Notice of Funding Availability for Bus and Bus Facilities Ladders of Opportunity Initiative

July 16, 2014
Agenda

- Introductions
- Overview of Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
- Application Requirements and Forms
- Questions and Answers
Overview of NOFA – Key Dates

• Notice of Funding Availability published – June 4, 2014

• Applications Due – August 4, 2014
  – Application Package can be found at www.grants.gov by searching for keyword “LADDERS”. Applicants must register on www.grants.gov at least 2-4 weeks prior to applying.
Overview of NOFA

Program Purpose:

To fund public transportation projects that support the development of communities, providing effective and reliable transportation options that increase access to jobs, recreation, health and social services, entertainment, educational opportunities, and other activities of daily life, while also improving mobility within and among these communities.
Overview of NOFA

Funding Availability
• Approximately $100 million has been made available for bus and bus facilities projects that support the criteria laid out in the Ladders of Opportunity Initiative NOFA

• Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the notice

Federal Share
• Projects selected under this NOFA are eligible for a maximum 80% Federal share, with a 20% non-Federal match.

• CAA and ADA eligible vehicles are eligible for a maximum 85% Federal/15% non-Federal match

• CAA and ADA eligible cost related to vehicle equipment or facilities are eligible for a 90% Federal/10% non-Federal match

• Bicycle access related project elements are eligible for a 90% Federal/10% non-Federal match
Overview of NOFA

Eligible Applicants

- Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program direct recipients, States, or Indian Tribes are eligible to submit proposals for this initiative.
- Rural areas must submit as part of a consolidated application.
- Eligible subrecipients include public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and private providers engaged in public transportation.
Overview of NOFA

Eligible Expenses

- Purchase, replacement, or rehabilitation of buses and vans, bus-related equipment
- Replacement, construction, expansion or rehabilitation of bus-related facilities
- Intermodal facilities [must have adjacent connectivity with bus service]
- Costs incidental to the acquisition of buses or construction of a facility

Ineligible Expenses

- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance
- Other expanded capital eligibility items such as security drills or the establishment of a debt service reserve
- Previous project expenses
- Mobility Management
Overview of NOFA

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Supports Ladders of Opportunities Five Principles
2. Demonstration of Need
3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization
4. Project Readiness
5. Technical, Legal & Financial Capacity
Application Requirements


Application Information:

Completed applications must include:

1. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance (from Grants.gov)
2. Bus Ladders of Opportunity Initiative Supplemental Form (from Grants.gov or FTA website)
3. Supporting Documentation

Application must be submitted through grants.gov by 11:59 PM EDT on August 4, 2014. Late applications may not be accepted.

Contact FTA with any questions about the NOFA or Application Process.
Grants.gov Registration

What's New

SAM Quick Start Guide For New Grantees
Registration, and SAM Video Tutorial for New Applicants are tools created by the General Services Administration to assist those registering with the System for Award Management (SAM). If you have questions or concerns about your SAM registration, please contact the Federal Support desk at https://www.fwsd.gov.

Grants.gov Applicant Training Video - Need a quick lesson on how to Register, Find and Apply? Watch this short video to get tips on registering with Grants.gov, finding grant opportunities, understanding your search results and applying for opportunities. If you have any additional questions please visit the Applicant Resources section of Grants.gov.

Grants.gov Blog

Grants.gov SYSTEM MAINTENANCE ALERT - The Grants.gov system is back online. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Financial Assistance

Grants.gov does not provide personal financial assistance. To learn where you may find personal help, please visit USA.gov. The United States Government does not require payment, of any kind, to receive federal grants. To report fraud, please contact the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General.
Grants.gov Registration

Registering as an Organization

This is the process of registering your organization for access to Grants.gov begins. Your organization must be registered to apply for grants.

Brief Overview of Registration Process

NOTE: Registration takes, approximately, 3-5 business days, but, allow 4 weeks to complete all steps.

Foreign Registrants: Anyone residing and doing business outside of the United States is still required to complete the five steps of the Grants.gov registration process, in addition to fulfilling supplementary requirements for doing business with the United States government.

