

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Low or No Emission Grant Program Webinar April 11, 2019

Tara Clark
Program Manager



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Agenda

- Program Overview
- Evaluation Criteria
- Application Requirements and Forms
- Questions



TriMet
FY 2016 Low-No Recipient

Program Description

The Low-No Program (5339(c)) provides funding for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses as well as for the acquisition, construction or leasing of supporting facilities and equipment. To date, approximately \$194 million has been awarded for 123 projects across the country.

The Low-No Program is unique in its support of the deployment of advanced technology vehicles.



Lextran
FY 2016 Low-No Recipient

2018 Low-No Competition

Quick Facts

- 151 project proposals from 42 states requesting approximately \$558 million.
 - 100 projects rated Highly Recommended
 - 29 projects rated Recommended
- 52 projects funded for a total of \$84.45 million.
- List of funded projects on the FTA website.
 - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fiscal-year-2018-low-or-no-emission-low-no-bus-program-projects>
- Since 2016, FTA has processed about 350 applications requesting approximately \$1.5 billion in Low-No funding.

2019 Low-No Competition

Notice of Funding Opportunity: March 18, 2019

Applications Due: May 14, 2019

- Opportunity ID is FTA-2019-001-TPM-LowNo
- Application Package can be found at www.grants.gov by searching for keyword “Low or No Emission” or “Low-No.”
- Applicants must register on www.grants.gov at least 2-4 weeks prior to applying.

Project Evaluations: May – June 2019

Award Announcement: Late Summer 2019

Award Information

Funding Availability

- \$85 million is available for fiscal year 2019.
- Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the notice.
- Funds are available for obligation until September 30, 2022.
- Pre-award authority starts on the date of project announcement.

Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

- Designated Recipients, States, local governmental authorities or federally recognized Indian Tribes are eligible.
- Rural areas must submit as part of a consolidated State application.
- Applicants may include a partner in the application.
 - The competitive selection process satisfies the requirement for a competitive procurement for the partners named in the application.
 - 2019 is the last year applicants can name a partner. Applicants in 2020 will be required to fulfill the competitive procurement requirement.

NOFO Section C. Eligibility Information, subsection I. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility Information

Cost Sharing or Matching

- Vehicles: Maximum 85% Federal/ 15% non-Federal match.
- Low or no emission bus related equipment or facilities: Maximum 90% Federal/ 10% non-Federal match.
 - Cost of vehicle-related equipment must be itemized.
- Eligible sources of local match are listed in the NOFO.

NOFO Section C. Eligibility Information, subsection 2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Eligibility Information

Eligible Projects

- Purchase or lease of low or no emission buses
- Constructing or leasing facilities and related equipment for low or no emission buses
- Rehabilitating or improving existing facilities to accommodate low or no emission buses
- Workforce development

NOFO Section C. Eligibility Information, subsection 3. Eligible Projects

Eligibility Information

Eligible Projects

- Projects are not required to be in an air quality non-attainment area.
- Vehicles must make greater reductions in energy consumption and harmful emissions, including direct carbon emissions, than comparable standard buses or other low or no emission buses.
- Projects must be part of the long-term integrated fleet management plan.
- Bus testing must be completed prior to disbursement of FTA funds.
- Vehicles must be purchased from certified transit vehicle manufacturers in accordance with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) regulations.
- All capital procurements must meet FTA's Buy America requirements.

NOFO Section F. Federal Award Administration, subsection 2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Eligibility Information

Ineligible Projects

- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance
- Development or deployment of prototype vehicles
- Previous project expenses
- Mobility Management
- Planning and design studies independent of a capital project

Application and Submission Information

Notice of Funding Opportunity:

<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-03-21/pdf/2019-05355.pdf>

Application Information:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=low%20no>

Applications must include:

1. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance (from [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov))
2. Low-No Program Supplemental Form (from Grants.gov or [FTA website](#))
3. Supporting Documentation

Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov by **11:59 PM EDT on May 14, 2019**. Late applications may not be accepted.

Application and Submission Information

Additional Information

- The supplemental form and supporting documents must be attached to the SF-424.
- One supplemental form per SF-424.
- Supporting documents must be referenced by file name in the narrative or they may not be reviewed.

NOFO Section D. Application and Submission Information, subsection 2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Application and Submission Information

Information for States

Consolidated Application	Multiple Applications
One project type	Multiple project types
One SF-424 and one supplemental form	One SF-424 and one supplemental form for each agency
Example: Twenty buses and ten chargers for five different transit agencies located in rural areas throughout the state.	Example: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agency A: Three zero emission buses• Agency B: Improvements to an existing facility to support zero emission buses• Agency C: Solar panels to support vehicles in the current fleet

Application Review

Evaluation Criteria (The Six Hows)

1. Demonstration of Need

How will the proposed project address an unmet need for capital investment?

2. Demonstration of Benefits

How will the proposed project support the program objectives (reduce energy consumption, reduce harmful emissions and reduce direct carbon emissions)?

3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization

How is the proposed project consistent with local and regional long range planning documents and local government priorities?

4. Local Financial Commitment

How will the local funds be secured?

5. Project Implementation Strategy

How will the proposed project be implemented?

6. Technical, Legal & Financial Capacity

Does the applicant have the know-**how** to carry out the proposed project?

Review and Selection Process

Other Considerations

- Geographic diversity
- Diversity in transit system size
- Qualified opportunity zone
- Other competitive awards
- Percentage of local share
- Cap on single recipient or state
- Rural area
- Departmental objectives

NOFO Section E. Application Review subsection 2: Review and Selection Process

Low-No Resources

Federal Transit Administration

About Funding Regulations & Guidance

Home
Grant Programs
Program Pages
Applicants
Grantee Tools
Contact Your Regional Office
FAQ

Low or No Emission Vehicle Program - 5339(c)

Related Links

- [FY2019 Low or No Emission Vehicle Program Notice of Funding](#)
- [FY2018 Low or No-Emission Vehicle Program Selected Projects](#)
- [FY2017 Low or No-Emission Vehicle Program Selected Projects](#)
- [FY 2016 Low or No-Emission Vehicle Program Selected Projects](#)
- [Low or No Emission Program Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [National Fuel Cell Bus Program video \(Center for Transportation & the Environment\)](#)
- [Race to Zero Emissions](#)
- [Transit Asset Management](#)

What's New

On March 18 2019, FTA announced the availability of FY 2019 Low-No funding. View the [FY2019 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Overview

The Low or No Emission Competitive program provides funding to state and local governmental authorities for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses as well as acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities. Under the FAST Act, \$55 million per year is available until fiscal year 2020.

- Watch our four-minute [video](#) highlighting the Low and No-Emission Grant Program, which supports new technologies that are changing the makeup of bus fleets nationwide.

Technical Assistance

- View the April 2018 National RTAP Webinar: [FTA Low No Emissions Program Grant Writing](#)
- FTA contracts with the National Renewable Energy Lab to evaluate

Related Documents

- [Low or No Emission Grant Program Webinar](#)

Contact Us

Tara Clark
Federal Transit Administration
Office of Program Management
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590
United States
tara.clark@dot.gov
Phone: 202-366-2623

Business Hours:
8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. ET, M-F

[Printer-friendly version](#)

Share:

Grants.gov Workspace

Workspace Overview | X

Secure | https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html

HELP | REGISTER | LOGIN

SEARCH: Grant Opportunities | Enter Keyword... GO

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:

Basic	Intermediate	Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Best for organizations with 1-2 registered Grants.gov users+ Application forms are downloaded and emailed to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace <p>LEARN MORE ></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users+ Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submits, as well as a Workspace Owner who oversees form completion <p>LEARN MORE ></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">+ Best for organizations with external Grants.gov users, such as consultants+ Workspace Owner manages form access+ Workspace Owner adds subforms <p>LEARN MORE ></p>

Using Custom Roles in Workspace

Grants.gov Registration

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Grants.gov logo and the tagline "FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.". The main navigation menu includes links for HOME, LEARN GRANTS, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS (highlighted), GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, CONNECT, and SUPPORT. A search bar is located in the top right corner with the text "SEARCH: Grant Opportunities Enter Keyword... GO".

The main content area is titled "ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION" and features a large image of people walking. Below the image, the section "Registering an Organization" is displayed. The text explains that the instructions are for new organizations or those that have never applied for a federal grant before. It states that most applicants work for organizations that already completed these steps to do business with the federal government.

Before your organization can apply for a federal grant, there are several steps an organization must complete outside of Grants.gov prior to submitting an application through Grants.gov. An organization is an entity that submits grant applications on behalf of the group, such as a state government, nonprofit organization, or a private business. Once you form a legal entity with a Employer Identification Number (EIN), you are ready to complete the steps below.

Below are the main steps and links to more information to complete this process. The process below can take between three business days and five weeks, so please make sure to begin early. If you do not complete these steps by the submission deadline, you are unlikely to be allowed to submit an application. Contact the federal agency point of contact listed in the grant opportunity to discuss that agency's policy.

1. Obtain a DUNS Number

How do I get a DUNS number? → How long does this step usually take?

On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar with the following sections:

- GRANT APPLICATIONS**
 - » How to Apply for Grants
 - » Track My Application
- APPLICANT RESOURCES**
 - » Workspace Overview
 - » Applicant Eligibility
 - » Organization Registration
 - » Step 1: Obtain a DUNS Number
 - » Step 2: Register with SAM
 - » Step 3: Register with Grants.gov
 - » Applicant Registration
 - » Applicant Training
 - » Applicant FAQs
 - » Adobe Software Compatibility
 - » Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters
 - » Encountering Error Messages

On the right side, there are two help sections:

- Help: Online User Guide**
Find registration, search, and application instructions for all users in the Grants.gov Online User Guide.
- Help: Support Center**
Contact the Grants.gov Support Center to get help from a representative.
Email us at support@grants.gov or visit our Support page.

Grants.gov Training

Applicant Training | GRAI x

Secure | https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html

HELP | REGISTER | LOGIN

SEARCH: Grant Opportunities ▾ Enter Keyword... GO

GRANTS.GOV > Applicants > Applicant Training

APPLICANT TRAINING

GRANT APPLICATIONS

- » How to Apply for Grants
- » Track My Application

APPLICANT RESOURCES

- » Workspace Overview
- » Applicant Eligibility
- » Organization Registration
- » Applicant Registration
- » Applicant Training
- » Applicant FAQs
- » Adobe Software Compatibility
- » Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters
- » Encountering Error Messages



Training Resources and Videos for Grants.gov

Whether you need a high-level introduction to the Grants.gov application process, or you are looking for a step-by-step explanation of a particular Applicant task, we encourage you to consult the resources on this page.

For more context and general information about the federal grants lifecycle, visit the [Grants 101](#) section under the [Learn Grants](#) tab.

Featured Video

[WEBINAR] Getting Started with Grants.gov Workspace: Become a Workspace Wizard
Updated on October 12, 2017

Workspace is Grants.gov's shared, online environment to collaboratively complete and submit federal grant applications. With the Legacy PDF application retiring on December 31, 2017, Grants.gov provided this free webinar to help applicants get started using Workspace.

[HD] [WEBINAR - Oct. 10, 2017] Getting Started with Gra... 

Help: Online User Guide

Find registration, search, and application instructions for all users in the [Grants.gov Online User Guide](#).

For detailed applicant information, review the Applicants section of the online user guide.

Applicant Overview

[Grants.gov Applicant Overview Training Presentation](#) - Everything you need to know about navigating Grants.gov as an Applicant.

[Grants.gov Presentation Request Form](#) - If you would like to request brochures or a complimentary Grants.gov presentation on the Find and Apply process, please fill out this form and submit it to support@grants.gov.

For a step-by-step guide to organization

Grants.gov Search

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=low%20no

GRANTS.GOV™
FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.™

SEARCH: Grant Opportunities ▾ Enter Keyword... **GO**

HOME | LEARN GRANTS ▾ | **SEARCH GRANTS** | APPLICANTS ▾ | GRANTORS ▾ | SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM ▾ | FORMS ▾ | CONNECT ▾ | SUPPORT ▾

GRANTS.GOV > Search Grants

SEARCH GRANTS

[Search Tips](#) | [Export Detailed Data](#)

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:

Keyword(s): **SEARCH**

Opportunity Number:

CFDA:

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:

Forecasted (12)

Posted (865)

Closed (1,347)

Archived (25,627)

FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:

All Funding Instruments

Cooperative Agreement (468)

Grant (577)

Other (73)

Procurement Contract (51)

ELIGIBILITY:

All Eligibilities

City or township governments (146)

County governments (148)

SORT BY: Posted Date (Descending) **Update Sort**

DATE RANGE: All Available **Update Date Range**

1 - 25 OF 877 MATCHING RESULTS: [Previous](#) 1 2 3 4 5 6 ... 36 [Next](#)

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date ↓	Close Date
FTA-2019-001-TPM-LOWNO	Solicitation of Project Proposals for the Low or No Emission (Low-No) Program	DOT-FTA	Posted	03/18/2019	05/14/2019
TREAS-GRANTS-052019-002	Low Income Taxpayer Clinic	USDOT-LITC	Posted	02/15/2019	04/18/2019
PAR-18-337	NCI Mentored Clinical Scientist Research Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K08 - No Independent Clinical Trials)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	10/31/2017	01/07/2021
PAR-18-366	NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K22 - No Clinical Trials)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	11/20/2017	01/07/2021
PAR-18-436	NIDCD Mentored Career Development Award for Postdoctorate Au.D./Ph.D. Audiologists (K01 - No Independent Clinical Trials)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	01/08/2018	01/07/2021
PAR-18-564	NIDCD Research Career Enhancement Award for Established Investigators (K18 - No Independent Clinical Trials)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	01/09/2018	01/07/2021
PAR-18-686	NINDS Postdoctoral Mentored Career Development Award (K01 No Independent Clinical Trial Allowed)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	02/28/2018	01/07/2020
PAR-18-755	NIMH Career Transition Award for Tenure-Track Intramural Investigators (K22 No Independent Clinical Trials)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	04/11/2018	05/07/2021

