

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Tribal Transit Program- Discretionary Competition April 18, 2016

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FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Agenda

- **History of TTP**
- **Program Purpose**
- **Eligible Applicants**
- **Eligible Projects**
- **Cost Sharing and Matching**
- **Evaluation Criteria**
- **Proposal Content/Supplemental Form**



Federal Register Notice

- FTA published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on March 14, 2016
- **Applications are due May 13, 2016 at 11:59 PM EST!**

History of FTA Tribal Transit Program

SAFETEA-LU

- Created the Tribal Transit Program (TTP), which was administered as a discretionary program at approximately \$15 million / year
- Authorized and extended funding from FY 2006-2012

History of FTA Tribal Transit Program (Cont.)

MAP-21

- Continued and Modified TTP
 - Formula Program: \$25 Million for FY 2013- FY 2015
 - Discretionary Program: \$5 Million for FY 2013- FY 2015

Current Tribal Transit Program

- The Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) (FY 2016-2020)
- Continued the Tribal Transit Program and increased the amount made available under the formula
- Formula Program : \$30 Million per year
- Discretionary Program: \$5 Million per year
- TTP now totals \$35 Million per year

Program Purpose

- The Tribal Transit Program's (TTP) overarching goal is to assist tribes in the development of transportation services for their communities
- The TTP Program is part of the Formula Grants for Rural Areas, Section 5311 of the FAST Act, Public Law 114-94

Eligible Applicants

- **Eligible applicants**
 - Federally recognized Indian tribes or Alaska Native villages, groups, or communities as identified by the US Dept. of Interior
- **Available Funding**
 - Approximately \$5 million in FY 2016 funds
 - FTA may choose to fund the program for more or less than the announcement amount, including applying any FY 2017 appropriations or other funding toward projects
- **Funding Availability**
 - Funds are available the year allocated plus two years (total of three years).

Eligible Projects

- **Eligible Projects**
 - **Planning** – capped at \$25,000
 - **Capital** – for start-ups; replacement and expansion needs
 - **Operating Assistance; limited to:**
 - Start-up/New Systems with no transit
 - Tribes who received a TTP formula allocation of less than \$20,000

Eligible Projects (Cont.)

- **Capital Projects include but not limited to:**
 - Purchase of expansion or replacement buses/vans
 - Bus related equipment (ITS, fare equipment, & communication devices)
 - Construction and rehabilitation of facilities, (bus maintenance and administrative facilities)
- **Indian tribes applying for capital replacement or expansion needs must demonstrate a sustainable source of operating funds for existing/expansion services.**

Eligible Projects (Cont.)

- **Operating Assistance** defined as costs directly related to the service operations and at a minimum include:
 - Fuel
 - Oil
 - Drivers' and Dispatchers salaries and fringe benefits
 - Licenses
- **Technology Operational support** such as computer hardware or software

Eligible Projects (Cont.)

- Wheelchair lifts and restraints
 - Passenger shelters and bus stop signs
- Service agreements with private providers of public transportation services:
 - Funds received pursuant to a service agreement with a state or local social service agency or a private social service organization may be used as local match.

Cost Sharing and Matching

- **Eligible Federal Share: 90 percent**
 - Exception for financial hardship cases
 - Waiver must be requested in application
- **FTA is interested in Tribes' financial commitment to proposed project**
 - Include a description of the Tribe's financial commitment to the proposed project in the proposal

Ladders of Opportunity

- **Priority consideration will be given to eligible projects that help to expand ladders of opportunity:**
 - Enhancing access to work, educational, and other training opportunities;
 - Supporting partnerships that expand access to other governmental, health, medical, education, social, human service; and
 - Improving coordinated delivery of services.

Evaluation Criteria – Two sets of Criteria

- 1. Evaluation Criteria for Operating and Capital Assistance Requests**
- 2. Evaluation Criteria for Planning Grants**

Evaluation Criteria for Operating and Capital (O/C) Assistance Requests

5 Major categories:

1. Planning & Local Prioritization
2. Project Readiness
3. Demonstration of Need
4. Demonstration of Benefits
5. Financial Commitment and Operating Capacity

Evaluation Criteria O/C - Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization

- Describe the planning document an/or the planning process conducted to identify the proposed project
- Provide a detailed project description
- Identify existing transportation services in and near the proposed or existing service area
 - document in detail whether project will provide coordination opportunities

Evaluation Criteria O/C - Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization (Cont.)

