

# FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

## Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program

*Notice of Funding Opportunity  
(NOFO)*

*Opportunity ID: FTA-2020-015-TRI*

October 13, 2020



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration

# 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](mailto: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 initiative to address disparities in rural transportation infrastructure
- <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](https://www.grants.gov).
- Applications must include:
  - SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance,
  - Supplemental Form, and
  - Supporting Documentation.



# Links to Additional Information

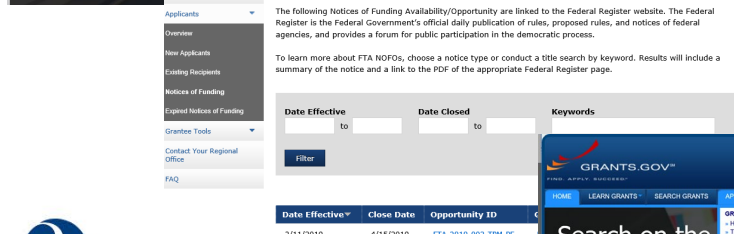
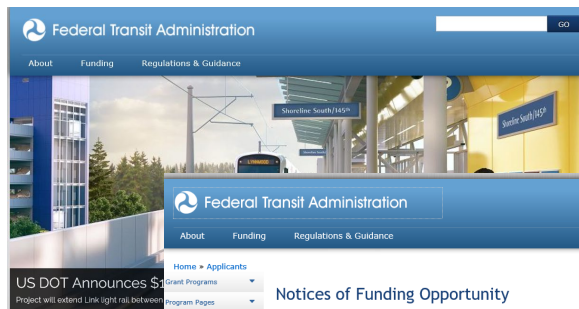
- GRANTS.GOV, opportunity FTA-2020-015-TRI:  
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=329292>
- Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program  
FRN: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/10/08/2020-22316/competitive-funding-opportunity-public-transportation-covid-19-research-demonstration-grant-program>
- Applying for FTA Funding:  
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/applying/applying-fta-funding>
- Submit additional questions to [jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov](mailto:jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov)

**REMINDER: Applications Due by 11:59 PM EDT on November 2, 2020**

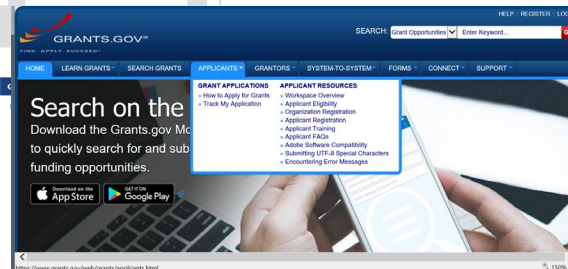
# FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

