



FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Low or No Emission Grant Program Webinar March 4, 2021

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Program Manager



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Agenda

- Program Overview
- Eligibility Information
- Evaluation Criteria
- Application Requirements & Documents
- Questions

Program Description

The Low-No Program (5339(c)) provides funding for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses as well as for the acquisition, construction or leasing of supporting facilities and equipment.

- The Low-No Program is unique in its support of the deployment of advanced technology vehicles.
- To date, approximately \$409 million has been awarded for 203 projects across the country.

2020 Low-No Competition

- 147 applications from 42 states requesting approximately \$513 million
 - 116 projects rated Highly Recommended
 - 18 projects rated Recommended
- 41 projects funded for a total of \$130 million
- List of funded projects can be found at:
 - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fiscal-year-2020-low-or-no-emission-low-no-bus-program-projects>

2021 Low-No Competition

- Available Funding: \$180 million

Important Dates	
Notice of Funding Opportunity	February 11, 2021
Applications Due	11:59pm EST April 12, 2021
Project Evaluations	April-May, 2021
Award Announcement	Summer 2021
Pre-Award Authority	Starts on date of project announcement
Available for Obligation	The year of award plus 3 years

Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov by

11:59 PM EST on April 12, 2021.

Late applications may not be accepted.

Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

- Designated recipients, states, local governmental authorities or federally recognized Indian Tribes are eligible.
- Rural areas must submit as part of a consolidated state application.
- Applicants may include a partner in the application:
 - The Low-No competitive selection process satisfies the requirements for a competitive procurement for the partners named in the application.

Cost Sharing or Matching

- Vehicles: Maximum 85% Federal/15% non-Federal match.
- Low-No related equipment or facilities: Maximum 90% Federal/10% non-Federal match.
 - Costs associated with related equipment and facilities must be itemized in application to receive maximum federal share.
- Workforce Development: Maximum 80% Federal/20% non-Federal Match.
- The NOFO lists eligible sources of local match.

Eligible Projects

- Purchase or lease of low or no emission buses
 - Defined as a passenger vehicle used for public transportation services
- Constructing or leasing facilities and related equipment for low or no emission buses
- Rehabilitating or improving existing facilities to accommodate low or no emission buses
- Workforce development/training

Eligible Projects (Cont.)

- Workforce Development:
 - Recipients are permitted to use up to 0.5% of the requested grant award for workforce development activities.
 - An additional 0.5% can be used training at the National Transit Institute.
- Cannot exceed 1% of the requested grant award.

See 49 U.S.C. 5314(b)

Examples Include:

- On-the-job training
- Apprenticeships
- Research for training programs
- Employment outreach programs

Ineligible Projects

Projects not eligible for Low-No funding:

- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance
- Development or deployment of prototype/demonstration vehicles
- Previous project expenses
- Mobility management
- Planning and design studies

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criteria

- Demonstration of Need
 - **How** will the proposed project address an unmet need for capital investment?
 - **What** substantiating evidence can be provided to support these statements?
- Demonstration of Benefits
 - **How** will the proposed project support the program objectives (reduce energy consumption, reduce harmful emissions and reduce direct carbon emissions)?

Evaluation Criteria

- Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization
 - **How** is the proposed project consistent with local and regional long range planning documents?
 - **How** is the proposed project consistent with local government priorities?
- Local Financial Commitment
 - **When** will the funds be fully secured?
 - **What** is the source of the local share?

Evaluation Criteria

- Project Implementation Strategy
 - **How** soon can the proposed project be obligated?
 - **How** will the project be implemented?
- Technical, Legal, & Financial Capacity
 - Does the applicant have the **know-how** to carry out the proposed project?
 - **What** technical, legal, or financial capacity issues exist, if any?