- Discuss level of support by community and/or tribal government.
- Describe how mobility and client access needs of tribal human service agencies were considered.
- Describe what opportunities for public participation were provided and how proposed/existing service has been coordinated with
 - Human Service Agencies
 - Intercity Bus Transportation Providers
 - other rural public transit providers

Evaluation Criteria O/C - Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization (Cont.)

- Describe how the proposed/existing service complements rather than duplicates any currently available service
- Describe the implementation schedule for the project including
 - Period
 - Staffing
 - Procurement
- Describe any other planning or coordination efforts not mentioned above

Evaluation Criteria O/C – Project Readiness

- Project is a Categorical Exclusion (CE) or the required environmental has been initiated or completed
 - Environmental Assessment (EA)
 - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Project implementation plans are complete, including initial design of facilities projects
- Project funds can be obligated and the project can be implemented quickly, if selected
- Demonstrate the ability to carry out the proposed project successfully

Evaluation Criteria O/C – Demonstration of Need

- Demonstrate the transit needs of the tribe/discuss how the proposed transit improvements or new service will address identified transit needs
- Include information such as
 - Destinations and services not currently accessible by transit
 - Needs for access to jobs or health care, special needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities, income-based community, and those with any other mobility requirement

Evaluation Criteria O/C – Demonstration of Need (Cont.)

- Describe how current or growing demand for the service necessitates the expansion/degree of how the current project is addressing current capacity constraint
- Capital replacement requests should include how the replacement may be necessary to maintain transit system in state of good repair
 - Age of asset
 - Condition of asset
 - Performance of asset
- If an applicant received a planning grant in previous fiscal years, it should indicate the status of the planning study and how the proposed project relates to that study

Evaluation Criteria O/C – Demonstration of Benefits

- Identify expected or achieved project benefits
 - Existing Services
 - Increased or sustained ridership & daily trips
 - Improved service, operations, & coordination
 - Provide actual number of individual riders & trips
 - Improve the quality of life for tribe /surrounding communities
 - Start-up Projects
 - Estimate number of daily one-way trips
 - Other less quantifiable benefits to the tribe and surrounding community

Evaluation Criteria O/C Assistance Requests - Financial Commitment and Operating Capacity

- Identify source of local match
 - If requesting waiver based on financial hardship, submit budget/sources of other revenue-demonstrate financial hardship
- Identify sustainable funding plan
 - Demonstrate how tribe plans to maintain operations once project is funded
 - Annual operating budget

Evaluation Criteria O/C Assistance Requests - Financial Commitment and Operating Capacity (Cont.)

- Identify other funding sources used to support service
 - Humans service transportation funding
 - Tribal Transportation Program funds (FHWA)
 - Bureau of Indian Affairs funds
 - Other FTA Programs (Section 5311, 5310, 5339)
 - In-kind contributions
 - Commitment of support from local businesses
 - Donations of land or equipment

Evaluation Criteria O/C Assistance Requests - Financial Commitment and Operating Capacity (Cont.)

- Demonstrate how TTP funding will not replace existing funding sources
- Demonstrate that the tribe will provide non-financial support to project
- Tribe's ability to demonstrate a sustainable funding plan
- Project funds are used in coordination with other services for efficient utilization of funds

Evaluation Criteria for Planning Grants

- Proposals Should Answer two key questions:
 - What the tribes' long term commitment to transit is?
 - How the proposed study will be implemented and/or further Tribal Transit

Technical Assistance

- **FTA began conducting TTP Technical Assistance assessments in FY 2015.**
 - Used as a tool to focus on areas of improvement/ indication of areas where TA is needed
- **FTA offers TTP TA workshops to prepare for assessments**
 - Conducted a workshop in San Francisco on Feb. 10-12, 2016
 - Additional workshops will be offered in FY 2017

Important Documents

- **Tribal Transit Program NOFA-published March 14, 2016**
- **FY 2016 Tribal Transit Program Supplemental Form**
- **FY 2016 Tribal Transit Formula Allocations-Table 10**

Applying through Grants.Gov

Grants.gov home page
<http://www.grants.gov/>

In order to apply for a grant, you and/or your organization must complete the Grants.gov registration process. Registration can take three to five business days or as long as two weeks if all steps are not completed in a timely manner.