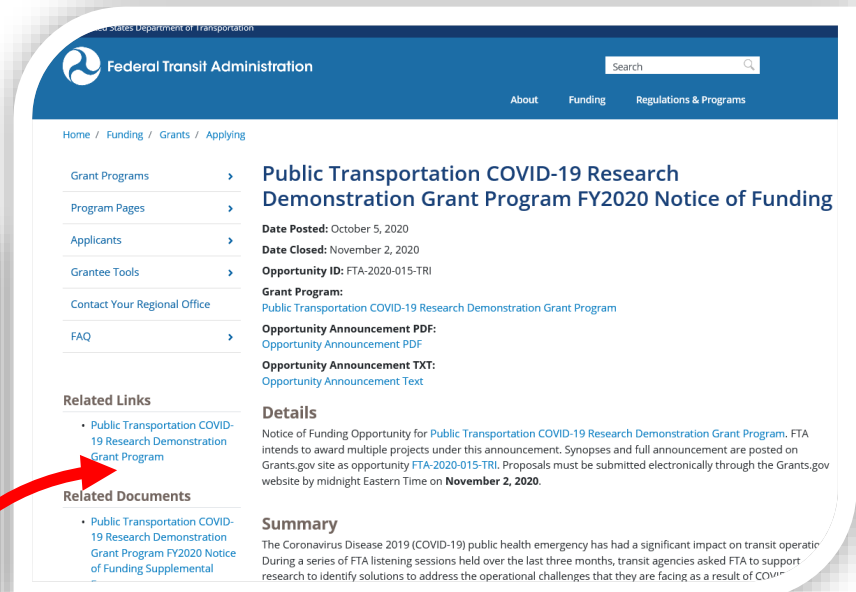
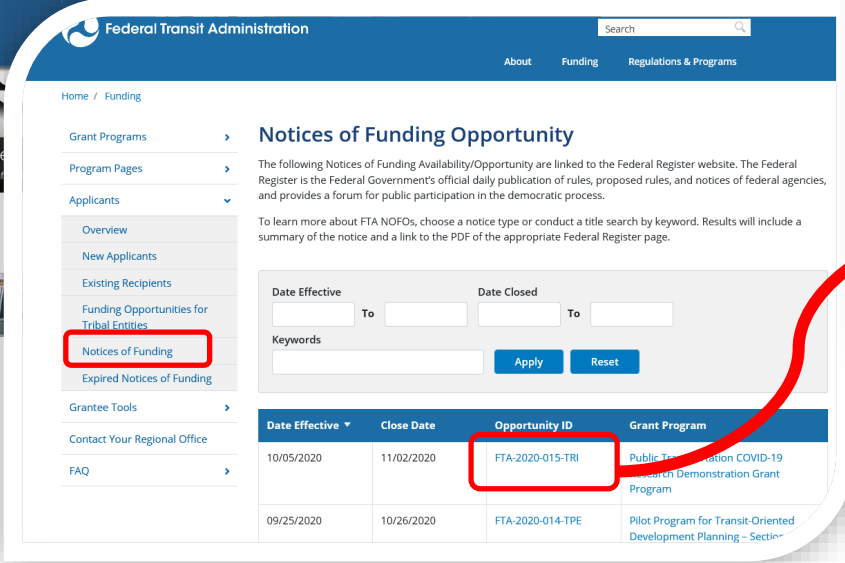
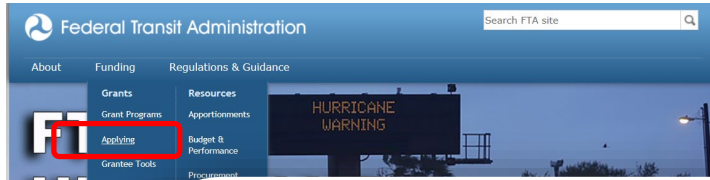
## Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration



# 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

The screenshot shows the FTA website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the FTA logo and navigation links for 'About', 'Funding', and 'Regulations & Programs'. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Funding / Grants / Applying'. A left sidebar contains a menu with items like 'Grant Programs', 'Program Pages', 'Applicants', 'Grantee Tools', 'Contact Your Regional Office', and 'FAQ'. The main content area features the title 'Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program FY2020 Notice of Funding'. Key details include:
 

- Date Posted:** October 5, 2020
- Date Closed:** November 2, 2020
- Opportunity ID:** FTA-2020-015-TRI
- Grant Program:** Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program
- Opportunity Announcement PDF:** Opportunity Announcement PDF
- Opportunity Announcement TXT:** Opportunity Announcement Text

 A prominent 'Link to Grants.gov' is displayed. Below this, there are sections for 'Related Links' (pointing to the grant program page) and 'Related Documents' (pointing to the supplemental form). A 'Details' section provides a notice of funding opportunity, and a 'Summary' section discusses the impact of the COVID-19 emergency on transit operations.

**Link and Instructions for attaching the supplemental form to the SF-424:** All applicants must complete the attached [supplemental form](#) and attach it to their submission in GRANTS.GOV.

