FY 2023 Emergency Relief Grants for Public Transportation Systems Affected by Major Declared Disasters in Calendar Years 2017, 2020, 2021, and 2022

April 6, 2023

Tom Wilson
Office of Program Management
Federal Transit Administration

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

FTA
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Agenda

- Summary
- Emergency Relief Program
- Notice of Availability of Emergency Relief Funding
- Application
- Supplemental Form
- Selection & Administration
- Questions

CBS2/KCAL9 shows a wildfire burning in Camarillo, CA, Nov 8, 2018

Summary

FY 2023 Emergency Relief Grants for Public Transportation Systems Affected by Major Declared Disasters in Calendar Years 2017, 2020, 2021, and 2022

Notice of Availability of Emergency Relief Funding (NAERF)

- **$212,301,048** available
- Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program (Emergency Relief Program)
- March 27, 2023 (FTA-2023-009-TPM-ER)

Deadline to Apply: May 26, 2023

Eligible Applicants

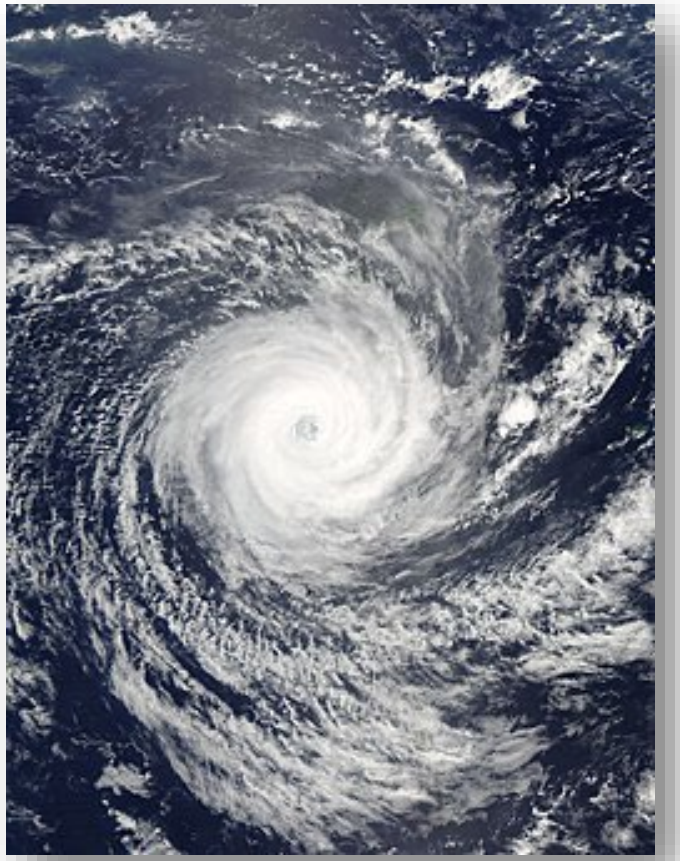
1. States, territories, local government authorities, Indian tribes, and other FTA recipients
2. Affected by major declared disasters in calendar years 2017, 2020, 2021, and 2022
3. Incurred associated costs that have not yet been reimbursed by FEMA or another entity.

Eligible Projects

- Projects may include costs for disaster response, recovery, and rebuilding activities.
- However, costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic are **not** eligible for this funding.

EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

Emergency Relief (ER) Program Overview



Tropical Storm Gita, American Samoa, 2018

- 49 U.S.C. § 5324 – Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program

  Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) – October 1, 2012

- Provides grants for:
  - **Capital projects** to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace public transportation-related equipment and facilities
  - **Emergency operating costs** of public transportation equipment and facilities

- No permanent or annual appropriation to date
  - Receives funding when appropriated by Congress

- Three previous supplemental appropriations:
  - **Hurricane Sandy** in 2012 ($10.9 billion)
  - **Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria** in 2017 ($330 million)
  - Major declared disasters in **calendar year 2018** ($10.5 million)

- All funds remain available "until expended"

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDING (NAERF)

NAERF § B: Current Funding Availability

- **The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Pub. L. 117-328)**
  - Signed into law on December 29, 2022
  - Appropriated **$213,905,338** for FTA's Emergency Relief Program
    - $213,905,338 - $1,604,290 (0.75% admin/oversight) = **$212,301,048**
  - For transit systems affected by major declared disasters occurring in calendar years 2017, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

- **Pre-award authority**
  - Allows reimbursement of expenses already incurred
  - Including expenses incurred in preparation for such disasters when forecasts specific to the disasters were available
  - For more information, see Emergency Relief Program final rule (49 CFR C.F.R. Part 602.11)

Michigan flooding, 2018

NAERF § C: Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants

- Public transportation agencies,
- States,
- Territories,
- Local governmental authorities,
- Indian tribes, and
- Other FTA grant recipients that provide or fund public transportation service are eligible for Emergency Relief funding under the program.

