Agenda

Emergency Relief Program Overview

Calendar Year 2018 Funding Availability

Applying Through Grants.gov

Questions?
Emergency Relief Program

transit.dot.gov
Emergency Relief Program

Provides grants for:
- **Capital projects** to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace equipment and facilities
- **Emergency operating costs** of public transportation equipment and facilities

Authorized in 2012
- No permanent or annual appropriation to date

Three supplemental appropriations:
- **Hurricane Sandy** in 2013 ($10.9 billion)
- **Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria** in 2018 ($330 million)
- Major declared disasters in **calendar year 2018** ($10.5 million)
Emergency Relief Program

Eligible Recipients
- States
- Territories
- Tribal governments
- FTA Direct Recipients

Eligible Expenses
- **Disaster Response**: Emergency or temporary operations
- **Disaster Recovery and Rebuilding**: Projects to temporarily or permanently repair or replace transit assets
- **Disaster Resilience**: Projects that address a vulnerability

*Hurricane Harvey preparations, Houston, TX- 2017*
Emergency Relief Program

Disaster Response

- Evacuations and temporary service to/from shelters
- Emergency responder or utility worker transport
- Temporary bus service to replace inoperable rail service
- Rerouted or temporary service to avoid impassable roads
- Emergency protective measures to prevent damage or protect health and safety such as sandbagging or debris removal
- Temporary repairs to facilities to hasten their return to service until permanent repairs can be made.

Evacuations in Oroville, CA - 2017
Emergency Relief Program

Disaster Recovery and Rebuilding

- Vehicle repair and replacement
- Passenger, operations, or administrative facility repair or rebuilding
- Repair or replacement of other infrastructure and equipment such as power or track components and maintenance equipment
- Replacement of supplies kept in the normal course of doing business that were owned by the transit agency and destroyed in the disaster

Hurricane Sandy repair work, New York, NY
Emergency Relief Program

Disaster Resilience

• Flood protection measures such as sea walls; wet and dry water proofing; strengthening systems that remove rainwater from public transportation facilities; or raising rail signal, power, or other equipment above expected flood elevations

• Relocating facilities to higher ground

• Building covered storage to protect rolling stock

• Burying power lines to protect them from high-wind events

• Resilient features built into recovery projects that are integral and cost-effective, such as using stronger materials

South Ferry Station resilience project, New York, NY - 2014
Emergency Relief Program

Ineligible Expenses

- Heavy maintenance (i.e. normally expected costs due to seasonal and natural occurrences)
- Projects that change the function or capacity of a transit system
- Failures due to internal causes, such as design flaws or lack of maintenance
- Projects with FTA funding obligated prior to the disaster
- Reimbursement for lost revenue
- Replacement of supplies and materials not owned by the applicant and not incorporated into the transit system
- Labor for salaried management as a direct cost
- Preparations prior to storm or disaster forecasts
- Costs reimbursed by another source, such as FEMA
Emergency Relief Program

Key Policies

• **Federal Share** is 80%, but may be increased by the Secretary

• When ER funds have not been appropriated, 5307 and 5311 funds may be used to respond to a disaster but cannot be replenished or replaced if ER funds are subsequently appropriated

• FTA will not reimburse expenses already reimbursed by FEMA or any other federal agency

• FTA cannot pay for any expenses covered by insurance.

• Emergency and permanent repairs that do not involve functional, locational, or capacity changes do not need to be in the TIP/STIP

• FTA waives the remaining useful life for destroyed assets; damaged assets that are repaired retain useful life

• FTA remains entitled to reimbursement if the recipient disposes of assets with a Federal interest and a fair market value of more than $5000

Winter storm Skylar, Boston, MA - 2018
Emergency Relief Program

Key Policies

- **Pre-award authority** is granted for ER projects retroactive to the date on which preparations for the storm or disaster began in response to forecasts.

- Requests for **waivers** to administrative requirements that inhibit disaster response and recovery may be submitted to FTA’s Emergency Relief Docket at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

- Charter-like services are permitted if the action is directly related to a declaration of emergency.

- Sole-source procurements are allowed if the public exigency or emergency does not permit a competitive procurement.

- Track separately all disaster-related expenses and outcomes to facilitate reimbursement later, whether FEMA or FTA.

*Corroded MTA equipment from Hurricane Sandy, New York, NY - 2013*
Emergency Relief Program

Working with FEMA

- FTA’s ER program may receive an appropriation months after an event
- Work with FEMA immediately after an event
- If ER receives funding for a specific event, transit operators MUST stop working with FEMA and begin working with FTA
- We will work with FEMA to transfer any paperwork that is in-process
- Applicants must inform FTA if they are seeking or have received FEMA funding
- We work closely with FEMA to ensure expenses aren’t paid for twice
The Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019 (Disaster Relief Act), signed into law on June 6, 2019, appropriated $10,542,000 for FTA’s Emergency Relief Program for transit systems affected by major declared disasters occurring in calendar year 2018.
Notice of Availability of Emergency Relief Funding (NAERF)

• Published December 3, 2019
• Deadline is January 17, 2020

The application process will occur in two stages
1. Applicants submit proposals requesting reimbursement of eligible costs
2. FTA will announce allocation of funds on its website at www.transit.dot.gov. Recipients with allocations enter a grant application in the FTA's Transit Award Management System (TrAMS)

Funds will be allocated on a non-competitive basis
Eligible Recipients

Public transportation agencies, States, Territories, local governmental authorities, Indian tribes, and other FTA grant recipients...

