

# Human Trafficking Awareness and Public Safety Initiative

## Fact Sheet



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration



## Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purposes of compelled labor or a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion. Where a person younger than 18 is induced to perform a commercial sex act, it is a crime regardless of whether there is any force, fraud, or coercion. Victims can be anyone from around the world or right next door: women and men, adults and children, citizens and noncitizens alike.

Human trafficking is a modern form of slavery with nearly 25 million victims worldwide, including in the United States. Traffickers use all modes of transportation to conduct their activities and often use public transit because it is low cost, has greater anonymity in ticket buying, and less direct interaction with government or transit officials.

The [Federal Transit Administration \(FTA\) Human Trafficking Awareness and Public Safety Initiative](#) is a public safety initiative that supports the [Department of Transportation's \(DOT\) Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking](#) initiative through transit-focused industry engagement, education, public awareness and outreach, and research and technical assistance to combat human trafficking in transit. The initiative aims to maximize the transit industry's collective impact on human trafficking and other safety concerns.

## Funding Opportunities

FTA will make available \$4 million in competitive funding for two initiatives.

### Crime Prevention and Public Safety Awareness

\$2 million: Crime Prevention and Public Safety Awareness projects, funded through the Technical Assistance and Workforce Development Program, will develop and disseminate technical assistance materials supporting public safety awareness campaigns addressing public safety in transit systems, including crime prevention, human trafficking, and operator assault.

#### Eligibility

Eligible applicants for awards are national non-profit organizations. Organizations must have crime prevention experience, the capacity to provide public transportation-related technical assistance and the ability to deliver a national public awareness campaign.

#### Selection Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by a review team based on the following criteria: 1) ability to meet the goal of the Crime Prevention and Public Safety Awareness project; 2) qualifications of key personnel, experience and knowledge; 3) communication, technical assistance and outreach strategy; 4) research and demonstration capacity; and 5) management approach.

# Human Trafficking Awareness and Public Safety Initiative

## Fact Sheet



## Funding Opportunities

### Innovations in Transit Public Safety

\$2 million: Innovations in Transit Public Safety projects funded through the Public Transportation Innovation Program, transit agencies with identifying and adopting measures to address public safety in transit systems, including crime prevention, human trafficking, and operator assault.

#### Eligibility

Eligible applicants for awards are limited to State and local governmental entities; providers of public transportation; non-profit organizations; or a consortium of entities, including a provider of public transportation, that will share the costs, risks, and rewards of early deployment and demonstration of innovation.

#### Selection Criteria

FTA will evaluate proposals according to the following criteria: (a) demonstration of need; (b) demonstration of benefits; (c) coordination, planning and partnerships; (d) local financial commitment; (e) project readiness; and (f) technical, legal and financial capacity.

To report a human trafficking tip, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-3737-888 or text “info” or “help” to BEFREE (233733).

## How to Apply

Prospective applicants must [register for the funding opportunities](#). Applicants must [submit completed proposals electronically](#) for funding opportunity FTA-2019-006-TSO and/or FTA-2019-007-TSO by Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 11:59 PM ET.

Review the [application instructions](#) for additional information on the grant application process.

For more information see links to the Notices of Funding Opportunity: [Crime Prevention and Public Safety Awareness](#) and [Innovations in Transit Public Safety](#).

## Webinars

FTA will host informational webinars on [April 8](#) and [April 16](#) at 2:00 PM ET to discuss both funding opportunities and answer questions. Registration for the webinar is required. The webinar recordings and presentations will be posted [online](#) after each webinar.

## Contact

For more information, please email: [FTAPublicSafety@dot.gov](mailto:FTAPublicSafety@dot.gov).