Eligible Subrecipients

- Public transit systems that are not FTA direct recipients (i.e., are subrecipients) but have incurred eligible expenses may receive Emergency Relief funding through a pass through entity, such as a State or designated recipient

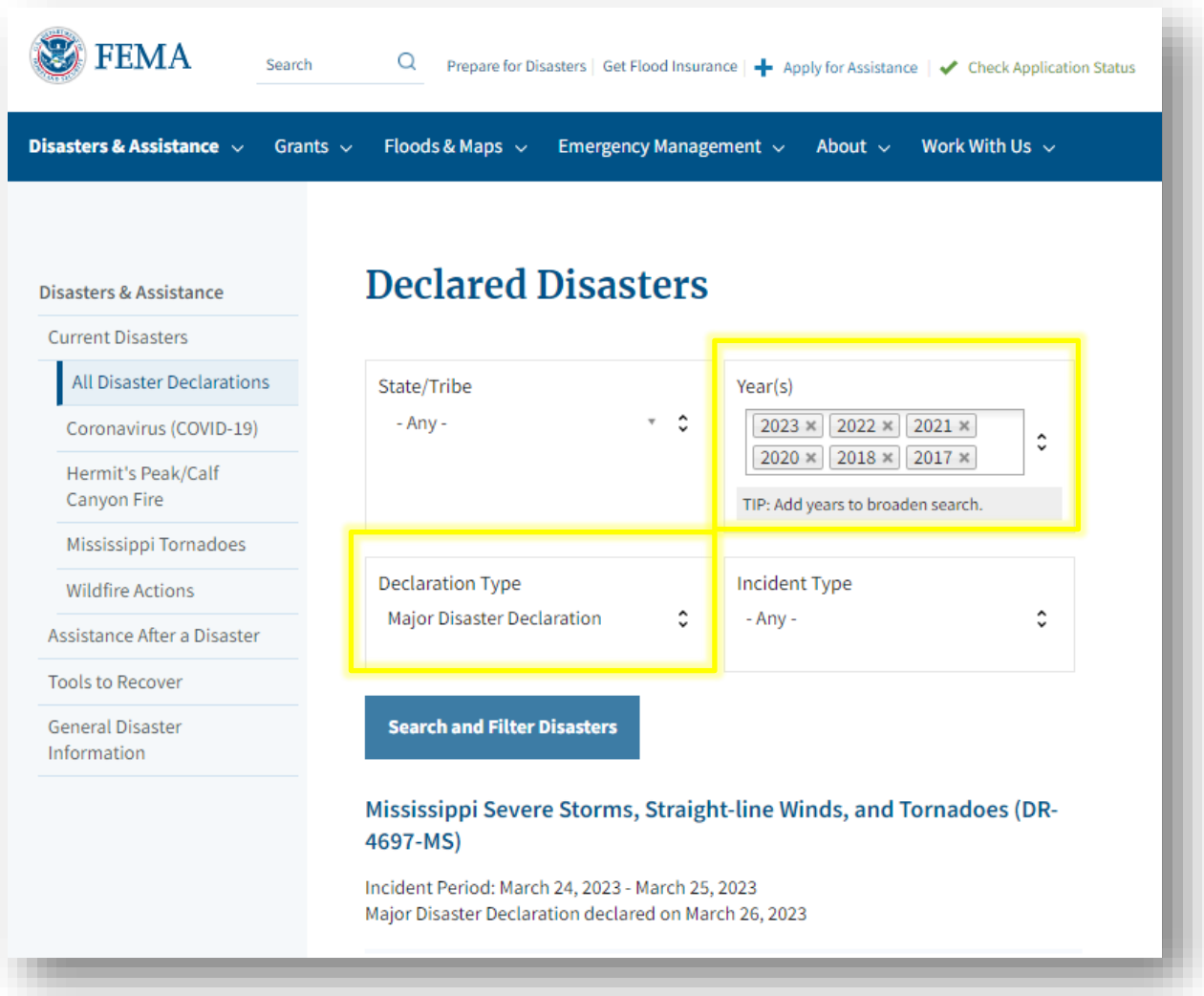
Evacuations in Oroville, CA – 2017

NAERF § C: Eligible Disasters

- **Requirements**
  - Occurred in Calendar Year 2017, 2020, 2021, or 2022
  - Major Disaster Declaration issued
  - County(s) eligible for FEMA Public Assistance

- Please see FEMA's website for
  - Major Disaster Declarations
  - Areas designated for Public Assistance
  - Incident periods

www.fema.gov/disasters/declarations



NAERF § C: Eligible Disasters

Mississippi Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Tornadoes

DR-4697-MS

Incident Period: Mar 24, 2023 - Mar 25, 2023
Declaration Date: Mar 26, 2023

Quick Links

- **Recovery resources:** State & Local | National
- **Connect:** Social Media | Mobile App & Text
- **24/7 counseling:** Disaster Distress Helpline

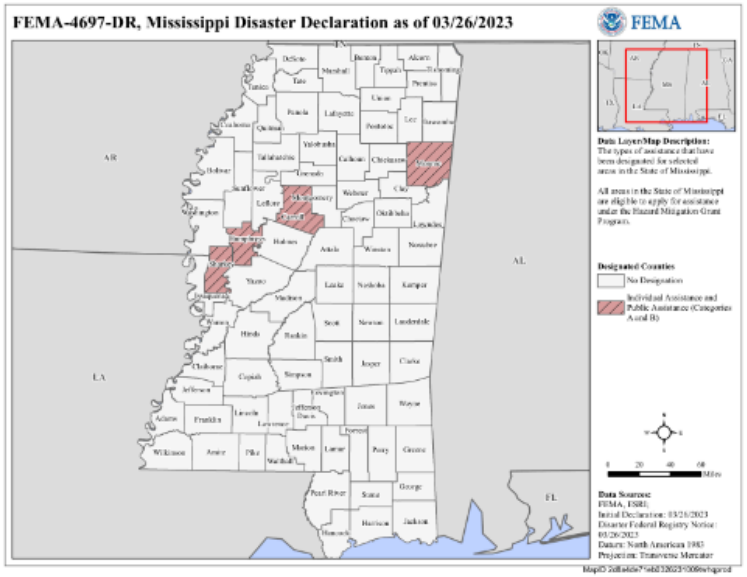
English Español

On This Page

- Help for Individuals & Families
- Local Resources
- How to Help
- Funding Obligations

More About This Disaster

- **Designated Areas**
  Individual Assistance | Public Assistance | How a Disaster Gets Declared
- **News & Media**
  Events | Press Releases & Fact Sheets | PDFs, Graphics & Multimedia
- **Reports & Notices**
  Disaster Federal Register Notices | Preliminary Damage Assessments



PDF of map | Google Earth | Need help with this map?

Individual Assistance

Individuals and households in these designated counties are eligible to apply for financial and direct services. Apply for assistance, or learn more about the Individual Assistance program.

