documentation.
Links to Additional Information

- GRANTS.GOV, opportunity FTA-2020-015-TRI:
  https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=329292

- Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program
  FRN: https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/10/08/2020-22316/
  competitive-funding-opportunity-public-transportation-covid-19-research-
  demonstration-grant-program

- Applying for FTA Funding:
  https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/applying/applying-fta-funding

- Submit additional questions to jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov

**REMEMBER:** Applications Due by 11:59 PM EDT on November 2, 2020
Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov

Notices of Funding Opportunity
The following notices of funding availability/opportunity are linked to the Federal Register website. The Federal Register is the official daily publication of rules, proposed rules, and notices of federal agencies and provides a forum for public participation in the democratic process.

To learn more about FTA Notice, please visit the Federal Register page.

Download the Grants.gov M. to quickly search for and submit funding opportunities.
FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA website: https://www.transit.dot.gov/
Funding Opportunity Notices: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices
FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA NOFO Page contains:
- Summary Description
  - Application requirements
  - Eligibility
- Supplemental Form
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

FTA NOFO provides hyperlinks to Grants.gov opportunity notice, related documents, and application package.

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices
NOTE: Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only “authorized organizational representatives” can submit applications in Grants.gov.
Application Package

Select Grant Opportunity Package

PLEASE READ BEFORE APPLYING!

If you view and complete your application package using Grants.gov downloadable PDF forms, you MUST have Adobe Reader installed. You may receive a validation error using incompatible versions of Adobe Reader. To prevent a validation error, it is now recommended you uninstall any earlier versions of Adobe Reader and install the latest compatible version of Adobe Reader. If more than one person is working on the PDF forms, ALL applicants must be using the same Adobe Reader version. Click for more information on Adobe Reader Compatibility.

Opportunity Package(s) Currently Available for this Funding Opportunity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CFDA</th>
<th>Competition ID</th>
<th>Competition Title</th>
<th>Opportunity Package ID</th>
<th>Opening Date</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
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<td>10/05/2020</td>
<td>11/02/2020</td>
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Preview Opportunity Package Details

Opportunity Package Details:

Agency Contact Information: Jamiel El-Hamri
FTA Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation
262-365-0595
Jamiel.el-hamri@dot.gov
Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS:

Mandatory Forms

Optional Forms

SF424 Mandatory Form [V2.0]
Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1]
Attachments [V1.2]
The “Attachment Form” shown below is included in the SF-424 Grant Application Package in Grants.gov.

Please attach the FTA Supplemental Form to the Attachment Form shown below when submitting in Grants.gov.

CAUTION: Do not use “Supplemental Form” from prior years or create your own form. Please use the file provided on the FTA website.
Grants.gov – Applicants

FOR APPLICANTS

Check Your Eligibility
Are you on your organization eligible for a grant? Learn how to check your eligibility here.
Check Your Applicant Eligibility ➤

Get Registered
To apply, you need to register on Grants.gov. Begin registering today.
Applicant Registration ➤ Organization Registration ➤

Apply for Grants
Ready to apply? Create a workspace to apply for a grant. Apply for a Grant Opportunity ➤

Track Your Application
Enter your Grants.gov tracking number to follow the progress of up to five applications at a time.
Track Your Application ➤

Adobe Compatibility
Adobe Reader and Acrobat software is compatible with Grants.gov.
Adobe Compatibility Tip Sheet ➤

Applicant Training
Access training materials, FAQs, and other resources that will help you successfully navigate Grants.gov.
Applicant Training ➤ Grants.gov Online User Guide ➤

Applicant FAQs
If you have questions, you are not alone. Here are the answers to frequently asked questions.
Applicant FAQs ➤

Manage Subscriptions
Subscribe to funding opportunities, saved searches, RSS feeds, and communications.
Sign Up Now ➤

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html
Organizations must register in Grants.gov in order to submit applications.
Workspace in Grants.gov

Get Started on Your Workspace Application

Workspace is the standard way for organizations or individuals to apply for federal grants in Grants.gov. Workspace allows a grant team to simultaneously access and edit different forms within an application. Plus, the forms can be filled out online or offline—your choice.

Grants.gov Workspace also allows applicants and organizations to tailor their application workflow. Here are three approaches that applicants can take when completing a Workspace application:

- **Basic**
  - Best for organizations with 1-2 registered Grants.gov users
  - Application forms are downloaded and emailed to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace

- **Intermediate**
  - Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users
  - Application teams are typically composed of AORs who submit a Workspace overview for their organization

- **Advanced**
  - Best for organizations with external Grants.gov users, such as consultants

Using Custom Roles in Workspace

Organizations are also able to create custom roles for their organization.

Grants.gov Roles & Privileges

When an applicant organization registers with Grants.gov, the organization's E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) - or a user with the Expanded AOR role - can assign the user a core role, a custom role, or no role.

E-Business Point of Contact

The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) works primarily at the administrative level (among other tasks) and assigns roles to organization users once they register with Grants.gov.
Web Addresses

- FTA Funding Opportunities:
  - https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices

- Grants.gov:
  - http://www.grants.gov/

- Contact Grants.gov Support Center to get help with Grants.gov issues:
  GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support
  1-800-518-4726
  support@grants.gov
Links to Additional Information

- Applying for FTA Funding: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/applying/applying-FTA-funding
- Submit additional questions to jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov

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