

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Route Planning Restoration Program Discretionary Grant October 06, 2021

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Office of Planning and Environment TPE-10 Federal Transit Administration



U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration The contents of this webinar do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This webinar is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and subgrantees should refer to FTA's statutes and regulations for applicable requirements of the Route Planning Restoration Program.

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Overview:

Appropriated \$25M for planning to restore transit routes

Transit routes to be restored must:

- Increase ridership and reduce travel times, while maintaining or expanding the total level of vehicle revenue miles, or
- Make service adjustments to increase the quality or frequency of service provided to "low-income riders and disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities"

American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

Overview, Cont.:

Low-income riders

Reference U.S.C 5302(11) "low-income individual"

Disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities"

 Reference FTA Circular C4702.1B – Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for FTA Recipients "minority population" and "low-income population"

No local match requirement

Minimum Federal Share 100 Percent

Eligibility

Eligible Recipients:

- Section 5307 recipient
- Reduced transit service on or after January 20, 2020, due to COVID-19

Eligible Activities:

- FTA Circular 8100-1D Program Guidance for Metropolitan and State Planning and Research Program Grants
- FTA Circular 9030.1E Urbanized Area Formula Program: Guidance and Application Instructions

Eligibility, Cont.

Sample Eligible Activities

Reference FTA Circulars 8100-1D and FTA Circular 9030.1E

- Data collection
- Estimation and travel forecasting
- Transit operational strategies
- Outreach and public engagement
- Identifying opportunities for multimodal connectivity, accessibility and increased access to transit hubs

Eligibility, Cont.

Ineligible Activities:

- Capital, operating, and maintenance activities;
- Route planning specifically related to transitioning public transportation service provided as of the date of receipt of funds to a transportation network company or other third-party contract provider, unless the existing provider of public transportation service is a third-party contract provider;
- Route planning that is not focused on service areas where services have been reduced due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Evaluation Criteria

Demonstrated Need

Level of Service (pre-pandemic vs. current)

Demonstrated Benefits

Impacts on transit ridership, EJ populations etc.

Project Implementation Strategy

Strength of the work plan, project schedule and process

Technical, Legal and Financial Capacity

Ability to undertake the project

Administration's Priorities

Advancing Equity and Environmental Justice

- Executive Order 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
- Executive Order 13990: Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle Climate Crisis

Addressing Climate Change

• Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

Grant Conditions

Maximum Award up to \$1M

FTA encourages applicants to submit a scalable project amount

No Local Match Requirement

 FTA will not review more favorably applications that propose non-Federal funding contributions (cash, in-kind, toll revenue credits, advertising concessions etc.)

Pre-award Authority

 Pre-award authority guidance to be made available and described with notice of award selections

Federal Planning Requirements

Planning requirements apply - Reference 23 CFR Part 450



Application and Submission

- Apply through grants.gov (FTA-2021-007-TPE)
- SF 424 Mandatory/Supplemental Forms with attachments
- Cumulative 15-page limit for Application and all attachments
- Application and Proposal Profile form <u>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=Route%20Planning%20Restoration</u>
- Confirmed eligibility and legal, technical, and financial capacity

Common Questions

1. Who can apply for Route Planning Restoration Program funds?

Applicants must be recipients eligible under 49 U.S.C. 5307 as of the date the NOFO is published.

2. What is the local match requirement for this program?

There is no local match requirement as the federal share is 100%. FTA will not review favorably and applicant who proposes a local match.



3. What is the maximum amount of funding for which an applicant may apply? Maximum grant awards maybe up to 1M. FTA reserves the right to a scaled amount.

4. How will projects be selected for Route Planning Restoration Program funding?

FTA recommends applicants to reference Section E of the NOFO (Application Review Information) for evaluation criteria.



5. Does it matter when my transit service was reduced due to COVID-19?

In order to apply for funding eligible applicants' must have had transit service reduced on or after January 20, 2020, due to COVID-19.

6. Which routes can I use Route Planning Restoration Program funds on?

Route Planning Restoration Program funds can be used on transit routes designed to— (i) increase ridership and reduce travel times, while maintaining or expanding the total level of vehicle revenue miles of service provided in the planning period; or (ii) make service adjustments to increase the quality or frequency of service provided to lowincome riders and disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities.