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices>

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

# Download Application

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HOME LEARN GRANTS SEARCH GRANTS APPLICANTS GRANTORS SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM FORMS CONNECT SUPPORT

GRANTS.GOV View Opportunity

## VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

FTA-2020-015-TRI  
The Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program  
Department of Transportation  
DOT/Federal Transit Administration

Apply Subscribe

Back | Link

SYNOPSIS VERSION HISTORY RELATED DOCUMENTS PACKAGE

Print Synopsis Details ?

General Information

Document Type: Grants Notice Version: Synopsis 2  
Funding Opportunity Number: FTA-2020-015-TRI Posted Date: Oct 05, 2020  
Funding Opportunity Title: The Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program Last Updated Date: Oct 05, 2020  
Opportunity Category: Discretionary Original Closing Date for Applications: Nov 02, 2020  
Opportunity Category Explanation: Current Closing Date for Applications: Nov 02, 2020  
Funding Instrument Type: Grant Archive Date: Dec 02, 2020  
Category of Funding Activity: Transportation Estimated Total Program Funding: \$10,000,000  
Category Explanation: Award Ceiling: \$0  
Expected Number of Awards: 20 Award Floor: \$0  
CFDA Number(s): 20.530 – Public Transportation Innovation  
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: No

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants: County governments  
City or township governments  
Other: (See the Grant Details page for additional information on Eligible Applicants)

**NOTE:** Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only “authorized organizational representatives” can submit applications in Grants.gov.

SYNOPSIS VERSION HISTORY RELATED DOCUMENTS PACKAGE

Print Related Documents List ?

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
Folder: Full Announcement - FTA-2020-015-TRI	<a href="#">FTA-2020-015-TRI-Full Announcement - FTA-2020-015-TRI.zip</a>	Oct 08, 2020 07:16:45 AM EDT	374.2 KB
Federal Register Notice	<a href="#">COVID-Relief-2020-FRN.pdf</a>	Oct 08, 2020 07:16:45 AM EDT	260.9 KB
Supplemental Form	<a href="#">COVID-19-Research-Demonstration-Grant-Program-Supplemental-Form.pdf</a>	Oct 05, 2020 04:00:36 PM EDT	191.7 KB

SYNOPSIS VERSION HISTORY RELATED DOCUMENTS PACKAGE

Print Package List ?

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:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
20.530	FTA-2020-015-TRI	The Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program	PKG00263684	10/05/2020	11/02/2020	<a href="#">Preview</a>   <a href="#">Apply</a>

# Application Package

SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | **PACKAGE**

Select Grant Opportunity Package Print Package List

**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:**

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
20.530	FTA-2020-015-TRI	The Public Transportation COVID-19 Research Demonstration Grant Program	PKG00263684	10/05/2020	11/02/2020	<a href="#">Preview</a>   <a href="#">Apply</a>

**Preview Opportunity Package Details**

**Opportunity Package Details:**

**Agency Contact Information:** Jamel El-Hamri  
FTA Office of Research, Demonstration and Innovation  
202-366-8985  
jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov

**Who Can Apply:** Organization Applicants

**PACKAGE FORMS:** Download Instructions

Mandatory Forms (Click to Preview)	Optional Forms (Click to Preview)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SF424 Mandatory Form [V2.0]</li> <li>Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1]</li> <li>Attachments [V1.2]</li> </ul>	

Close

OMB Number: 4945-0022  
Expiration Date: 01/31/2019

**APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SF-424 - MANDATORY**

1.a. Type of Submission:  Application  Plan  Funding Request  Other

1.b. Frequency:  Annual  Quarterly  Other

1.c. Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request? Yes  No  Explanation

1.d. Version:  Initial  Resubmission  Revision  Update

2. Date Received: [Redacted] **STATE USE ONLY:**

3. Applicant Identifier: [Redacted] 5. Date Received by State: [Redacted]

4a. Federal Entity Identifier: [Redacted] 6. State Application Identifier: [Redacted]

