

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

The Passenger Ferry Grant Program

Webinar

March 7, 2019



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Agenda

- Program Overview
- Eligibility Information
- Evaluation Criteria
- Application Submission
- Applying in Grants.gov
- Q&A

Program Overview

Section 5307(h) Passenger Ferry Grant Program

Authorizes FTA to make awards on a competitive basis for passenger ferry projects that support passenger ferry systems in urbanized areas, such as ferry vessels, terminals, and related infrastructure.

The Passenger Ferry Grant Program is a set-aside from the Section 5307 – Urbanized Area Formula Program.

Funding Available:

\$30 million authorized per year thru FY 2020.

2017 & 2018 Ferry Competition

Quick Facts:

- **22** project proposals from **12** states
- Total of **\$65.4** million requested
- **20** projects funded for a total of \$58.2 million
- Largest award was \$6 million
- List of funded projects on the FTA website:
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/passenger-ferry-grant-program-section-5307>
- Watch FTA's [Video](#) highlighting the Passenger Ferry Grant Program

2019 Important Program Dates

- Notice of Funding Opportunity: February 12, 2019
- Applications Due: **April 15, 2019 by 11:59 P.M. EDT**
 - Application Package can be found at www.grants.gov by searching for keyword “Passenger Ferry” or “Ferry Program”. Applicants should register on www.grants.gov **at least 4 weeks prior** to applying to ensure system access.
- Award Announcements: Summer 2019

Funding Award Information

- A total of \$30 million has been made available for ferry projects that support the evaluation criteria.
- Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the notice.
- Funding available for obligation for year of award plus five years
- FY19 competition obligation deadline = September 30, 2024
- Pre-award authority starts on the date that selected projects are announced.

Cost Share

Cost Sharing or Matching: 80% Federal / 20% Local

Exceptions:

- **85%** for net project costs for acquiring vehicles (including clean-fuel or alternative fuel) attributable to compliance with the Clean Air Act (CAA) or attributable to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990
- **90%** for net project costs for vehicle-related equipment or facilities (including clean-fuel or alternative-fuel vehicle-related equipment or facilities) attributable to compliance with the CAA or ADA
- Eligible sources of local match are listed in the NOFO

Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants:

- Designated Recipients
- Direct Recipients of Section 5307 funds (or those eligible to become such recipients)
- States (including Territories of the United States)
- Federally-recognized Tribes

Eligibility Information

Eligible Projects:

- Capital projects to purchase, replace, or rehabilitate passenger ferries, terminals and related infrastructure and equipment (including fare equipment, communication devices).
- Projects must support public transportation ferry systems serving an urbanized area.
- Vehicles ferries are eligible if they also accommodate walk-on passengers.

Ineligible Projects:

- Planning
- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance

Evaluation Criteria

1. Demonstration of Need

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?

2. Demonstration of Benefits

How will the proposed project improve state of good repair, safety, ridership and reliability of service?

Does the proposed project connect to other modes?

3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization

How is the proposed project consistent with local and regional priorities?

Is the project in the long range plan and TIP/STIP?

Are there letters of support from local stakeholders?

Evaluation Criteria

4. Local Financial Commitment

How will the local funds be secured?

What is the source of the local share, and is it available and set aside for the project?

5. Project Implementation Strategy

Is the implementation strategy detailed, reasonable, and complete?

What is the status of planning and environmental work?

6. Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity

Does the applicant demonstrate the ability to carry out the proposed project?

Does the applicant have experience with projects of comparable size/scope/requirements?

Selection Process

Departmental Objectives may also be considered during project selection

- Innovative approaches to improve safety and expedite project delivery
- Supporting economic vitality
- Attracting non-Federal sources of investment
- Accounting for life-cycle costs
- Accountability for performance and meeting specific, measurable outcomes

Other Considerations

- Provision of an “over-match” (description misplaced in Section E.I of NOFO)
- Geographic Diversity and System Size
- Other Competitive Awards

Application and Submission

Federal Register:

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-12/pdf/2019-01951.pdf>

Application Information:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/passenger-ferry-grant-program-section-5307>

Applications must include:

1. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
2. Supplemental Form
3. Supporting Documentation

Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov **by 11:59 PM EDT on April 15, 2019.**
Late applications may not be accepted.

Key Takeaways

- Use the NOFO
- Documentation is crucial
- Tell your story



Applying in Grants.Gov

Questions

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Website:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/passenger-ferry-grant-program-section-5307>



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