7. How does the FTA define a "low-income rider"?

FTA is recommending applicants to utilize the definition of "low-income individual" in 49 U.S.C. 5302(11) when considering the service provided to "low-income riders".

8. How does the FTA define a "disadvantaged neighborhood" or "community"?

FTA is recommending applicants to utilize the definition of "minority population" and "low-income population" found in FTA Circular C4702.1B- Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients when considering the service provided to "disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities".



9. What activities can I use Route Planning Restoration Program funds for?

Applicants should reference FTA Circular C8100.1D - Program Guidance for Metropolitan Planning and State Planning and Research Program Grants, and FTA Circular 9030.1E – Urbanized Area Formula Program: Program Guidance and Application Instructions for a detailed discussion of eligible activities.

10. Can I apply for Route Planning Restoration Program funds if my service is contracted through a 3rd party?

Funds appropriated under this program cannot be used to transition public transportation service as of the date of receipt of funds to a transportation network company or other third-party contract provider, unless the existing provider of public transportation service is a third-party contract provider.



11. What is meant by "planning period," i.e., when does the "planning period" start and end?

The "Planning period" is the length of time the applicant has determined that it will take to implement their proposed eligible planning activities.

12. Does the FTA's "Full and Open" Competition procurement requirements apply to the Route Planning Restoration Program?

All Third Party Contracting and procurement rules applies to this program. Partnering would not satisfy FTA's full and open competition requirement if awarded.

Reference FTA Circular C4220.1F – Third Party Contracting Guidance



13. Can Route Planning Restoration Program Funds be used to plan new routes?

Planning for new routes are eligible when the planning activity is related to restoring service on an existing route that was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic on or after January 20, 2020. New route planning must increase ridership and reduce travel times, maintain or expand the total level of vehicle revenue miles or make service adjustments to increase the quality or frequency of service provided to "low-income riders and disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities"

14. Is my project eligible if my transit service was reduced due to COVID-19 and has already been restored?

Restored routes are eligible as long as proposed projects are designed to— (i) increase ridership and reduce travel times, while maintaining or expanding the total level of vehicle revenue miles of service provided in the planning period; or (ii) make service adjustments to increase the quality or frequency of service provided to low-income riders and disadvantaged neighborhoods or communities.



Contact Information

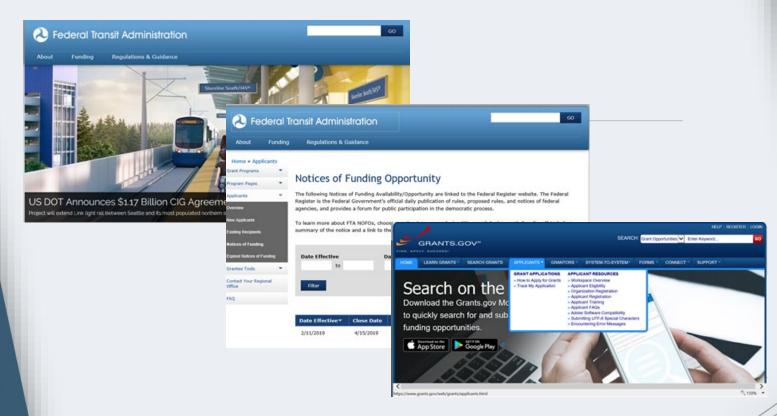
For questions or additional information:

Colby McFarland Email: <u>Colby.McFarland@dot.gov</u> Phone: 202-366-1648





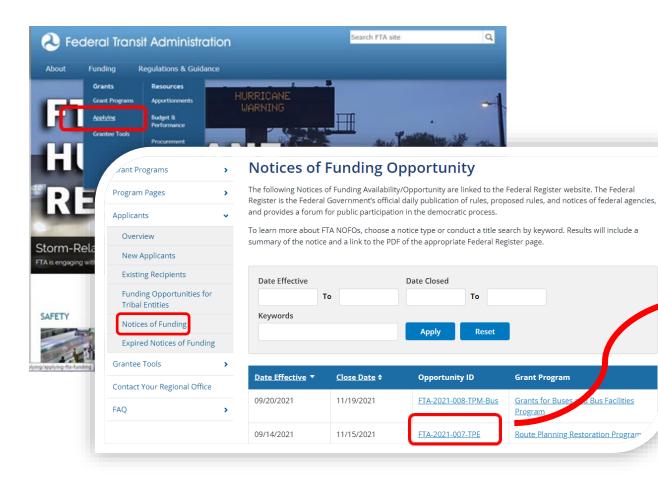
Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov





U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Transit Administration

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity



Federal Transit Administration		S	earch C			
		About	Funding	Regulations & Programs		
Grant Programs	>	Fiscal Year 2021 Notice of Funding Opportunity for the				
Program Pages	>	Route Planning Restoration Program				
Applicants	>	Date Posted: September 14, 2021 Date Closed: November 15, 2021				
Grantee Tools	>	Opportunity ID: FTA-2021-007-TPE				
Contact Your Regional Offic	e	Grant Program: Route Planning Restoration Program				
FAQ	>	Opportunity Announcement PDF: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-09-14/pdf/2021-19735.p	<u>df</u>			
elated Links		Opportunity Announcement TXT: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/ER-2021-09-14/html/2021-19735.	<u>htm</u>			
Route Planning Restora Program Press Release: U.S. Department of Transpo		Details: 9/14/2021. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Solicitation (ARP) Act Route Planning Restoration Program. The Federal Transit Adm \$25,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2021 American Rescue Plan Act for the Route full announcement are posted on Grants.gov site as opportunity FTA-2C electronically through Grants.gov website by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on	ninistration (FTA Planning Restor 021-007-TPE, Pr	۹) announces the availability o pration Program. Synopses an		
Announces \$25 Million Funding		Summary: American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Route Planning Restoration				

FTA website: Funding Opportunity Notices:

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

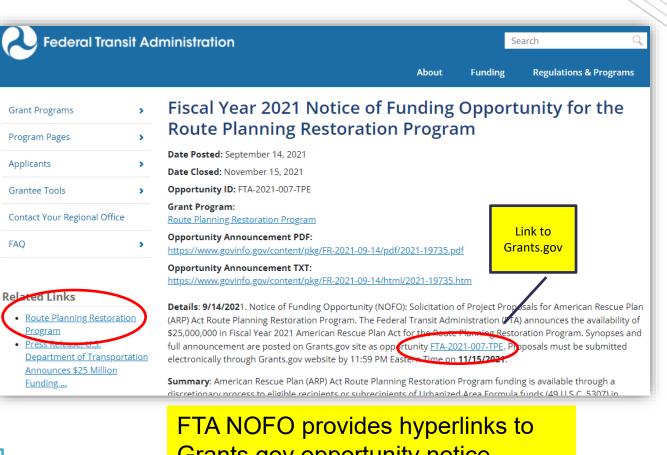
FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA NOFO Page contains:

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

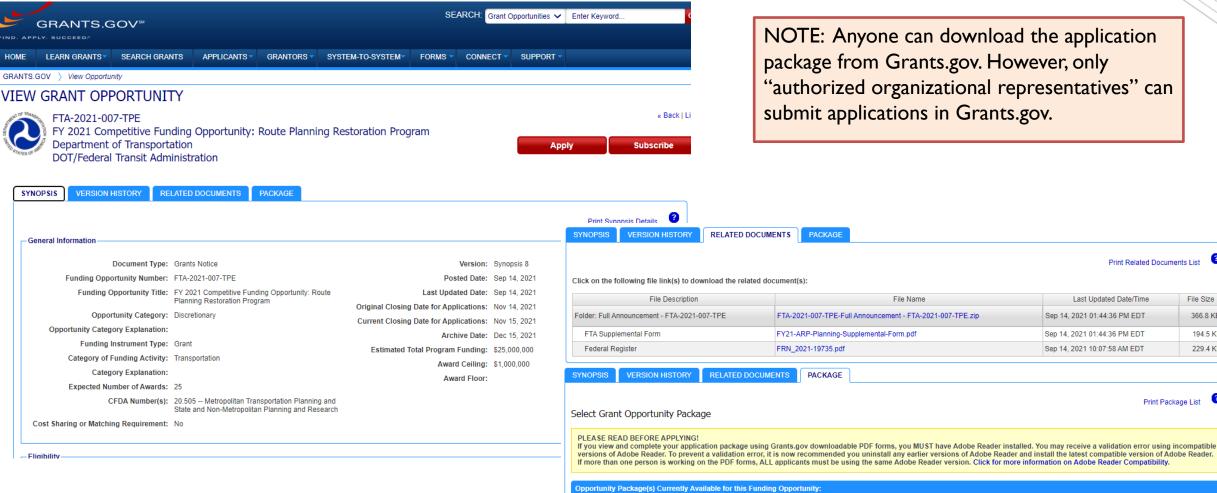
Link and Instructions for attaching the supplemental form to the SF-424: All applicants must complete the attached supplemental form and attach it to their submission in GRANTS.GOV.