- Carroll (County)
- Humphreys (County)
- Monroe (County)
- Sharkey (County)

Public Assistance

State, local, tribal and territorial governments and certain private-non-profit organizations in these designated counties are eligible for assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. Learn more about the Public Assistance program.

PA

None

PA-A

- Carroll (County)
- Humphreys (County)
- Monroe (County)
- Sharkey (County)

PA-B

- Carroll (County)
- Humphreys (County)
- Monroe (County)
- Sharkey (County)

PA-C

None

PA-D

None

PA-E

None

PA-F

None

PA-G

None

PA-H

None

NAERF § C: Eligible Projects

Eligible projects include:

- Public transportation emergency operations
- Emergency protective measures
- Emergency repairs
- Permanent repairs

Considerations

- Expenses must be incurred in a county eligible for FEMA Public Assistance
- For emergency service operations, service must be in addition to, or otherwise different than, regular service to be eligible
- Farecards and lost fare revenue are not eligible expenses
- Cost-effective resilience measures may be incorporated into replacement and repair projects

Recipients are strongly encouraged to review FTA's Emergency Relief Manual, found at: https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program/emergency-relief-manual-reference-manual-states

FTA's Emergency Relief Frequently Asked Questions at https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program/fta-emergency-relief-program-frequently

Alaska earthquakes, 2018

NAERF § C: Funding Restrictions

- FTA Emergency Relief Program funds may not be used to reimburse project costs for which a transit system has received payments from:
  - Insurance policies
  - Another Federal agency (including FEMA)
  - Other FTA funds.