Other Considerations

Nonattainment or Maintenance Areas

- Applicants should identify any nonattainment or maintenance areas in the proposed service area for National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS):
 - Carbon Monoxide
 - Ozone
 - Particulate Matter 2.5
 - Particulate Matter 10
- Work with your MPO if you are unsure of your status
- Additional information can be found here:
<https://www.epa.gov/green-book>

Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants
(Green Book)

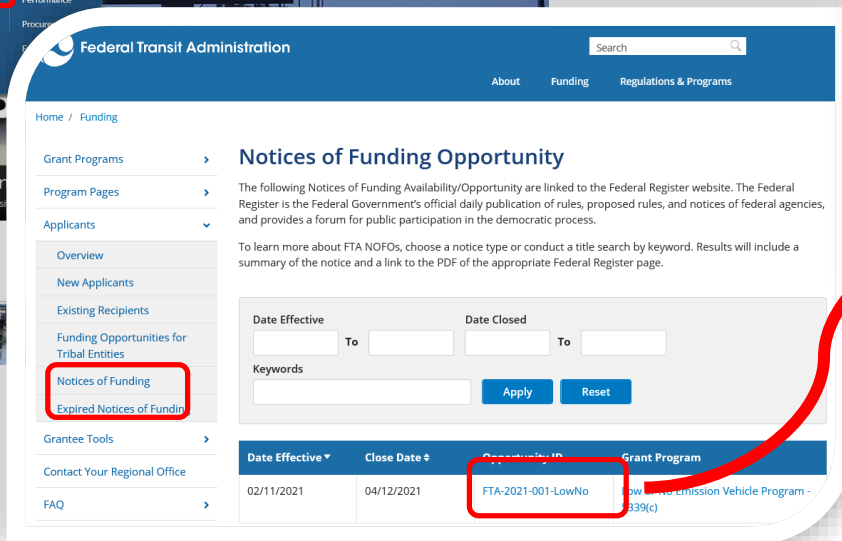
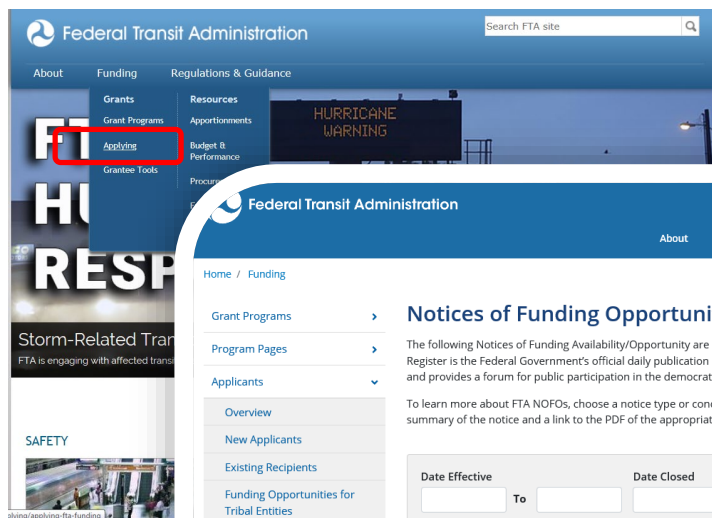


Environmental Justice

- Environmental justice populations include low income and minority population(s) as defined in Executive Order 12898 “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations” and FTA’s Environmental Justice Circular 4703.1.
- Applicants should identify any EJ populations located within the proposed service area and describe anticipated benefits to that population(s).
- The geographic unit should be appropriate to the scope of the project.

Application Instructions

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity



<https://www.transit.dot.gov/>

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA NOFO Page contains:

- Summary Description
- Supplemental Form
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

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>

Low or No Emission Program (Low-No Program) - FY2021 Notice of Funding

Date Posted: February 11, 2021
Date Closed: April 12, 2021
Opportunity ID: FTA-2021-001-LowNo
Grant Program: Low or No Emission Vehicle Program - 5339(c)

Links to Grants.gov

Details: 2/11/2021. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Solicitation of Project Proposals for the Low or No Emission Program (Low-No Program). The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of \$180 million of Fiscal Year 2021 funds for the purchase or lease of low or no emission vehicles as well as related equipment or facilities and workforce development training. Synopses and full announcement are posted on Grants.gov site as opportunity FTA-2021-001-LowNo. Proposals must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov website by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on 4/12/2021.

