

ARP Additional Assistance Funding NOFO

September 23, 2021



Office of Program Management
Federal Transit Administration



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

FTA Support for COVID-19 Response

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act: \$25 billion
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSAA): \$14 billion
- American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act: \$30.5 billion



Funding Description

- The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP), enacted on March 11, 2021, provided a total of \$30.46 billion to support the transit industry's response to COVID-19.
- Of that total, ARP appropriated \$2.2 billion in discretionary funding for transit agencies that need additional assistance to respond to COVID-19.



Important Dates

- NOFO published Sept. 7, 2021
- Applications due: Nov. 8, 2021, 11:59 p.m.
- Evaluation and rating of applications: November 2021 to March 2022
- Announcement of selected projects: March 2022 (120 days after application deadline, as required by ARP)

ARP Additional Assistance Funding Award Information

- \$2,207,561,294 appropriated
- No minimum or maximum grant award amount, although FTA may cap the amount a single recipient or State may receive as part of the selection process.
- No local match allowed.

Eligible Applicants

- Eligible recipients of Urbanized Area Formula funds (49 USC 5307) or Rural Area Formula funds (49 USC 5311) who, as a result of COVID–19, need additional assistance.
- Only designated and direct recipients of Sections 5307 and 5311 formula funding may apply directly to FTA, including States and Indian tribes.
- A designated or direct recipient may apply on behalf of one or more public transportation subrecipients of Urbanized Area and Rural Area Formula funding.

Eligible Projects

- Operating costs related to operations, personnel, cleaning, and sanitization combating the spread of pathogens on transit systems, and debt service payments incurred to maintain operations and avoid layoffs and furloughs.
- As required by ARP, Additional Assistance funding is available only for operating expenses.
- Operating expenses definition: costs necessary to operate, maintain, and manage a public transportation system. Examples: driver salaries, fuel, and items having a useful life of less than one year, including personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies. Preventive maintenance is considered an operating expense for the purposes of Additional Assistance Funding.



Eligible Projects (continued)

- Actual and anticipated expenses incurred on or after January 20, 2020 are eligible. FTA does not expect there to be sufficient funding to support shortfalls beyond September 30, 2023. However, this does not preclude applicants from submitting such requests.
- Capital projects are not eligible.

Criteria

Reduction in Farebox or Other Sources of Revenue

- Applicants must provide 2018 fare revenue and non-Federal revenue that supported operations.
- Applicants also must provide actual or projected farebox and non-Federal revenue used or needed for operations for each of the given Federal fiscal years (FFYs) identified in the supplemental form.
- The narrative should identify the reason for any differences between the 2018 amounts and the actual or projected amounts for the time period for which you are requesting assistance.



Criteria

Estimate of Financial Need

- The applicant must provide their 2018 operating expense total as reported to the National Transit Database (NTD) to establish a baseline for the request.
- The applicant also must provide the amount of CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARP funding allocated to it.
- Applicants then must provide their operating expense total for each FFY for which they are requesting funding. Applicants should also provide the amount of Federal funding used or projected to be used toward operating expenses in each year.



Criteria

Estimate of Financial Need (continued)

- The applicant must attach completed CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARP split letters or allocation announcements to the application. Failure to include this information will result in the total amount of CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARP funding allocated to the urbanized area(s) or state being considered available to the applicant or its subrecipients to address the additional funding needs identified in the application.
- In the narrative section of the report, the applicant must describe (1) how actual and/or projected revenues have fallen short of 2018 revenues, as a percentage of 2018 operating expenses; (2) how much of the lost revenues has been or will be replaced by CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARP funding; (3) how the requested assistance will support unmet operating expense needs, after fully using CARES Act, CRRSAA, and ARP funding; and (4) how the requested assistance will not displace regular formula grant assistance from FTA.



Criteria

Demonstration of Expenditure of CARES Act Funding

- The applicant must demonstrate that it has expended 90 percent of the CARES Act funding allocated to the applicant no later than the application deadline. The applicant must include the amount of CARES Act funding it received or was allocated and documentation supporting disbursement of at least 90 percent of its CARES Act allocations.



Criteria

Project Spending Plan

- Responses will be reviewed based on the extent to which the funding is ready to be obligated by September 30, 2023, and disbursed by September 30, 2029, as well as whether the applicant's proposed spending plans are reasonable and complete.