- Transit systems that have been reimbursed by FEMA for emergency relief expenses may not apply for funds available through the NAERF for activities already funded

- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 CFR part 200) and FTA Circular 5010.1E apply

APPLICATION

NAERF § D: Application

Proposal Submission

- A complete proposal submission consists of two forms:
  - (1) SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance
  - (2) Supplemental Form

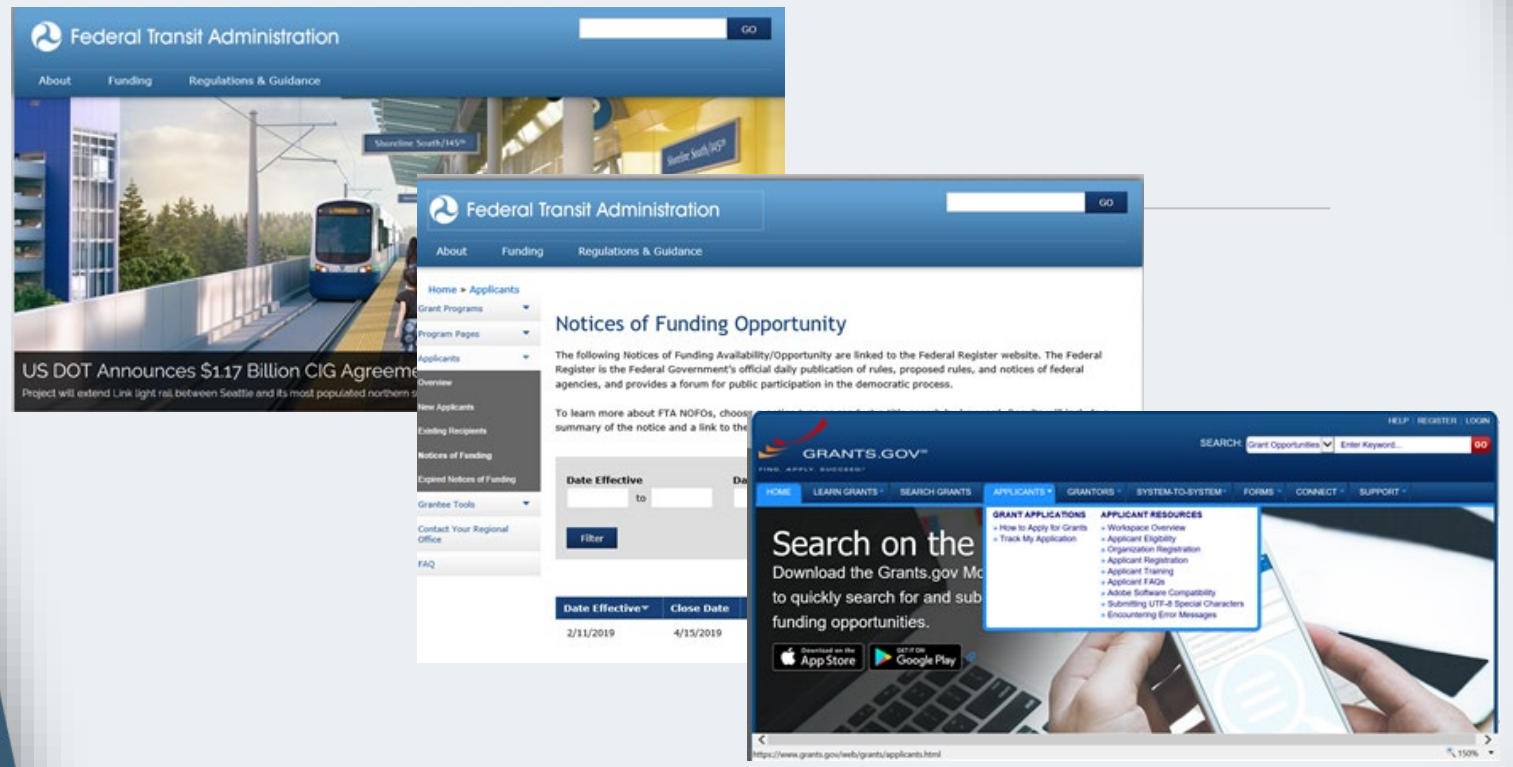
Helpful Information

- May include multiple disaster events in the same application.