Summary: The main purpose of the Low-No Program is to support the transition of the nation's transit fleet to the lowest polluting and most energy efficient transit vehicles. The Low-No Program provides funding to state and local governmental authorities for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses, including acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities. Additionally, recipients are permitted to use up to 0.5 percent of their requested grant award for workforce development activities eligible under federal public transportation law (49 U.S.C. 5314(b)) and an additional 0.5 percent for costs associated with training at the National Transit Institute.

Eligible Applicants: An Eligible Applicant is a designated recipient of FTA grants, states, local governmental authorities and Indian Tribes.

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.

Dates: An applicant must submit a proposal electronically by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on 4/12/2021. Any agency

Related Documents

- Low or No Emission Program (Low-No Program) - 2021 NOFO Supplemental Form

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



Download Application

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

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FTA-2021-001-LOWNO
FY 2021 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission Vehicle Program
Department of Transportation
DOT/Federal Transit Administration

Apply Subscribe

SYNOPSIS VERSION HISTORY RELATED DOCUMENTS PACKAGE

Print Synopsis Details ?

General Information

Document Type: Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number: FTA-2021-001-LOWNO
Funding Opportunity Title: FY 2021 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission Vehicle Program
Opportunity Category: Discretionary
Opportunity Category Explanation:
Funding Instrument Type: Grant
Category of Funding Activity: Transportation
Category Explanation:
Expected Number of Awards: 50
CFDA Number(s): 20.526 -- Buses and Bus Facilities Formula, Competitive, and Low or No Emissions Programs
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: Yes

Version: Synopsis 1
Posted Date: Feb 11, 2021
Last Updated Date: Feb 11, 2021
Original Closing Date for Applications: Apr 12, 2021
Current Closing Date for Applications: Apr 12, 2021
Archive Date: May 12, 2021
Estimated Total Program Funding: \$180,000,000
Award Ceiling: \$0
Award Floor: \$0

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-2021-001-LowNo	FTA-2021-001-LOWNO-Full Announcement - FTA-2021-001-LowNo.zip	Feb 22, 2021 09:52:01 AM EST	356.8 KB
Federal Register Notice	2021-FRN.pdf	Feb 22, 2021 09:52:01 AM EST	226.4 KB
Supplemental Form	LowNo-2021-Supplemental-Form.pdf	Feb 11, 2021 03:18:17 PM EST	193.9 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
20.526	FTA-2021-001-LOWNO	FY 2021 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission Vehicle Program	PKG00265400	02/11/2021	04/12/2021	Preview Apply

Application Package

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
20.526	FTA-2021-001-LOWNO	FY 2021 Competitive Funding Opportunity: Low or No Emission Vehicle Program	PKG00265400	02/11/2021	04/12/2021	Preview Apply

Opportunity Package Details:

Agency Contact Information: Amy Volz
FTA Office of Program Management
202-366-7484
amy.volz@dot.gov.

Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS:

[Download Instructions](#)

Mandatory Forms (Click to Preview)	Optional Forms (Click to Preview)
» SF424 Mandatory Form [V2.0] » Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1] » Attachments [V1.2]	

Close

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SF-424 - MANDATORY

1.A. Type of Submission: ☒ Application ☐ Renewal ☐ Revision ☐ Update

1.B. Frequency: ☒ Annual ☐ Quarterly ☐ Other

1.C. Version: ☒ Date Received ☐ STATE USE ONLY

2. Application Identifier: 3. Date Received by State:

4. Federal Entity Identifier: 5. State Application Identifier:

6. Federal Award Identifier:

7. Application Number/Version:

8. Legal Name:

9. Employee/Transportation Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 10. Organizational DUNS:

11. Address:

12. City: 13. County / Parish:

14. State: 15. Province:

16. Country: 17. Postal Code:

18. Organizational Unit:

ATTACHMENTS FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the form to upload the various files that make up your grant application. Please consult with the appropriate Agency Customer for more information about each section of the form and what you should be in the document format and content as specified in the Guidelines.

Important: Please attach your files in the proper sequence. Use the appropriate Agency Customer for details.