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



Grants.gov opportunity notice, related documents, and application package.

Download Application



HOME

Print Related Documents List

File Size

366.8 KB

194.5 KB

229.4 KB

Print Package List

Last Updated Date/Time

Application Package

SYNOPSIS 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: Competition ID Competition Title Closing Date CFDA Opportunity Package ID Opening Date Actions FY 2021 Competitive Funding 20.505 FTA-2021-007-TPE Opportunity: Route Planning PKG00268932 09/14/2021 11/15/2021 Preview | Apply Restoration Program Preview Opportunity Package Details 2 - Opportunity Package Details: Agency Contact Information: Colby McFarland Office of Planning and Environment 202-366-1648. Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants PACKAGE FORMS: Download Instructions Mandatory Forms Optional Forms (Click to Preview) (Click to Preview) » SF424 Mandatory Form [V3.0] » Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1] » Attachments [V1.2] Close

1.a. Type of Submission: Application	1.b. Frequency:	1.d. Version: Initial Resubmission Revision Update 2. Date Received: STATE USE ONLY:
Funding Request Other Other (specify):	Other Other	Applicant Identifier: 5. Date Received by State: 4a. Federal Entity Identifier: 6. State Application Identifier
1.c. Consolidated Application Yes No X Expl	/Plan/Funding Request? anation	4b. Federal Award Identifier:
7. APPLICANT INFORMATION a. Legal Name:	:	
b. Employer/Taxpayer Identifi	cation Number (EIN/TIN):	c. Organizational DUNS:
b. Employer/Taxpayer Identifi	cation Number (EIN/TIN):	c. Organizational DUNS:
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d. Address:	cation Number (EIN/TIN):	
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OMB Number: 4040-0002

	Please fill out the following form.	xistir			
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	ATTACHMENTS FORM				
	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 memeter that any files you attach must be in the document format and maneed as specified in the proper sequence. See the appropriate Agency Guidelines for details. Important: Please attach Attachment 1 Index Attachment 2 Details Attachment 2 Outline Attachment 3 Outline Attachment 3 Outline Attachment 3 Outline Attachment 4 Outline Attachment 3 Outline Attachment 3 <t< th=""><th></th></t<>				
	and named as specified in the Guidelines.	ent ent ent ent ent ent ent ent			
	Important: Please attach your files in the proper sequence. See the appropriate Agency Guidelines for details.				
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	3) Please attach Attachment 3 Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment				
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FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Application Package

Validate Form

FY 2021 Grants under the Route Planning Restoration Program

Applicant and Proposal Profile

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

Section I. Applicant Information				
Organization Legal Name:				
FTA Recipient ID Number:				
Organization Chief Executive Officer: (Name and Direct Phone Number) Project Location:	Large Urban (200 000 or greater)			
Project Location:	Large Urban (200,000 or greater) Small Urban (199,999 to 50,000)			
Specify the County(s) and State where the project is	i located:			

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.