- Fill in all fields unless otherwise stated on the forms.
- Check all required fields on the forms and ensure that the Federal and local amounts specified are consistent.
- Use both the “Check Package for Errors” and the “Validate Form” validation buttons

Attachments

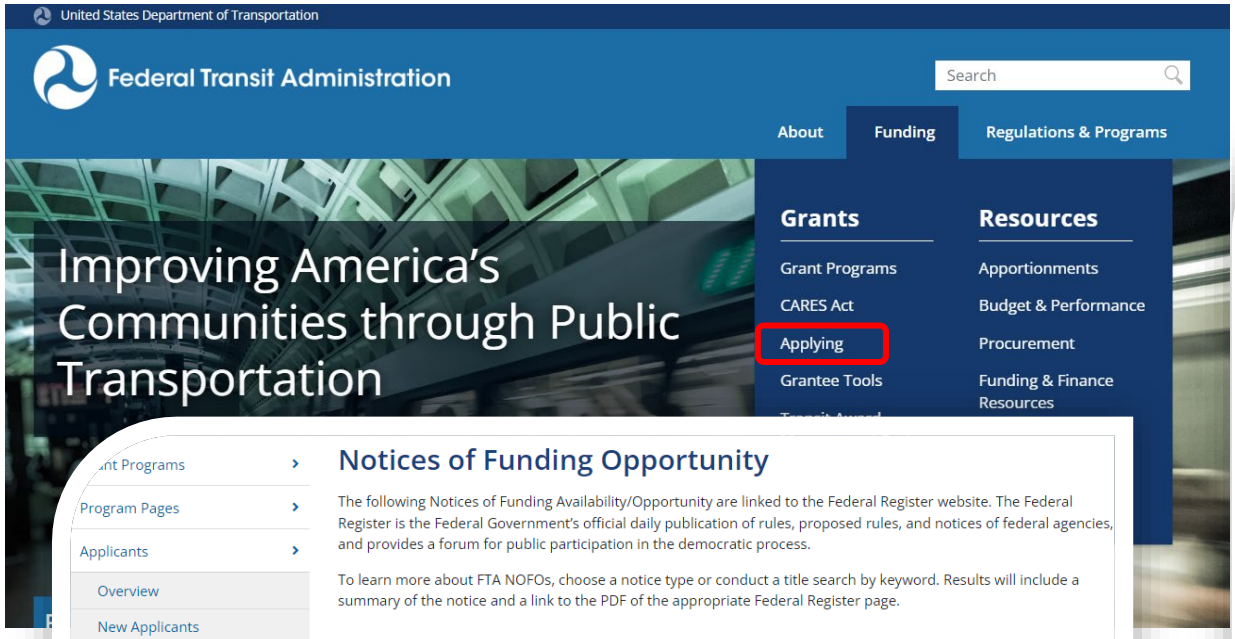
- Attach additional supporting information to the submission, including:
  - Documentation of eligibility
  - Damage estimates
  - Operating expenses incurred
  - Project budgets.
- Supporting documentation should be described and referenced by file name in the appropriate response section of the supplemental form, or it may not be reviewed.