...that provide or fund public transportation services in counties designated as eligible for any category of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance...

...for a major declared disaster with an incident period partially or entirely occurring within calendar year 2018.

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program
Eligible Projects and Expenses

Public transportation emergency operations, emergency protective measures, emergency repairs, and permanent repairs

Ineligible Expenses

Expenses previously reimbursed by FEMA or insurance proceeds

Please see the FTA’s Emergency Relief Manual for a complete list and description of eligible and ineligible expenses
Federal Matching = 80% except:

- ADA or Clean Air Compliance:
  - Vehicles = 85%
  - Vehicle-related equipment and facilities = 90%
- Disaster in an insular area = 100%
- Disaster response limited to debris removal, emergency protective measures, emergency repairs, and emergency operations expenses:
  - Oklahoma Wildfires (DR-4373) = 90%
  - California Wildfires (DR-4382) = 90%
  - California Wildfires (DR-4407) = 90%
  - Florida Hurricane Michael (DR-4399)
    - Completed on or before 11/24/2018 = 100%
    - Completed on or after 11/25/2018 = 90%
- Any disaster in calendar year 2018 for which FEMA later increases the Public Assistance Federal share
CY 2018 Funding Availability

How to Apply

A complete submission to GRANTS.GOV consists of:

- SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
- Supplemental form for this NAERF
- Supporting documentation

Emergency Operating Documentation

- Purpose, dates, hours, number of vehicles, and fares charged.

Detailed Damage Assessments for Capital Projects

- Location, type of facility or equipment, nature and extent of damage
- The most feasible and practical method of repair or replacement
- Estimated repair and replacement cost
CY 2018 Funding Availability

Reporting Requirements
Post-award reporting requirements include submission of the Federal Financial Reports (FFRs) and Milestone Progress Reports (MPRs) in TrAMS consistent with the FTA's grants management Circular 5010.1E

Oversight and Audits
FTA will provide oversight of grants funded through the Emergency Relief Program using its standard oversight programs, including Triennial Reviews and State Management Reviews

Tohono O'odham Nation flooding- 2018
CY 2018 Funding Availability

References, Regulations, & Guidance

Federal Register Notice 84 FR 66271 – December 3, 2019
Public Transportation Emergency Relief Funds for Transit Systems
Affected by Major Declared Disasters Occurring in Calendar Year 2018

Emergency Relief Final Rule – October 7, 2014
49 CFR Part 602 – Emergency Relief

Emergency Relief Program Manual
Emergency Relief Manual: A Reference for States & Transit Agencies
on Response and Recovery from Declared Disasters and FTA’s
Emergency Relief Program

FTA Award Management Requirements (C.5010.1E)
Federal requirements for insurance, asset disposition, etc.

FTA Emergency Relief Docket (FTA-2019-0001)
Permits recipients to request FTA waivers of administrative
requirements by submitting a request at www.regulations.gov
Applying for FTA Grant
Opportunities in Grants.gov

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration
ER Grant Opportunity

Grant Opportunity Page contains:

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

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=322825

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program
NOTE: Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only “authorized organizational representatives” can submit applications in Grants.gov.
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 or in Grants.gov.
Grants.gov – Applicants

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

WORKSPACE OVERVIEW

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 add different forms within an application. Plus, the forms can be filled out online or offline—your choice.

Grants.gov’s 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 entered to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace

- Intermediate: Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users
  - Application teams typically consist of ADs who allow a workspace overview for each AD

- Advanced: Best for organizations with external Grants.gov users, such as consultants
  - Applicant teams are typically composed of ADs who allow a workspace overview for each AD

Using Custom Roles in Workspace

Organizations are also able to create custom roles for their organization.

Grants.gov Roles & Privileges

When an applicant organization user registers with Grants.gov, the organization E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) can assign the user a user role, such as read, write, or read/write.

E-Business Point of Contact

The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) role is primarily an administrative task for organizing specific tasks. Additionally, an E-Biz POC can assign roles to organization users once they register with Grants.gov.
Web Addresses

• FTA Emergency Relief Program:
  – https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program

• Grants.gov:
  – http://www.grants.gov/

• Contact Grants.gov Support Center to get help with Grants.gov issues:
  GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support
  1-800-518-4726
  support@grants.gov
Questions?

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