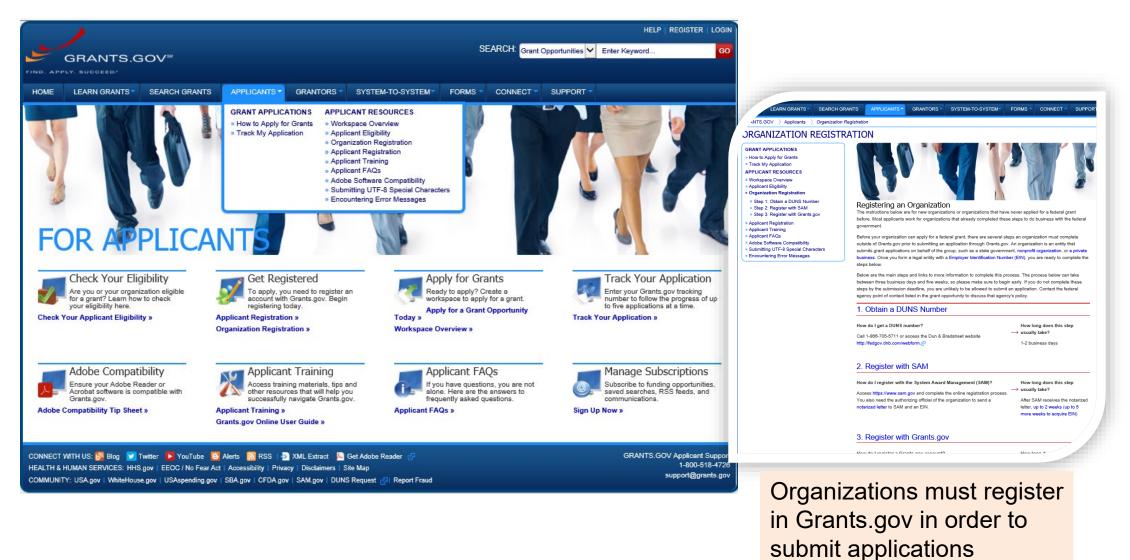
	Please fill out the following form.						
Ľ	Authorized for Local Reproduction	Standard Form 424 Mandatory (Effective 08/2005) Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102	-				
		Prescribed by Owib Circular APT02					
\$							
阗	ATTACHMENTS FORM						
	Instructions: On this form, you will attach the various files 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	1				
	8) Please attach Attachment 8	Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment	J				
	9) Please attach Attachment 9	Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment					

Grants.gov – Applicants



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

Applicant – Organization Registration



FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Workspace in Grants.gov

GRANTS.GOV) Applicants) Workspace Overview

WORKSPACE OVERVIEW

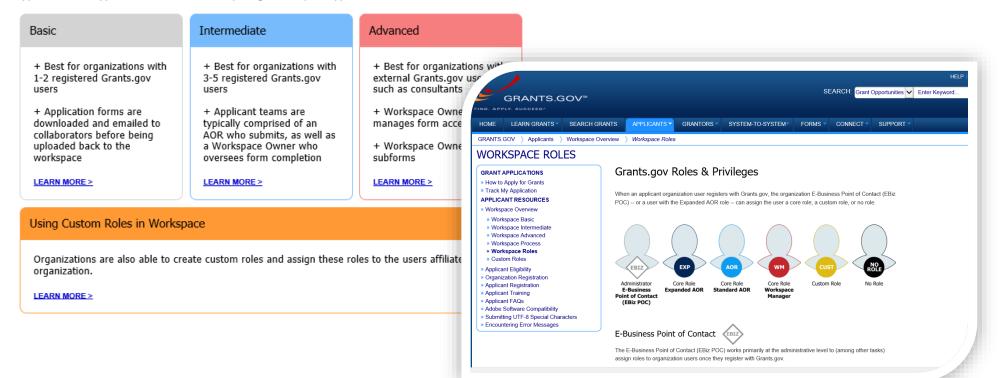
GRANT APPLICATIONS

- » 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
- Applicant Registration
- » Applicant Training
- » Applicant FAQs
- Adobe Software Compatibility
- Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters
- » 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:



Web Addresses

FTA Funding Opportunities:

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

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



TRANSIT.DOT.GOV

FTA FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION