

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Low or No Emission Grant Program Webinar



May 11, 2017

Agenda

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



Program Description

Section 5339(c) of Title 49, United States Code, as amended by the FAST Act, authorizes FTA to award grants for low or no emission buses. The Low-No Program 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.





2016 Low-No Competition

Quick Facts

- 101 project proposals from 32 states
- Total of \$446 million requested
- 20 projects funded for a total of \$55 million
- Largest award was \$3.9 million
- List of funded projects on the FTA website
 - https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/fiscal-year-2016-low-or-no-emissionlow-no-bus-program-projects



2017 Low-No Competition

- Notice of Funding Opportunity: April 27, 2017
- Applications Due: June 26, 2017
 - Application Package can be found at <u>www.grants.gov</u> by searching for keyword "Low or No Emissions" or "Low-No." Applicants must register on <u>www.grants.gov</u> <u>at least 2-4 weeks prior</u> to applying.
- Project Evaluations: June July 2017
- Award Announcements: Late Summer 2017



Award Information

Funding Availability

- A total of \$55 million has been made available for low or no emission bus and bus facilities projects that support the evaluation criteria.
- Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the notice.
- Funding is available for obligation for year of award plus three years.
- Pre-award authority starts on the date of project announcement.



Eligible Applicants

- Designated Recipients, States, local governmental authorities or federally recognized Indian Tribes are eligible to submit proposals for this initiative.
- Rural areas must submit as part of a consolidated State application.
- An eligible recipient may submit an application in partnership with specific manufacturers, consultants, and other private sector partners that intend to participate in the implementation of the project.
 - The competitive selection process satisfies the requirement for a competitive procurement for the partners named in the application.



Cost Sharing or Matching

- Vehicles are eligible for a maximum 85% Federal/15% non-Federal match.
- Low or no emission bus related equipment or facilities are eligible for a 90% Federal/10% non-Federal match.
- Eligible sources of local match are listed in the NOFO.



Eligible Projects

- Purchase or lease of low or no emission buses
- Acquiring low or no emission buses with a leased power source
- 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



Eligible Projects

- Projects are not required to be in an air quality non-attainment area.
- Proposed 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. (49 USC 5339(c)(5)(A))
- All proposed projects must be part of the intended recipient's long-term integrated fleet management plan. (49 USC 5339(c)(5)(B))
- All new buses purchased with Low-No funds must complete bus testing prior to disbursement of FTA funds.
- All transit 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.



Definition of Low or No Emission Bus

A low or no-emission bus is defined as a passenger vehicle used to provide public transportation that significantly reduces energy consumption, air pollution, or direct carbon emissions, when compared to a standard vehicle.

This includes zero-emission transit buses, which are defined as buses that produce no direct carbon emissions and no particulate matter emissions under any and all possible operational modes and conditions.





Ineligible Projects

- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance
- Development or deployment of prototype vehicles
- Previous project expenses
- Mobility Management



Application and Submission Information

Notice of Funding Opportunity (April 27, 2017):

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/04/27/2017-08489/fy-2017-competitive-funding-opportunity-low-or-no-emission-grant-program

Application Information:

https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/applying/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-low-no-program-fy-2017-notice-funding-0

Applications must include:

- SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance (from <u>Grants.gov</u>)
- 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 June 26, 2017. Late applications may not be accepted.



Application Review

Evaluation Criteria (The Six Hows)

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?

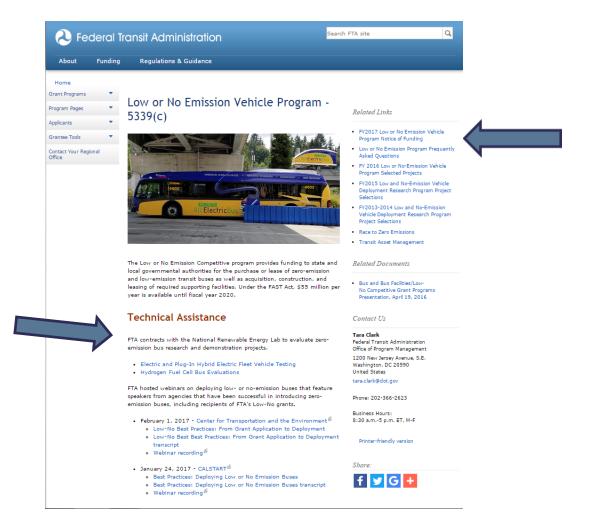
5. Project Implementation Strategy

How will the proposed project be implemented?

6. Technical, Legal & Financial Capacity

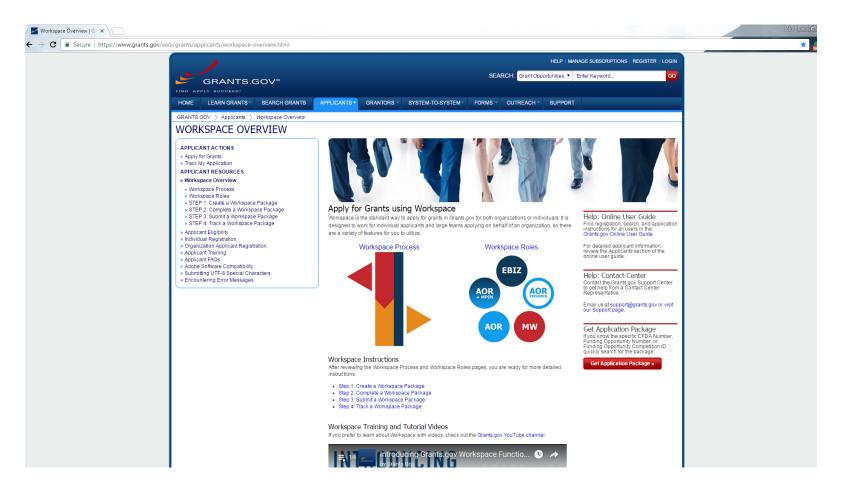
Does the applicant have the know-how to carry out the proposed project?