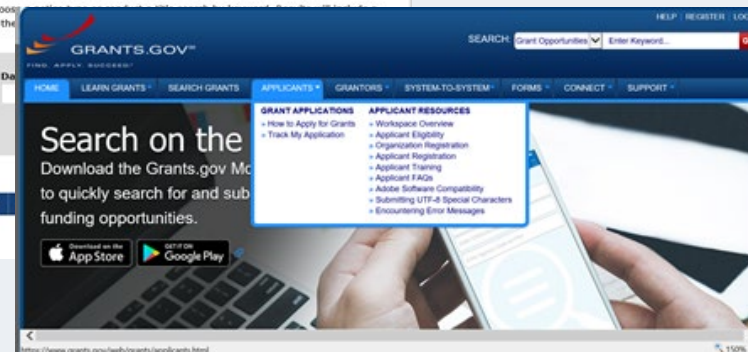
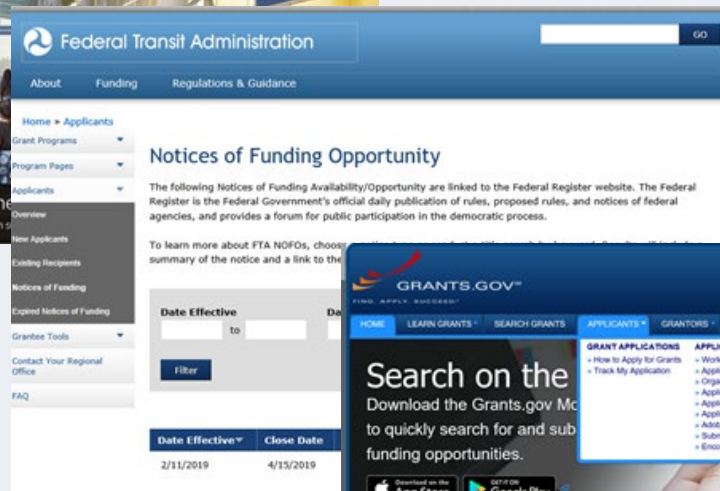
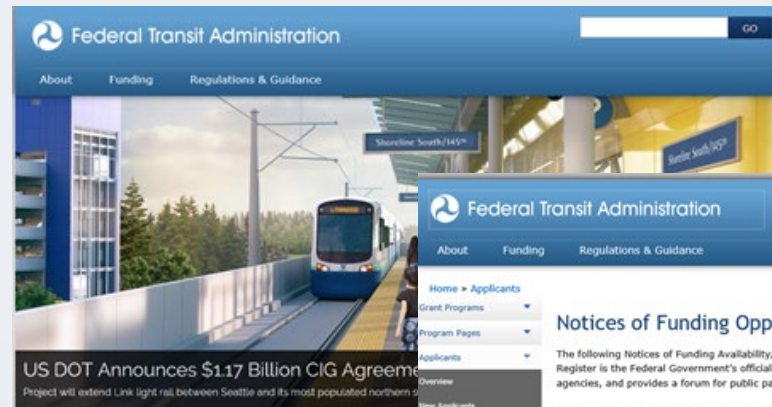