4b. Federal Award Identifier: [Redacted]

7. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

a. Legal Name: [Redacted]

b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): [Redacted] c. Organizational DUNS: [Redacted]

d. Address: Street1: [Redacted] Street2: [Redacted]  
City: [Redacted] County / Parish: [Redacted]  
State: [Redacted] Province: [Redacted]  
Country: USA: UNITED STATES Zip / Postal Code: [Redacted]

e. Organizational Unit: [Redacted]

Please fill out the following form. Highlight Existing Fields

**ATTACHMENTS FORM**

Instructions: On this form, you will attach the various files that make up your grant application. Please consult with the appropriate Agency Guidelines for more information about each needed file. Please remember that any files you attach must be in the document format and named as specified in the Guidelines.

Important: Please attach your files in the proper sequence. See the appropriate Agency Guidelines for details.

1) Please attach Attachment 1  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

2) Please attach Attachment 2  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

3) Please attach Attachment 3  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

4) Please attach Attachment 4  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

5) Please attach Attachment 5  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

6) Please attach Attachment 6  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

7) Please attach Attachment 7  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

8) Please attach Attachment 8  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

9) Please attach Attachment 9  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

10) Please attach Attachment 10  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

11) Please attach Attachment 11  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

12) Please attach Attachment 12  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

13) Please attach Attachment 13  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

14) Please attach Attachment 14  Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment

# Application Package



## The Public Transportation COVID-19 Recovery Demonstration Program

### Applicant and Proposal Profile

Is this a resubmission?  Yes  No

#### Section I. Applicant Information

Applicant Organization Legal Name:

FTA Recipient ID Number (If Applicable):

Organization Chief Executive Officer:  
(Name and Direct Phone Number)

- Applicant Eligibility:
- Public Transportation Agency
  - State/Local Government Department of Transportation
  - Federally Recognized Indian Tribe
  - Private for Profit or Nonprofit Organizations
  - Others

- Project Location:
- Large Urbanized Area
  - Small Urbanized Area
  - Rural

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

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.

Please fill out the following form. Highlight Existing Fields

Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form 424 Mandatory (Effective 08/2005)  
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

### ATTACHMENTS FORM

**Instructions:** On this form, you will attach the various files that make up your grant application. Please consult with the appropriate Agency Guidelines for more information about each needed file. Please remember that any files you attach must be in the document format and named as specified in the Guidelines.

**Important:** Please attach your files in the proper sequence. See the appropriate Agency Guidelines for details.

1) Please attach Attachment 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
2) Please attach Attachment 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
3) Please attach Attachment 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
4) Please attach Attachment 4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
5) Please attach Attachment 5	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
6) Please attach Attachment 6	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
7) Please attach Attachment 7	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
8) Please attach Attachment 8	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
9) Please attach Attachment 9	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>

# Grants.gov – Applicants

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**GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- » How to Apply for Grants
- » Track My Application

**APPLICANT RESOURCES**

- » Workspace Overview
- » Applicant Eligibility
- » Organization Registration
- » Applicant Registration
- » Applicant Training
- » Applicant FAQs
- » Adobe Software Compatibility
- » Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters
- » Encountering Error Messages

**FOR APPLICANTS**

**Check Your Eligibility**  
Are you or 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 an account with 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 Today »](#)  
[Workspace Overview »](#)

**Track Your Application**  
Enter your Grants.gov tracking number to follow the progress of up to five applications at a time.  
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GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support  
1-800-518-4728  
[support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>



# Applicant – Organization Registration

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**GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- How to Apply for Grants
- Track My Application

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- Workspace Overview
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- Applicant Registration
- Applicant Training
- Applicant FAQs
- Adobe Software Compatibility
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- Encountering Error Messages

## FOR APPLICANTS

**Check Your Eligibility**  
Are you or 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 an account with Grants.gov. Begin registering today.  
[Applicant Registration >](#)  
[Organization Registration >](#)