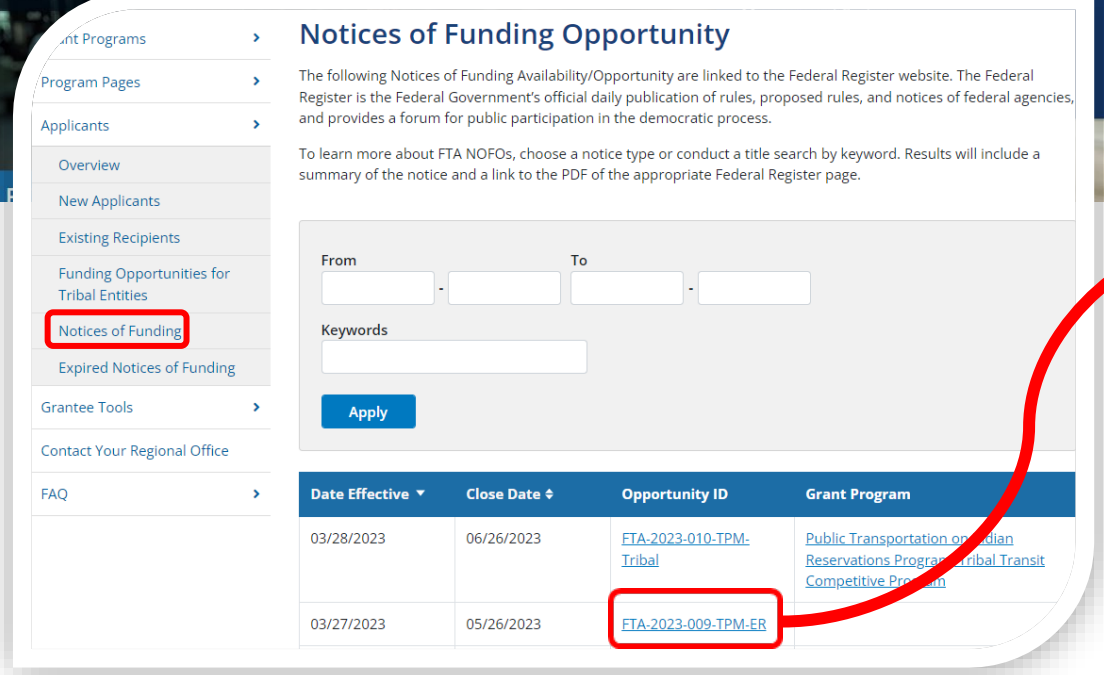
Applying for FTA Grant Opportunities in Grants.gov