1) Project Attachment 1: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

2) Project Attachment 2: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

3) Project Attachment 3: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

4) Project Attachment 4: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

5) Project Attachment 5: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

6) Project Attachment 6: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

7) Project Attachment 7: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

8) Project Attachment 8: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

9) Project Attachment 9: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

10) Project Attachment 10: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

11) Project Attachment 11: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

12) Project Attachment 12: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

13) Project Attachment 13: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

14) Project Attachment 14: [Add Attachment](#) [Cancel Attachment](#) [View Attachment](#)

Application Package

Reset Form FY 2021 Low or No Emission Bus Program (5339(c)) Validate Form

Applicant and Proposal Profile

Is this a resubmission due to an invalid/error message from FTA? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Section I. Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name:

FTA Recipient ID Number:

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

Applicant Eligibility: ☐ Direct or Designated Recipient
☐ State
☐ Local Governmental Authority
☐ A Federally-Recognized Indian Tribe

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

Description of services provided and areas served:

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

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

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

Grants.gov – Applicants

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FOR APPLICANTS

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Applicant FAQs
If you have questions, you are not alone. Here are the answers to frequently asked questions.
[Applicant FAQs »](#)

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GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support
1-800-518-4726
support@grants.gov

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

Applicant – Organization Registration



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FOR APPLICANTS

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Are you or your organization eligible for a grant? Learn how to check your eligibility here.
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To apply, you need to register an account with Grants.gov. Begin registering today.
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If you have questions, you are not alone. Here are the answers to frequently asked questions.
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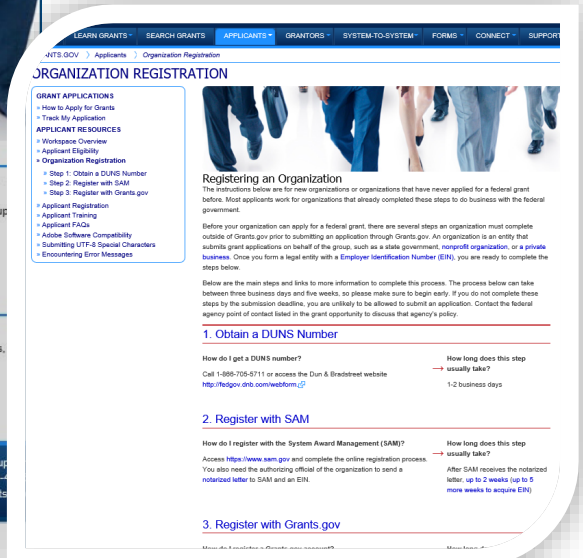
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- » How to Apply for Grants
- » Track My Application

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- » Workspace Overview
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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.

Before 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 1-866-705-8711 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 notarized letter to SAM and an EIN.

How long does this step usually take?
After SAM receives the notarized 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

GRANTS.GOV > Applicants > Workspace Overview

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](#)

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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

[LEARN MORE >](#)

Intermediate

+ Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users

+ Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submits a Workspace application and oversees for

[LEARN MORE >](#)

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 organization.

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WORKSPACE ROLES

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APPLICANT RESOURCES

» [Workspace Overview](#)

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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.



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.

Grants.Gov: Items to Note

- Applicants should register on www.grants.gov at least 2-4 weeks prior to applying.
- For help with Grants.gov issues contact:
GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support
1-800-518-4726
support@grants.gov

Application Package

- Application must include:
 - SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
 - Low-No Supplemental Form
 - Lobbying Form
 - Supporting Documentation
- Application package found at: www.grants.gov
 - Opportunity ID: FTA-2021-001-LowNo
 - Search for “Low or No Emission” or “Low-No”

Important Links

Notice of Funding Opportunity:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-program-low-no-program-fy2021-notice-funding>

Application Information: <https://www.grants.gov/> (search for “Low-No”)

Supplemental Form:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/applying/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-program-low-no-program-2021-nofo-supplemental-form>

Low-No Webpage: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/lowno>

Reminder: Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov by

11:59 PM EST on April 12, 2021
(late applications may not be accepted)

Questions?

Amy Volz

Federal Transit Administration

Phone: 202-366-7484

Email: amy.volz@dot.gov



Administrat