**Apply for Grants**  
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[Workspace Overview >](#)

**Track Your Application**  
Enter your Grants.gov tracking number to follow the progress of up to five applications at a time.  
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1-800-518-1033  
[support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)

GRANTS.GOV > Applicants > Organization Registration

## ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION

**GRANT APPLICATIONS**

- How to Apply for Grants
- Track My Application

**APPLICANT RESOURCES**

- Workspace Overview
- Applicant Eligibility
- Organization Registration
  - Step 1: Obtain a DUNS Number
  - Step 2: Register with SAM
  - Step 3: Register with Grants.gov
- Applicant Registration
- Applicant Training
- Applicant FAQs
- Adobe Software Compatibility
- Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters
- Encountering Error Messages

### Registering an Organization

The instructions below are for new organizations or organizations that have never applied for a federal grant before. Most applicants work for organizations that already completed these steps to do business with the federal government.

Below your organization can apply for a federal grant, there are several steps an organization must complete outside of Grants.gov prior to submitting an application through Grants.gov. An organization is an entity that submits grant applications on behalf of the group, such as a state government, nonprofit organization, or a private business. Once you form a legal entity with a Employer Identification Number (EIN), you are ready to complete the steps below.

Below are the main steps and links to more information to complete this process. The process below can take between three business days and five weeks, so please make sure to begin early. If you do not complete these steps by the submission deadline, you are unlikely to be allowed to submit an application. Contact the federal agency point of contact listed in the grant opportunity to discuss that agency's policy.

- 1. Obtain a DUNS Number**

How do I get a DUNS number?  
Call 1-866-708-8711 or access the Dun & Bradstreet website <http://dunbradstreet.com/>

How long does this step usually take?  
1-2 business days
- 2. Register with SAM**

How do I register with the System Award Management (SAM)?  
Access <https://www.sam.gov> and complete the online registration process. You also need the authorizing official of the organization to send a response letter to SAM and an EIN.

How long does this step usually take?  
After SAM receives the response letter, up to 2 weeks (up to 5 more weeks to acquire EIN)
- 3. Register with Grants.gov**

Organizations must register in Grants.gov in order to submit applications

# Workspace in Grants.gov

## WORKSPACE OVERVIEW

- GRANT APPLICATIONS
  - » How to Apply for Grants
  - » Track My Application
- APPLICANT RESOURCES
  - » Workspace Overview
  - » Workspace Basic
  - » Workspace Intermediate
  - » Workspace Advanced
  - » Workspace Process
  - » Workspace Roles
  - » Custom Roles
- » Applicant Eligibility
- » Organization Registration
- » Applicant Registration
- » Applicant Training
- » Applicant FAQs
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- » Encountering Error Messages

### 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	Intermediate	Advanced
<p>+ Best for organizations with 1-2 registered Grants.gov users</p> <p>+ Application forms are downloaded and emailed to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE &gt;</a></p>	<p>+ Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users</p> <p>+ Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submit a Workspace application overseas for</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE &gt;</a></p>	<p>+ Best for organizations with external Grants.gov users, such as consultants</p>

### Using Custom Roles in Workspace

Organizations are also able to create custom role organization.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

**WORKSPACE ROLES**

**Grants.gov Roles & Privileges**

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

Administrator E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC)	Core Role Expanded AOR	Core Role Standard AOR	Core Role Workspace Manager	Custom Role	No Role

**E-Business Point of Contact**

The E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) works primarily at the administrative level to (among other tasks) assign 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/>
  - <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>
- Contact Grants.gov Support Center to get help with Grants.gov issues:  
GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support  
1-800-518-4726  
[support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)

# Links to Additional Information

- GRANTS.GOV, opportunity FTA-2020-015-TRI:  
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=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](mailto:jamel.el-hamri@dot.gov)

**REMINDER: Applications Due by 11:59 PM EDT on November 2, 2020**