Grants.gov

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "SEARCH: Grant Opportunities" and a "GO" button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with options: HOME, LEARN GRANTS, SEARCH GRANTS (highlighted), APPLICANTS, GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, CONNECT, and SUPPORT. The main content area displays the title "VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY" and the details for "FTA-2019-001-TPM-LOWNO: Solicitation of Project Proposals for the Low or No Emission (Low-No) Program" from the Department of Transportation, DOT/Federal Transit Administration. There are "Apply" and "Subscribe" buttons. Below this, there are tabs for "SYNOPSIS", "VERSION HISTORY", "RELATED DOCUMENTS", and "PACKAGE" (selected). A yellow warning box states: "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." Below the warning, a blue header reads "OPPORTUNITY PACKAGE(S) CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:". A table lists the available packages:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
20.526	FTA-2019-001-TPM-LOWNO	Low or No Emission Program (Low-No) 2019 NOFO	PKG00249186	03/18/2019	05/14/2019	Preview Apply

SF-424 Form

View Burden Statement		OMB Number: 4040-0002 Expiration Date: 01/31/2019	
APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SF-424 - MANDATORY			
1.a. Type of Submission: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application <input type="checkbox"/> Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Funding Request <input type="checkbox"/> Other Other (specify): <input type="text"/>		1.b. Frequency: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other Other (specify): <input type="text"/>	
		1.d. Version: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission <input type="checkbox"/> Revision <input type="checkbox"/> Update	
		2. Date Received: <input type="text"/>	STATE USE ONLY:
		3. Applicant Identifier: <input type="text"/>	5. Date Received by State: <input type="text"/>
		4a. Federal Entity Identifier: <input type="text"/>	6. State Application Identifier: <input type="text"/>
		4b. Federal Award Identifier: <input type="text"/>	
1.c. Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explanation			
7. APPLICANT INFORMATION:			
a. Legal Name: <input type="text"/>			
b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): <input type="text"/>		c. Organizational DUNS: <input type="text"/>	
d. Address:			
Street1: <input type="text"/>		Street2: <input type="text"/>	
City: <input type="text"/>		County / Parish: <input type="text"/>	
State: <input type="text"/>		Province: <input type="text"/>	
Country: <input type="text" value="USA: UNITED STATES"/>		Zip / Postal Code: <input type="text"/>	
e. Organizational Unit:			
Department Name: <input type="text"/>		Division Name: <input type="text"/>	
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this submission:			
Prefix: <input type="text"/>	First Name: <input type="text"/>	Middle Name: <input type="text"/>	

Supplemental Form

v1.0

Reset FormValidate Form

FY 2019 Low or No Emission Bus Program (5339(c))

Applicant and Proposal Profile

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

Section I. Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name:

FTA Recipient Number:

Organization Chief Executive Officer:
(Name and Direct Phone Number)

Applicant Eligibility: Direct or Designated recipient
 State
 Local Governmental Authority
 A Federally-recognized Native American Tribe

Population Served: Small Urbanized Area
 Large Urbanized Area
 Rural

Description of services provided and areas served.

Section II. Project Information

About the Project

Project Title:
(Descriptive title of this project)

Project Executive Summary:

Applicant and Proposal Profile Form - FY 2019 Low or No Emission Bus Program (5339(c))Page 1 of 6

Supplemental Form

Updates

- Organization Chief Executive Officer
- Project Statement of Work
 - Example: ABC Transit is requesting \$X to fund the purchase of X battery electric buses to replace X diesel buses that have exceeded useful life.
 - One sentence only.
- Project Type
- Departmental Objectives
 - Objectives are located in the NOFO: Section E. Application Review Subsection 2. Review and Selection Process
- Opportunity Zone
 - Treasury Department website:
<https://www.cdfifund.gov/Pages/Opportunity-Zones.aspx>

Supplemental Form

Project Budget

- Only applies to applicants who are using formula funds for the project. Use the Local Financial Commitment section to show detailed breakdown.

Project Budget					
Description	QTY	5339(c) Amount	5339(c) Local Match	Other Federal Funds	Total Cost
		Low-No Federal request	Low-No local match	Other FTA funds	

Matching Funds Information

5339(c) Matching Funds Amount:

Low-No local match

Federal Amount

Amounts must match or the application may not be reviewed.

SF-424

15. ESTIMATED FUNDING:	
a. Federal (\$):	b. Match (\$):
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Supplemental Form

Description	QTY	5339(c) Amount	5339(c) Local Match	Other Federal Funds	Total Cost
<input type="text"/>					

Key Takeaways



Use the NOFO.



Documentation is crucial.



Presentation is everything.



Questions?

Tara Clark

Federal Transit Administration

Phone: 202-366-2623

Email: tara.clark@dot.gov

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/lowno>