Low-No Resources



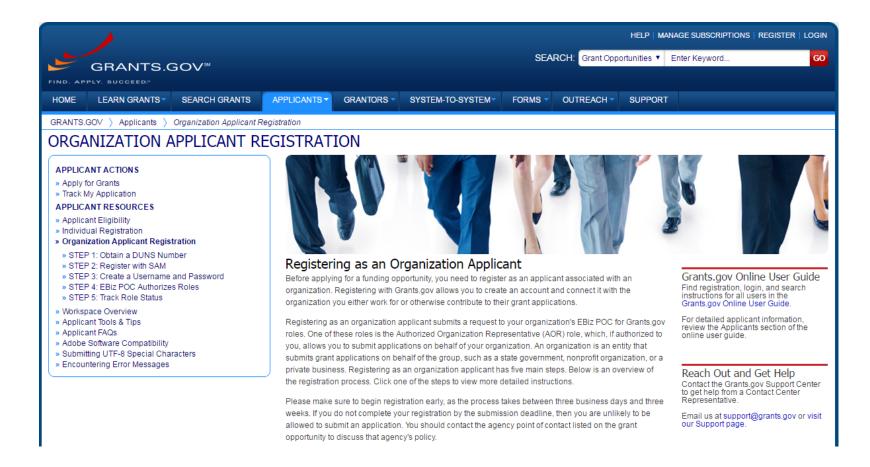


Grants.gov Registration



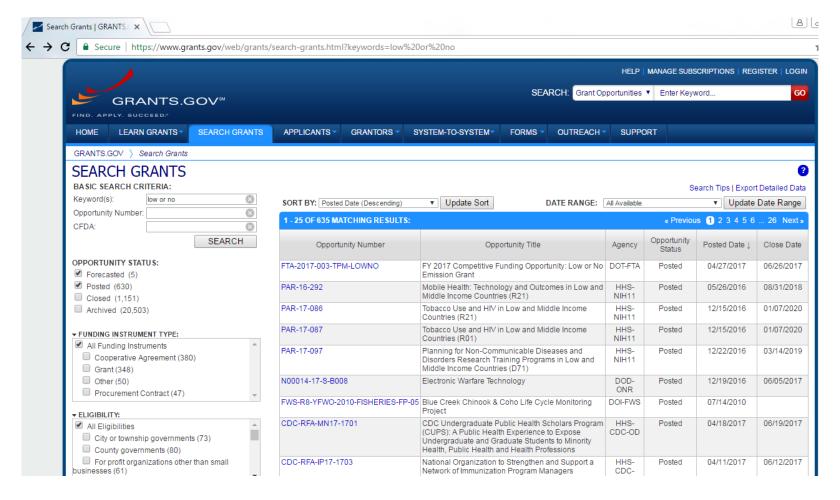


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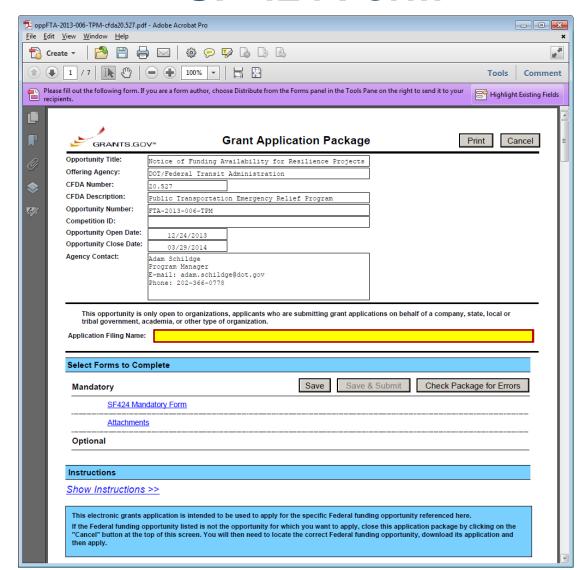


Grants.gov Search



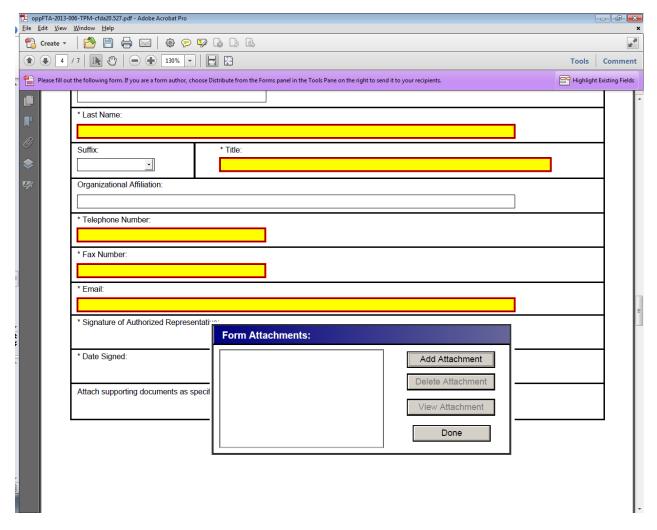


SF-424 Form





SF-424 Form





Supplemental Form

Reset Form Low or I	No Emission Bus Program (5339(c))	Validate For
	Applicant and Proposal Profile	
this a resubmission due to an invalid/erro	r message from FTA? 🧻 Yes 🏽 📵 No	
ection I. Applicant Inforn	nation	
Organization Legal Name	2:	
FTA Recipient number ID Number		
Applicant Eligibility:		
	○ State	
	C Local Governmental Authority	
	A Federally-recognized Native American Tribe	
Population Served:	t: O Urbanized Area	
	○ Rural	
ection II. Project Informa	tion/Evaluation Criteria (This section repeats per project)	Add Projec
	About the Project	
Project Title: Nescriptive title of this project)		
roject Executive Summary:		



Key Takeaways

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





Questions

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

