# Passenger Ferry and Ferry Service for Rural Communities Competitive Programs Webinar May 31, 2023





Sarah Clements and Vanessa Williams
Office of Program Management
Federal Transit Administration



U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

# **Agenda**

- Program Overview
- Eligibility Information
- Evaluation Criteria
- Additional Selection Considerations
- Application Requirements & Documents
- Grants.Gov
- Questions

# Statutory Authority Competitive Program Descriptions

#### Passenger Ferry Grant Program (Passenger Ferry Program): 49 U.S.C. 5307(h)

• Provides funding for capital projects to purchase, replace, or rehabilitate passenger ferries, terminals, and related facilities and equipment.

#### Ferry Service for Rural Communities Program (Rural Ferry Program): IIJA § 71103

 Provides funding for capital, operating and planning assistance for ferry service that operated a regular schedule at any time during the five-year period ending March 1, 2020.

### **Administration Program Priorities**

The Ferry Programs support DOT and FTA's priorities and objectives through investments that

- (1) renew our transit systems;
- (2) reduce greenhouse gas emissions from public transportation;
- (3) advance racial equity;
- (4) maintain and create good-paying, jobs with a free and fair choice to join a union; and
- (5) connect communities.

### **FY 2022 Ferry Competition - Summary**

FTA received 47 eligible applications from 16 States and 1 Territory with a total Federal request of \$602 million.

- Passenger Ferry: 25 projects federal amount requested \$152 million
- Low-No Ferry: 14 projects federal amount requested \$191 million
- Rural Ferry: 8 projects federal amount requested \$259 million

Total funding awarded: \$384.4 million to 23 projects:

- Passenger Ferry: \$34.4 million to 8 projects in 6 States and the U.S. Virgin Islands
- ► Low-No Ferry: \$97.6 million (FY22 and \*FY23) to 7 projects in 7 States
- Rural Ferry: \$252.4 million (FY22 and \*FY23(partial)) to 8 projects in 4 States
   \*FY23 funding became available on October 1st

List of funded projects on the FTA website: <a href="https://www.transit.dot.gov/grants/fta-ferry-programs">https://www.transit.dot.gov/grants/fta-ferry-programs</a>

## **FY 2023 Ferry Competition**

Available Funding: \$220.2 million

- Passenger Ferry Grant Program: \$50.1 million (\$5 million for low or zeroemission ferries).
- Ferry Service for Rural Communities: \$170 million

Important Dates		
Notice of Funding Opportunity	May 18, 2023	
Applications Due	11:59pm ET July 17, 2023	
Project Evaluations	late Summer 2023	
Award Announcement	late Fall 2023	
Pre-Award Authority	Starts on date of project announcement	
Available for Obligation	The year of award plus 5 years – September 30, 2028	

# **Eligibility Information**

## Passenger Ferry Program (Section 5307(h))

#### **Eligible Applicants (Section C.1):**

- Designated/Direct Recipients of Section 5307 Funding
- States (including Territories of the United States)
- Federally-recognized Tribes

#### **Eligible Projects (Section C.3A)**

- Capital projects to purchase, construction, replacement, or rehabilitation of passenger ferries, terminals, related infrastructure, and related equipment (including electric or low-emitting ferry vessels and related infrastructure).
- Projects must support public transportation ferry systems serving an urbanized area.
- Vehicle ferries are eligible if they also accommodate walk-on passengers.
- Workforce development/training.



# Passenger Ferry Program (Section 5307(h))

#### Workforce Development (<u>Passenger Ferry Program</u> only):

- 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 for training at the National Transit Institute.
- NEW: Supportive services, such as childcare and transportation assistance for participants, may be an eligible use of program funds.
- FAQ's on new supportive services posted at: <a href="https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/federal-transit-administration-faqs-supportive-services">https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/federal-transit-administration-faqs-supportive-services</a>.

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

#### Examples Include:

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

# Passenger Ferry Program (Section 5307(h))

Projects not eligible for **Passenger Ferry Program** funding:

- Planning
- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance

## Rural Ferry Program (IIJA Section 71103)

#### **Eligible Applicants (Section C.1):**

• States and territories in which eligible service is operated.

#### What is eligible service?

- For the \$152.5 million under the BIL: passenger ferry service that operated a regular schedule at any time between March 1, 2015, and March 1, 2020, and operated at least one segment between two rural areas located more than 50 sailing (nautical) miles apart.
- For the \$17.5 million appropriated in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023: in addition to the service described above, any passenger ferry service that operated a regular schedule at any time between March 1, 2015 and March 1, 2020, and operated at least one segment more than 20 sailing (nautical) miles between two rural areas.

# Rural Ferry Program (IIJA Section 71103)

#### **Eligible Projects (Section C.3B):**

- Capital projects for the purchase, construction, replacement, or rehabilitation of passenger ferries, terminals, related infrastructure, and related equipment (including electric or low-emitting ferry vessels and related infrastructure).
- Operating or planning
- Only net operating expenses are eligible for assistance. Net operating expenses are those expenses that remain after the provider subtracts operating revenues from eligible operating expenses.
- States may further define what constitutes operating revenues, but, at a minimum, operating revenues must include farebox revenues and other fees generated directly by the ferry service such as vehicle fares, cargo fees, cabin fees etc.

# **Cost Sharing or Matching (Section C.2)**

- Vehicles compliant with the Clean Air Act (CAA) or Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Maximum 85% Federal
- Equipment or facilities that are compliant with the Clean Air Act (CAA) or Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Maximum 90% Federal
  - Costs associated with related equipment and facilities must be itemized in application to receive maximum federal share.
- All other projects, including workforce development/NTI training: Maximum 80% Federal

# Cost Sharing or Matching (Section C.2) – Continued

- Rural Ferry operating projects: Federal share may be up to 100%, but State/locality must continue to provide at least 75 percent of the average annual amount it provided during 2017-2019.
- Example: If a State/locality provided an average of \$1 million in operating assistance annually from 2017-2019, an applicant must provide at least \$750,000 in State/local operating assistance for the period supported by the Rural Ferry Program grant.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

## **Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)**

#### 1. <u>Demonstration of Need</u>

- What is the age, condition, and performance of assets to be replaced or rehabilitated?
- What are the capacity constraints and/or demand for new or expanded service?
- For operating projects under the Rural Ferry Program, how will additional operating resources improve service/meet additional service demands?

#### 2. <u>Demonstration of Benefits</u>

- How will the proposed project improve state of good repair, safety, ridership and reliability of service?
- Does the proposed project connect to other modes? Support for walk-on passengers?
- For low or zero-emission ferries projects, describe how your proposed project will reduce energy consumption?

## **Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)**

#### 3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization

- How is the proposed project consistent with the investment priorities in the applicant's Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan?
- How is the proposed project consistent with local and regional planning documents?
- How is the proposed project consistent with local government priorities?
- Are there letters of support from local stakeholders?

#### 4. Local Financial Commitment

- How/when will the local funds be fully secured?
- What is the source of the local share, is it available and set aside for the project?

## **Evaluation Criteria (Section E.1)**

#### 5. Project Implementation Strategy

- How soon can the proposed project be obligated (within 12 months)?
- How will the project be implemented?

#### 6. <u>Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity</u>

- Does the applicant have the know-how to carry out the proposed project?
- What technical, legal, or financial capacity issues exist, if any?

# Walk-on Passenger Information (Section E.1)

- Definition: Passengers who board the vessel unaccompanied by any motor vehicle in which they may have arrived at the ferry terminal, and which remains behind after ferry departure.
- For replacement or rehabilitation projects, provide the number of riders that are walk-on compared to passengers using the service to transport automobiles.
- For expansion projects, provide the estimated number of riders that are walk-on compared to passengers using the service to transport automobiles.

### **Review and Selection Process**

#### FTA also may consider:

- Geographic diversity
- Diversity in transit system size
- Walk-on vs. vehicle boardings
- Receipt of other competitive funding allocations
- Low or zero-emission ferry projects

FTA will give priority consideration to applications that:

- Address Climate Change and Sustainability
- Support the Creation of Good-Paying Jobs
- Support the Justice 40 Initiative

#### **Climate Change and Sustainability**

The application should describe how the project will create community benefits relating to the environment, such as:

- incorporating low or no emission technology
- addressing greenhouse gas emissions
- addressing impacts of climate change on disadvantaged communities

### **Creation of Good-Paying Jobs**

For facility projects, the application should describe how the project supports workforce development, job quality, and wealth creation. Include info on:

- The use of registered apprenticeship positions on the project
- Any partnerships with workforce development programs with supportive services to help train, place, and retain underrepresented communities in jobs and registered apprenticeships on the project.
- For projects over \$35M: the use of a Project Labor/ Community Workforce
   Agreement and participation in the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract
   Compliance Programs (OFCCP) Mega Construction Project Program if selected by
   DOL.

#### **Justice 40 Initiative**

The application should describe how the project supports the Justice 40 Initiative.

- Applicants should indicate if the project is located in a Historically Disadvantaged Community (Tribal lands, U.S. territories/possessions or certain Census tracts).
   Applicants can use optional online mapping tools as described in NOFO. Or applicants can provide demographic/ridership data that shows the percentage of applicant's ridership that meets the criteria for disadvantaged per Executive Order 14008.
- If project is not in a tribal area or U.S. territory/possession, the applicant should describe strategies used in the planning process to consider the needs of those historically disadvantaged and underserved by existing transportation system.

# Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Email <u>Scott.Pichon@dot.gov</u> for questions

# DBE Requirements for Ferry Procurements – Recipients (49 CFR 26.49)

- Generally, ferries procured by FTA recipients are considered "transit vehicles"
- These procurements are excluded from the triennial goal methodology
- Two options for accepting bids:
  - Recipients may accept bids from eligible transit vehicle manufacturers (TVMs); or
  - Recipients may set a project goal (with FTA approval)
- Reporting
  - All transit vehicle procurements are reported using the Transit Vehicle Award Report
  - If a project goal is used, recipient must submit separate Uniform Reports

# DBE Requirements for Ferry Procurements – TVMs (49 CFR 26.49)

- Ferry manufacturers that meet the definition of "transit vehicle manufacturer" must operate a DBE program to be eligible to bid, which includes, but is not limited to:
  - Establishing and submitting an annual DBE goal
  - Submitting Uniform Reports on contracting activities
- Ferry manufacturers that do not meet the TVM definition are treated similar to prime contractors on a construction contract
  - Failure to comply with DBE contractual provisions qualifies as material breach (but not a violation of 49 CFR part 26)
  - If there are contract goals, must meet goal or demonstrate good faith efforts

# Buy America Email Jason.Luebbers@dot.gov for questions

# Rolling Stock "Waiver" 49 U.S.C. § 5323(j)(2)(C)

- (C) when procuring rolling stock [...] under this chapter--
- (i) the cost of components and subcomponents produced in the United States [...] for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter, is more than 70 percent of the cost of all components of the rolling stock; and
  - (ii) final assembly of the rolling stock has occurred in the United States.

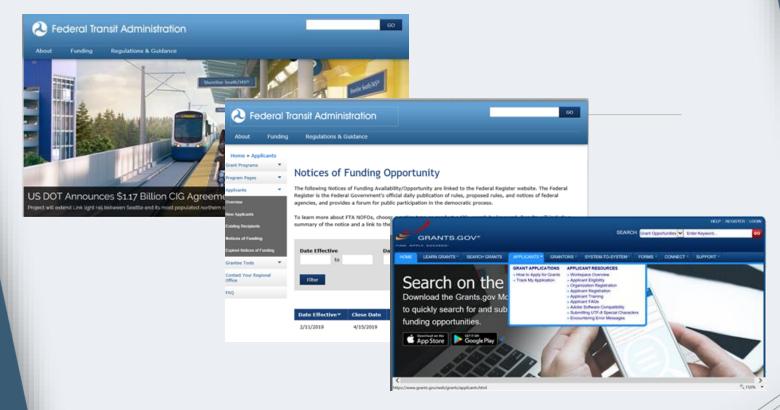
# Rolling Stock audit requirements 49 U.S.C. § 5323(m)

- The <u>Secretary</u> shall prescribe <u>regulations</u> requiring a preaward and postdelivery review of a grant under this chapter to buy rolling stock to ensure compliance with Government motor vehicle safety requirements, subsection (j) of this section, and bid specifications requirements of grant <u>recipients</u> under this chapter. Under this subsection, independent inspections and review are required, and a manufacturer certification is not sufficient.
- See 49 CFR 663 for prescribed regulations

# **Grants.Gov Johnita Glover**



# Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov

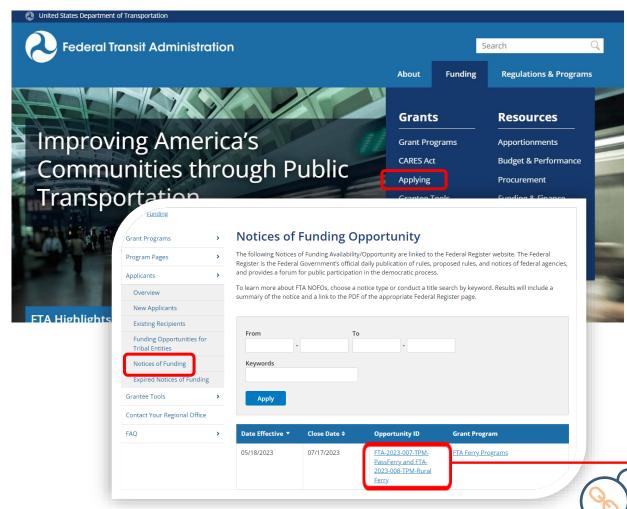


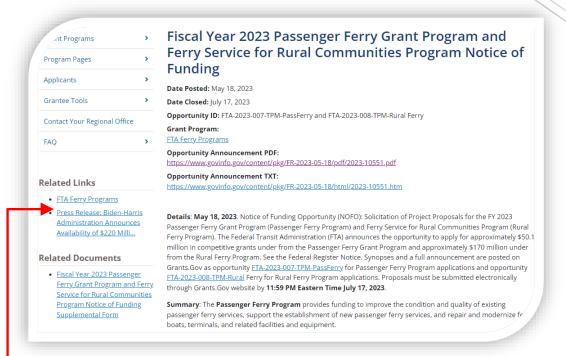


U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Transit Administration

# **FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity**





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

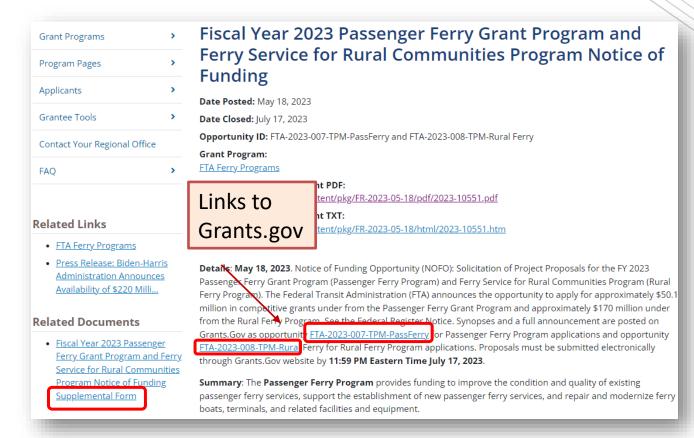
https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices



## **FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity**

#### **FTA NOFO Page contains:**

- Summary Description
  - Application requirements
  - Eligibility
- Supplemental Form
  - Applicants should complete and attach this to their submission
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

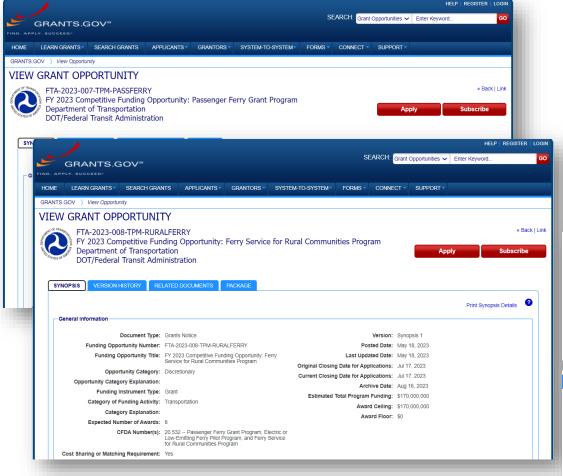




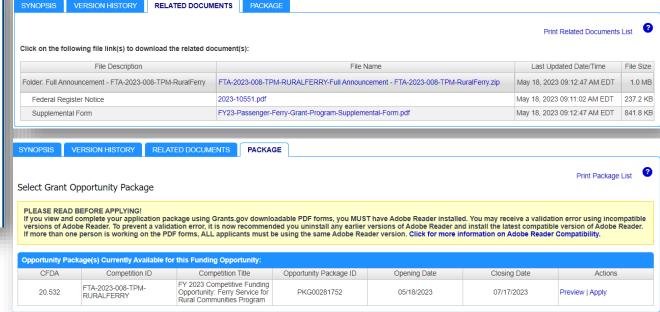
https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices

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

## **Download Application**

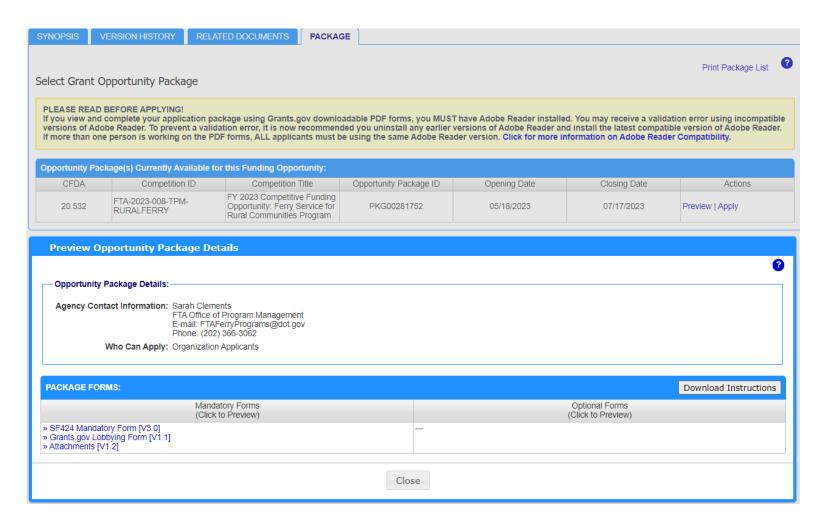


NOTE: Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only "authorized organizational representatives" can submit applications in Grants.gov.



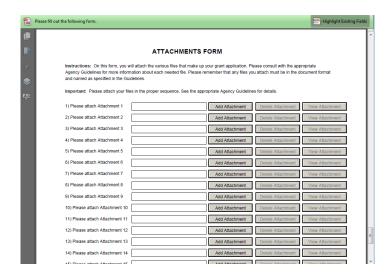


# **Application Package**



OMB Number: 4040-0002

		Expiration Date: 01/31/2019	
APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SF-424 - MANDATORY			
1.a. Type of Submission:  Application Plan Funding Request Other (specify):	1.b. Frequency:  Annual  Quarterly  Other  Other (specify):	1.d. Version: Resubmission Revision Update 2. Date Received: STATE USE ONLY: 3. Applicant Identifier: 5. Date Received by State: 4a. Federal Entity Identifier: 6. State Application Identifier:	
1.c. Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request?  Yes No Explanation		4b. Federal Award Identifier:	
7. APPLICANT INFORMATION:	:		
a. Legal Name:			
b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):		c. Organizational DUNS:	
d. Address:			
Street1:		Street2:	
City:		County / Parish:	
State:		Province:	
Country:		Zip / Postal Code:	
USA: UNITED STATES			
e. Organizational Unit:	·		
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

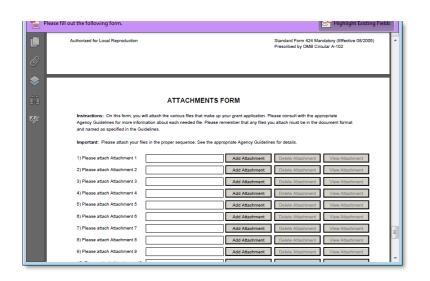


## **Application Package**



The "Attachment Form" shown below is included in the SF-424 Grant Application Package in Grants.gov.

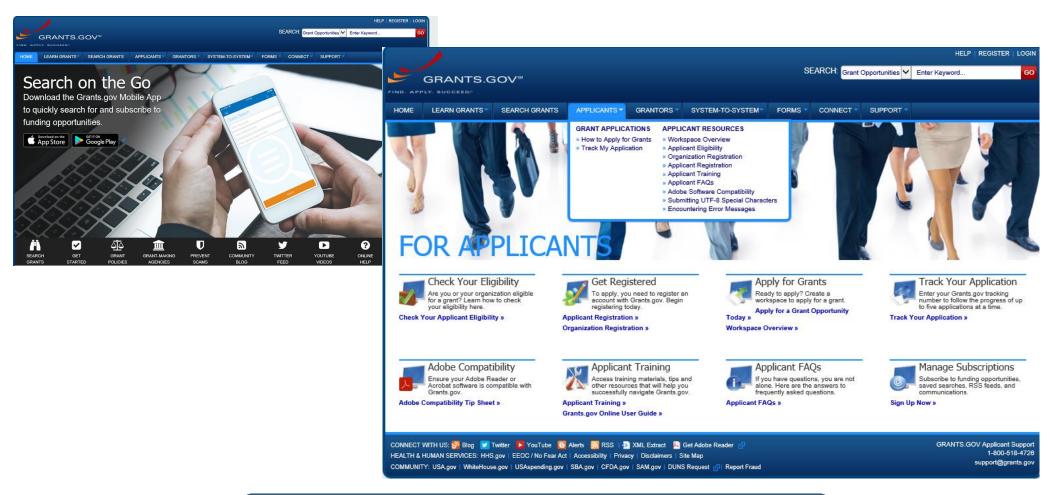
Please attach the **FTA Supplemental Form** to the **Attachment Form** shown below when submitting in Grants.gov.



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



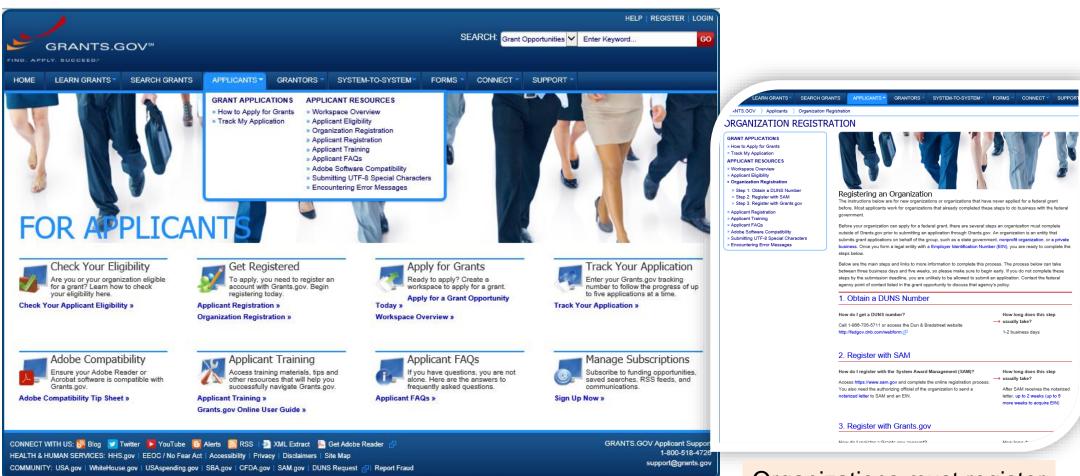
## **Applications on Grants.gov**





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

# **Applicant – Organization Registration**



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
- 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:

#### Intermediate

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

Using Custom Roles in Workspace

LEARN MORE >

Basic

- + Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov
- + Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submits, as well as a Workspace Owner who oversees form completion

LEARN MORE >

Organizations are also able to create custom roles and assign these roles to the users affiliate

#### Advanced

- + Best for organizations with external Grants.gov use such as consultants
- + Workspace Owne manages form acce
- + Workspace Owne subforms

LEARN MORE >

#### WORKSPACE ROLES Grants.gov Roles & Privileges

#### **GRANT APPLICATIONS** How to Apply for Grants

GRANTS.GOV<sup>™</sup>

HOME LEARN GRANTS▼ SEARCH GRANTS

GRANTS.GOV ) Applicants ) Workspace Overview

- 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

#### POC) -- or a user with the Expanded AOR role -- can assign the user a core role, a custom role, or no role Administrator Core Role Core Role Core Role Custom Role Expanded AOR Standard AOR

When an applicant organization user registers with Grants.gov, the organization E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz

GRANTORS▼ SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM▼ FORMS▼ CONNECT▼ SUPPORT▼

E-Business Point of Contact

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.

#### organization. LEARN MORE >



SEARCH: Grant Opportunities V Enter Keyword...

#### 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

**GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support** 1-800-518-4726

support@grants.gov

# Questions Email: FTAFerryPrograms@dot.gov



TRANSIT.DOT.GOV