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov homepage with the following elements:

- Header:** GRANTS.GOV logo with the tagline "FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED." and navigation tabs: HOME, ABOUT, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS, GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM.
- APPLICANT ACTIONS:**
 - » Apply for Grants
 - » Track My Application
- APPLICANT RESOURCES:**
 - » Grant Eligibility
 - » Individual Registration
 - » Organization Registration
 - » Grant Application Process
 - » Applicant FAQs
 - » Applicant Resources
 - » Applicant Tips
- Find Grants:** A search box with the text "SEARCH Grants.gov for your federal grants by..." and a "Search Grant Opportunities" button.
- Find Open Grant Opportunities:** A section with filters: NEWEST OPPORTUNITIES, BROWSE CATEGORIES, BROWSE AGENCIES, BROWSE ELIGIBILITIES, and a "View More" link.
- Table of Opportunities:**

Funding Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency
DE-FOA-0001269	Topical Collaborations in Nuclear Theory	Office of Science
ED-GRANTS-011415-001	OSERS: OSEP: Educational Technology, Media, and Materials for Individuals with Disabilities: Television Access CFDA Number 84.327C	Department of Education

Grants.gov Updates

Grants.gov Calendar

Check out our calendar to get the latest updates about our upcoming releases, maintenance, and outages.

Grants.gov Scheduled Maintenance Outage:
February 14-17, 2015.

Grants.gov Notices

For more information on upcoming changes with user impacts, please visit the Grants.gov notices page for the latest information.

View the Summary of User Impacts for upcoming changes. (Revised January 6, 2015)

Grants.gov Releases

For more information about recent changes and enhancements, please see the latest release notes.

Grants.gov Blog

Visit the Grants.gov Blog to get up-to-date status of upcoming maintenance and outages.

Applying through Grants.gov

Home Page >> Grant Programs >> Applying for FTA Funding >> Notices of Funding Availability

Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program

Date Posted: 12/9/2014
 Closing Date: 2/18/2015
 Program: Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program
 FTA Opportunity ID: FTA-2015-002-TPM
 Opportunity Announcement Text: <http://www.apo.gov/dfs/pjko/FR-2014-12-09/html/2014-28792.htm>
 Opportunity Announcement PDF: <http://www.apo.gov/dfs/pjko/FR-2014-12-09/pdf/2014-28792.pdf>

Details:
 December 9, 2014. Solicitation of Project Proposals: Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program (TTP) Synopses and full announcement are posted on Grants.gov site as opportunity FTA-2015-002-TPM. Proposals must be submitted electronically through Grants.gov website by midnight Eastern Time on **Wednesday, February 18, 2015.**

Summary: The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of approximately \$6 million in funding provided by the Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program (Tribal Transit Program (TTP)), as authorized by 49 U.S.C. Section 5311(j), as amended by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), Public Law 112-241 (July 6, 2012). This is a national solicitation for project proposals and includes the selection criteria and program eligibility information for Fiscal Year 2014 projects. FTA may choose to fund the program for more or less than the announcement amount, including applying any FY 2015 appropriations or other funding toward projects proposed in response to the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

The primary purpose of these competitively selected grants is to support planning, capital, and, in limited circumstances, operating assistance for tribal public transit services. Funds distributed to Indian tribes under the TTP should NOT replace or reduce funds that Indian tribes receive from States through FTA's Section 5311 program. Priority consideration will be given to eligible projects that help to expand ladders of opportunity. Examples could include enhancing access to work, educational, and other training opportunities, and supporting partnerships that expand access to other governmental, health, medical, education, social, human service, and transportation providers to improve coordinated delivery of services.

FTA requires that all project proposals be submitted electronically through <http://www.GRANTS.GOV> by 11:59 p.m. EDT on January 16, 2015. Proposals will not be accepted in hard copy. Each proposal submission will consist of at least two files: (1) the SF-424 Mandatory form (downloaded from GRANTS.GOV) and (2) the Tribal Transit supplemental form provided at http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/FT14_Supplemental_Form.pdf. The Tribal Transit supplemental form provides guidance and a consistent format for applicants to respond to the criteria outlined in this NOFA. Once completed, the applicant must place the supplemental form in the same folder as the SF-424 Mandatory form. Applicants must use the supplemental form designated for TTP and attach the form to their submission in GRANTS.GOV to complete the application process. A proposal submission may contain additional supporting documentation as attachments.

Important: FTA urges applicants to submit their project proposals at least 72 hours prior to the due date to allow time to receive the validation message and to correct any problems that may have caused a rejection notification. FTA will not accept submissions after the stated submission deadline. GRANTS.GOV scheduled maintenance and outage times are announced on the GRANTS.GOV Web site <http://www.GRANTS.GOV>. The deadline will not be extended due to scheduled maintenance or outages.

Eligible Applicants: Federally-recognized Indian tribes or Alaska Native villages, groups of U.S. Department of Interior (DOI), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). As evidence of Federal of the most up-to-date Federal Register notice published by DOI. BIA: Entities Recognized by the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs. To be an eligible recipient, a tribe must have technical capabilities to receive and administer Federal funds under this program. Applicants for Award Management (SAM) database and maintain an active SAM registration with which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration.

Link to the supplemental form to the SF-424: All applicants must complete the supplemental submission on Grants.gov.

Dates: An applicant must submit a proposal electronically by midnight Eastern Time on agency intending to apply should initiate the process of registering on the Grants.gov site registration before the submission deadline.

For Further Information Contact: Eian Filippin, Tribal Transit Program, Office of Program Management, efilippin@dot.gov.

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY
 FTA-2015-002-TPM
 Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program
 Department of Transportation
 DOT/Federal Transit Administration

APPLICANT ACTIONS
 Apply for Grants
 Track My Application

APPLICANT RESOURCES
 Grant Eligibility
 Individual Registration
 Organization Registration
 Grant Application Process
 Applicant FAQs
 Applicant Resources
 Applicant Tips

Document Type: Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number: FTA-2015-002-TPM
Funding Opportunity Title: Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program
Opportunity Category: Discretionary
Funding Instrument Type: Grant
Category of Funding Activity: Transportation
Category Explanation:
Expected Number of Awards: 40
CFDA Number(s): 20.509 --

Posted Date: Dec 9, 2014
Creation Date: Dec 9, 2014

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY
 FTA-2015-002-TPM
 Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program
 Department of Transportation
 DOT/Federal Transit Administration

Selected Grant Applications for Download

Download the application and its instructions by selecting the corresponding download link. Save these files to your computer for future reference and use. You do not need Internet access to read the instructions or to complete the application once you save them to your computer.

READ BEFORE YOU APPLY FOR THIS GRANT!
 Before you can view and complete an application package, you MUST have Adobe Reader installed. Application packages are posted in Adobe Reader format. 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 application package, ALL applicants must be using the same software version. Click to download the required Adobe Reader if you do not have it installed already.

CFDA	Opportunity Number	Competition ID	Competition Title	Agency	Instructions and Application
20.509	FTA-2015-002-TPM	FTA-2015-002-TPM	Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program	DOT/Federal Transit Administration	Download

DOWNLOAD APPLICATION PACKAGE

Download Opportunity Instructions and Application. You have chosen to download the application for the following opportunity:

CFDA Number: 20.509- Formula Grants for Rural Areas
Opportunity Number: FTA-2015-002-TPM Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program
Competition ID: FTA-2015-002-TPM
Competition Title: Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program
Agency: DOT/Federal Transit Administration
Opening Date: 12/09/2014
Closing Date: 02/18/2015

To download an application, you will need to submit an email address so that you can be notified of any changes to the application before the closing date. Your e-mail address will allow us to e-mail you in the event this opportunity is changed and republished on Grants.gov before its closing date.

Email:
 Confirm Email:
 No, I do not wish to provide my email address

Contact Information

Tribal Transit Program Manager:

Élan Flippin

Elan.Flippin@dot.gov

202-366-3800

TTP Webpage:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/grant-programs/public-transportation-indian-reservations-program-tribal-transit>

Discussion/ Questions?





Federal Transit
Administration
www.fta.dot.gov