STEP 1: Obtain DUNS Number

Same day, if requested by phone (1-866-766-5771), DUNS is provided immediately. If your organization does not have one, you will need to go to the Dun & Bradstreet website at http://www.dnb.com/wedsiteform to obtain the number. Information for Foreign Registrants. *Webform requests take 1-2 business days.

STEP 2: Register with SAM

Three to five business days or up to two weeks. If you already have a TIN, your SAM registration will take 3-5 business days to process. If you are applying for an EIN, please allow up to 2 weeks. Ensure that your organization is registered with the System for Award Management (SAM). If your organization is not, an authorizing official of your organization must register.

STEP 3: Username & Password

Same day. Complete your AOR (Authorized Organization Representative) profile on Grants.gov and create your username and password. You will need to use your organization’s DUNS Number to complete this step. Create a Username and Password.

STEP 4: AOR Authorization

*Same day. The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) at your organization must login to Grants.gov to confirm you as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). Please note that there can be more than one AOR for your organization. In some cases the E-Biz POC is also the AOR for an organization. *Time depends on responsiveness of your E-Biz POC.

STEP 5: Track AOR Status

At any time, you can track your AOR status by logging in with your username and password. Login as an Applicant (enter your username & password you obtained in Step 3).

Attention Facility or Staff of Educational Institutions

To submit your application via Grants.gov, you should first check with your Office of Sponsored Programs to verify that your organization is registered with Grants.gov. It is the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) of your organization who must register the educational institution or applicant organization. Most applications by faculty, staff, or other principal investigators are actually submitted on behalf of the institution at which they are employed or awarded grants, which are made to the institution are completed by the AOR. Likewise, the AOR is the person who must actually submit the application to Grants.gov. Questions about Grants.gov should be directed first to your Office of Sponsored Programs, which will assist you in submitting your application. Please provide that office with sufficient notice of your intent to apply online through Grants.gov.
SF-424 Form

Grant Application Package

Opportunity Title:
Notice of Funding Availability for Resilience Protections

Offering Agency:
DOT/Federal Transit Administration

CFDA Number:
00.327

CFDA Description:
Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program

Opportunity Number:
FRA-2013-006-TPM

Competition ID:

Opportunity Open Date:
12/14/2013

Opportunity Close Date:
07/22/2014

Agency Contact:
Adam Schiloge
Program Manager
E-mail: adam.schiloge@dot.gov
Phone: 202-366-7779

This opportunity is only open to organizations, applicants who are submitting grant applications on behalf of a company, state, local or Tribal government, academia, or other type of organization.

Application Filing Name:

Select Forms to Complete

Mandatory

SF424 Mandatory Form

Optional

Attachments

Instructions

Show Instructions >>

This electronic grants application is intended to be used to apply for the specific Federal funding opportunity referenced here. If the Federal funding opportunity listed is not the opportunity for which you want to apply, close this application package by clicking on the "Cancel" button at the top of this screen. You will then need to locate the correct Federal funding opportunity, download its application and then apply.
SF-424 Form
Supplemental Form

Applicant and Proposal Profile
Bus and Bus Facilities Program: Ladders of Opportunity

Section I. Applicant Information

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

Organization Legal Name:

FTA ID Recipient number (if applicable):

Applicant Eligibility:  ○ State  ○ Indian Tribe  ○ Direct recipient of 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program

Population Served:  ○ Urbanized over 200,000  ○ Urbanized 50,000 - 200,000  ○ Rural

Description of services provided:

Description of areas served:
Questions and Answers
Thank you!

• For further application-specific information and other assistance needed in preparing a complete proposal, contact the appropriate FTA Regional Office found at www.fta.dot.gov.

• For program-specific questions about applying for the funds as outlined in this notice, please contact **Samuel Snead**, Office of Program Management, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590, phone: (202) 366–1089, or email, Samuel.Snead@dot.gov.

• For legal questions, **Michelle Hershman**, Office of Chief Counsel, same address, phone: (202) 366–4011, or email, Michelle.Hershman@dot.gov.