Review and Selection Process

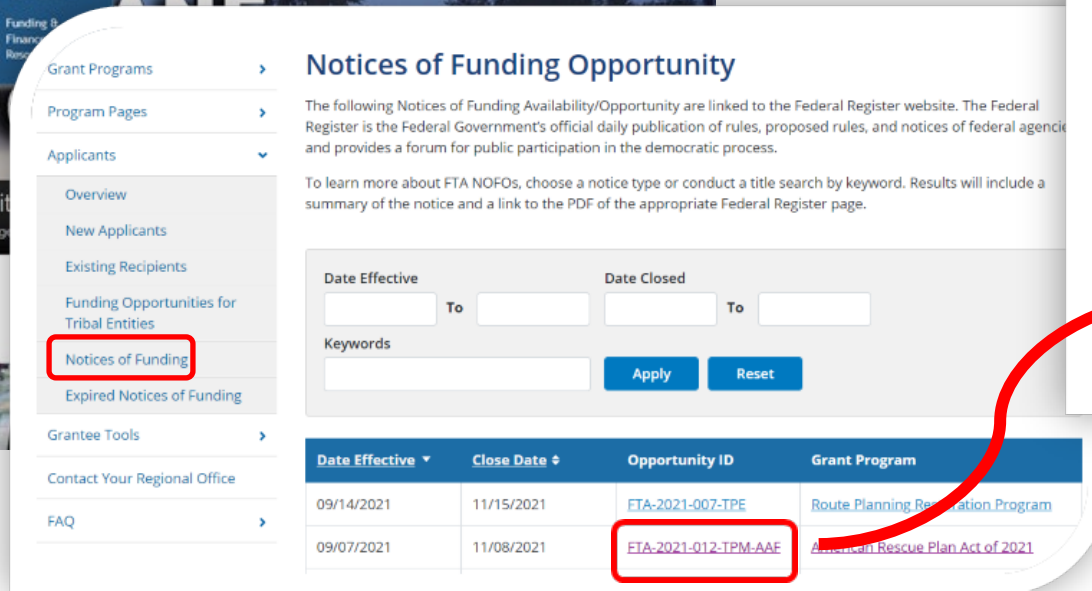
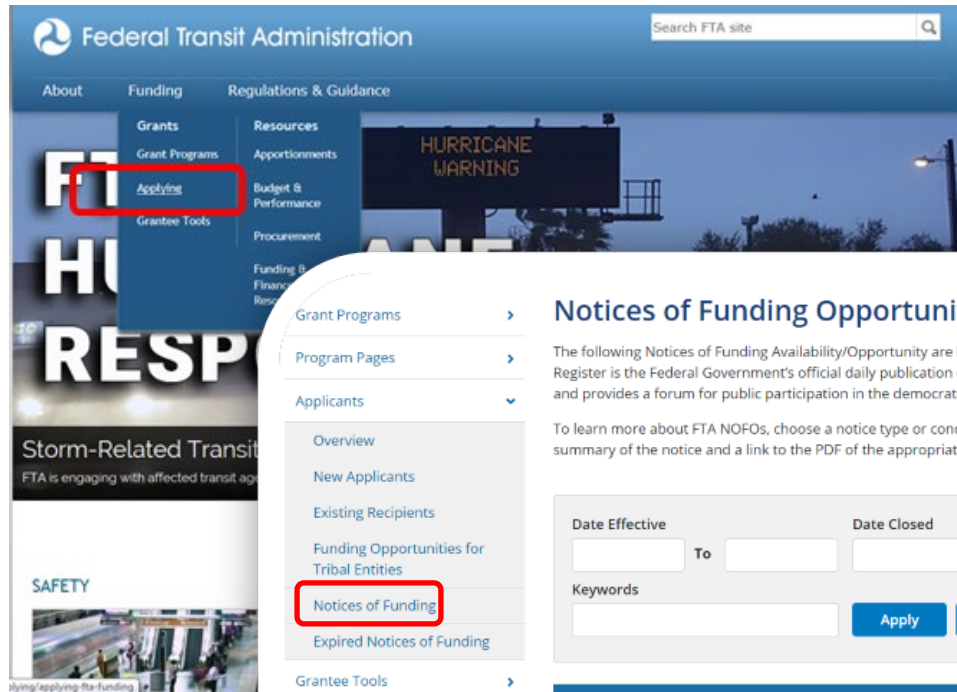
- A technical evaluation committee will review proposals based on the NOFO criteria.
- Based on the findings of the technical evaluation committee, the FTA Administrator will determine the final allocation of funding.
- Other considerations: In determining the allocation of funds, FTA also may consider geographic diversity, diversity in the size of the transit systems receiving funding, and an applicant's immediate funding need.
- FTA intends to fund projects with financial needs before September 30, 2023, before funding projects with needs after that date.



Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov



FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity



FTA website:

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/>

Funding Opportunity Notices:

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

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

FTA NOFO Page contains:

- Summary Description
 - Application requirements
 - Eligibility
- Supplemental Form
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

Federal Transit Administration

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American Rescue Plan Additional Assistance FY 2021 Notice of Funding Opportunity

Date Posted: September 7, 2021
Date Closed: November 8, 2021
Opportunity ID: FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF
Grant Program: [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#)
Opportunity Announcement PDF: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-09-09/pdf/2021-09-09.pdf>
Opportunity Announcement TXT: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-09-09/html/2021-09-09.html>

Link to Grants.gov

Related Links

- [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#)
[Press Release: U.S.](#)

Details: 9/7/2021. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Solicitation of Project Proposals for American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of \$2,207,561,294 in Fiscal Year 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Additional Assistance funding. Synopses and full announcement are posted on Grants.gov site as opportunity [FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF](#). Proposals must be submitted electronically through

Link and Instructions for attaching the supplemental form to the SF-424: All applicants must complete the attached [supplemental form](#) and attach it to their submission in GRANTS.GOV.

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

FTA NOFO provides hyperlinks to Grants.gov opportunity notice, related documents, and application package.

Download Application

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FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF
American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance
Department of Transportation
DOT/Federal Transit Administration

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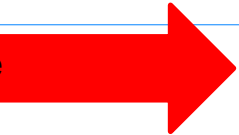
General Information

Document Type: Grants Notice	Version: Synopsis 1
Funding Opportunity Number: FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF	Posted Date: Sep 07, 2021
Funding Opportunity Title: American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance	Last Updated Date: Sep 07, 2021
Opportunity Category: Discretionary	Original Closing Date for Applications: Nov 08, 2021
Opportunity Category Explanation:	Current Closing Date for Applications: Nov 08, 2021
Funding Instrument Type: Grant	Archive Date: Dec 08, 2021
Category of Funding Activity: Transportation	Estimated Total Program Funding: \$2,207,561,294
Category Explanation:	Award Ceiling:
Expected Number of Awards: 200	Award Floor:
CFDA Number(s): 20.507 – Federal Transit Formula Grants 20.509 – Formula Grants for Rural Areas and Tribal Transit Program	
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: No	

Eligibility

NOTE: Anyone can download the application package from Grants.gov. However, only “authorized organizational representatives” can submit applications in Grants.gov.

Select the appropriate application package based on whether you are seeking ARP 5307 or ARP 5311 funding.



SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | PACKAGE

Print Related Documents List ?

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
Folder: Full Announcement - FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF	FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF-Full Announcement - FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF.zip	Sep 09, 2021 02:12:34 PM EDT	621.5 KB
Federal Register Notice	FRN_2021-19397.pdf	Sep 09, 2021 02:12:34 PM EDT	215.2 KB
NOFO	FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Additional Assistance Final NOFO.pdf	Sep 07, 2021 08:57:59 AM EDT	286.4 KB
Supplemental Form	FY21-ARP-Additional-Assistance-Supplemental-Form.pdf	Sep 07, 2021 08:06:27 AM EDT	189.7 KB

SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | **PACKAGE**

Print Package List ?

Select Grant Opportunity Package

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Opportunity Package(s) Currently Available for this Funding Opportunity:

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
20.507	FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF	American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance- Urban (5307)	PKG00268849	09/07/2021	11/08/2021	Preview Apply
20.509	FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF	American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance - Rural (5311)	PKG00268871	09/07/2021	11/08/2021	Preview Apply

Application Package

SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | **PACKAGE**

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20.507	FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF	American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance- Urban (5307)	PKG00268849	09/07/2021	11/08/2021	Preview Apply
20.509	FTA-2021-012-TPM-AAF	American Rescue Plan (ARP) Additional Assistance - Rural (5311)	PKG00268871	09/07/2021	11/08/2021	Preview Apply

Preview Opportunity Package Details

Opportunity Package Details:

Agency Contact Information: Sarah Clements
Office of Program Management
202-366-3062
e-mail: FTAarpassistance@dot.gov

Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS:

[Download Instructions](#)

Mandatory Forms (Click to Preview)	Optional Forms (Click to Preview)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » SF424 Mandatory Form [V3.0] » Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1] » Attachments [V1.2] 	---

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):	1.b. Frequency: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Other Other (specify):	1.d. Version: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission <input type="checkbox"/> Revision <input type="checkbox"/> Update 2. Date Received: _____ 3. Applicant Identifier: _____ 4a. Federal Entity Identifier: _____ 4b. Federal Award Identifier: _____
1.c. Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Explanation		STATE USE ONLY: 5. Date Received by State: _____ 6. State Application Identifier: _____
7. APPLICANT INFORMATION: a. Legal Name: _____ b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): _____ c. Organizational DUNS: _____ d. Address: Street: _____ Street2: _____ City: _____ County / Parish: _____ State: _____ Province: _____ Country: USA: UNITED STATES Zip / Postal Code: _____ e. Organizational Unit: _____		

Please fill out the following form. [Highlight Existing Fields](#)

ATTACHMENTS FORM

Instructions: On this form, you will attach the various files that make up your grant application. Please consult with the appropriate Agency Guidelines for more information about each needed file. Please remember that any files you attach must be in the document format and named as specified in the Guidelines.

Important: Please attach your files in the proper sequence. See the appropriate Agency Guidelines for details.

1) Please attach Attachment 1	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
2) Please attach Attachment 2	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
3) Please attach Attachment 3	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
4) Please attach Attachment 4	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
5) Please attach Attachment 5	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
6) Please attach Attachment 6	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
7) Please attach Attachment 7	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
8) Please attach Attachment 8	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
9) Please attach Attachment 9	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
10) Please attach Attachment 10	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
11) Please attach Attachment 11	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
12) Please attach Attachment 12	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
13) Please attach Attachment 13	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
14) Please attach Attachment 14	<input type="text"/>	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment

Application Package

Validate Form

American Rescue Plan - Additional Assistance Funding

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 ID Number:

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

Applicant Eligibility: Recipient of 5307 Funding
 Recipient of 5311 Funding

Project Location: Rural
 Small Urbanized Area
 Large Urbanized Area

Official census bureau urbanized area name:
(if applicable)

UZA's designated recipient, if not the applicant:
(if applicable)

CAUTION: Do not use “Supplemental Form” from prior years or create your own form. Please use the file provided on the FTA website.

The “Attachment Form” shown below is included in the SF-424 Grant Application Package in Grants.gov.

Please attach the **FTA Supplemental Form** to the **Attachment Form** shown below when submitting in Grants.gov.

Please fill out the following form. Highlight Existing Fields

Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form 424 Mandatory (Effective 08/2005)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

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1) Please attach Attachment 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
2) Please attach Attachment 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
3) Please attach Attachment 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
4) Please attach Attachment 4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
5) Please attach Attachment 5	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
6) Please attach Attachment 6	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
7) Please attach Attachment 7	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
8) Please attach Attachment 8	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>
9) Please attach Attachment 9	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Add Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="Delete Attachment"/>	<input type="button" value="View Attachment"/>

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Organization Registration

ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION

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- How to Apply for Grants
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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

Registering an Organization
The instructions below are for new organizations or organizations that have never applied for a federal grant before. 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?
Call 1-866-705-5711 or access the Dun & Bradstreet website
<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

How long does this step usually take?
1-2 business days
- 2. Register with SAM**

How do I register with the System Award Management (SAM)?
Access <https://www.sam.gov> and complete the online registration process. You also need the authorizing official of the organization to send a notarized letter to SAM and an EIN.

How long does this step usually take?
After SAM receives the notarized letter, up to 2 weeks (up to 5 more weeks to acquire EIN)
- 3. Register with Grants.gov**

Organizations must register in Grants.gov in order to submit applications

Workspace in Grants.gov

WORKSPACE OVERVIEW

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- » [How to Apply for Grants](#)
- » [Track My Application](#)

APPLICANT RESOURCES

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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
<p>+ Best for organizations with 1-2 registered Grants.gov users</p> <p>+ Application forms are downloaded and emailed to collaborators before being uploaded back to the workspace</p> <p>LEARN MORE ></p>	<p>+ Best for organizations with 3-5 registered Grants.gov users</p> <p>+ Applicant teams are typically comprised of an AOR who submits, as well as a Workspace Owner who oversees form completion</p> <p>LEARN MORE ></p>	<p>+ Best for organizations with external Grants.gov users such as consultants</p> <p>+ Workspace Owner manages form access</p> <p>+ Workspace Owner manages subforms</p> <p>LEARN MORE ></p>

Using Custom Roles in Workspace

Organizations are also able to create custom roles and assign these roles to the users affiliated with their organization.

[LEARN MORE >](#)

WORKSPACE ROLES

Grants.gov Roles & Privileges

When an applicant organization user registers with Grants.gov, the organization E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) -- or a user with the Expanded AOR role -- can assign the user a core role, a custom role, or no role.

- EBIZ**: Administrator E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC)
- EXP**: Core Role Expanded AOR
- AOR**: Core Role Standard AOR
- WM**: Core Role Workspace Manager
- CUST**: Custom Role
- NO ROLE**: No Role

E-Business Point of Contact

The E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) works primarily at the administrative level to (among other tasks) assign roles to organization users once they register with Grants.gov.

Web Addresses

FTA Funding Opportunities:

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

Grants.gov:

- <http://www.grants.gov/>
- <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html>

Contact Grants.gov Support Center to get help with Grants.gov issues:

GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support

1-800-518-4726

support@grants.gov



Questions and Answers



Contact Info

FTAarpassistance@dot.gov





[TRANSIT.DOT.GOV](https://www.transit.dot.gov)