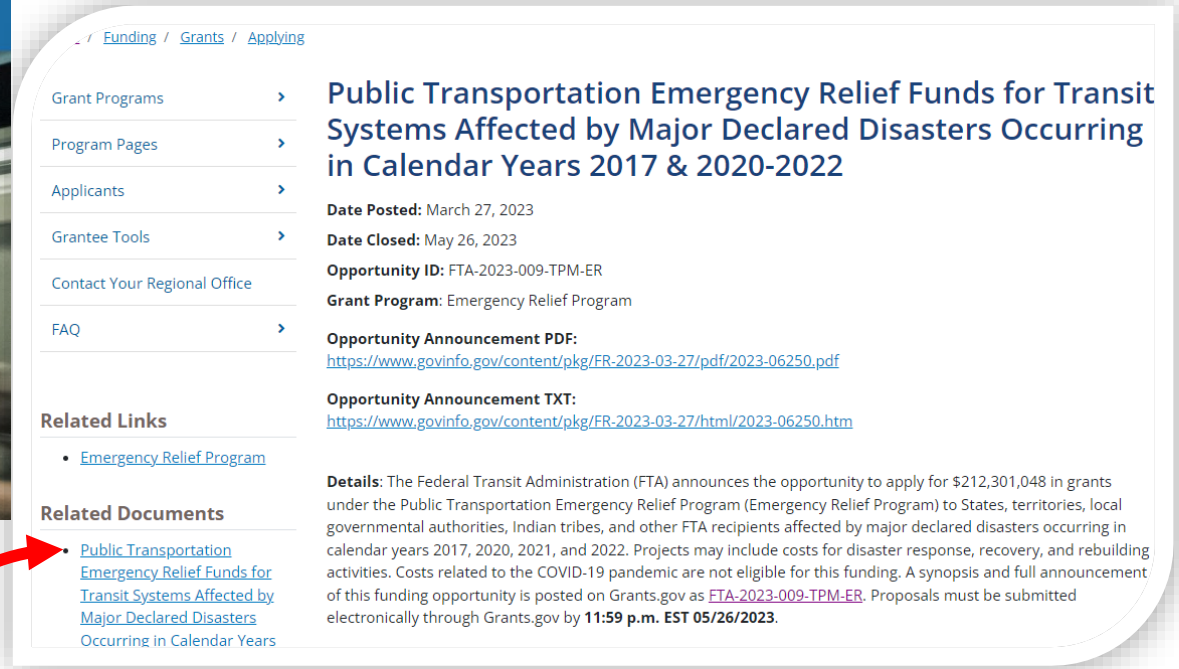


U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity







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

FTA Notice of Funding Opportunity

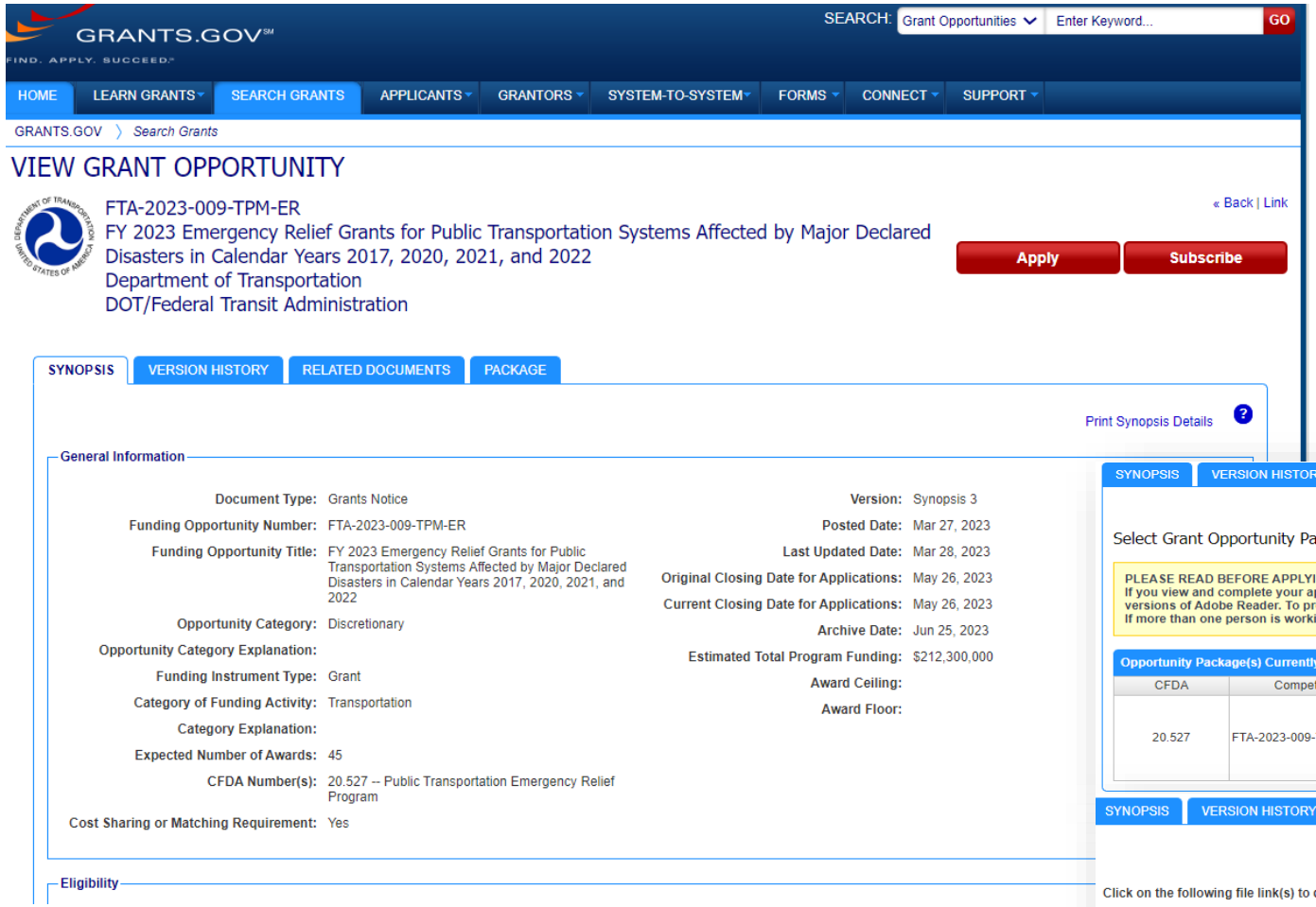
FTA NOFO Page contains:

- Summary Description
  - Application requirements
  - Eligibility
- Supplemental Form
  - Applicants should complete and attach this to their submission
- Links to Grants.gov
- Links to Program Information
- Other references and links

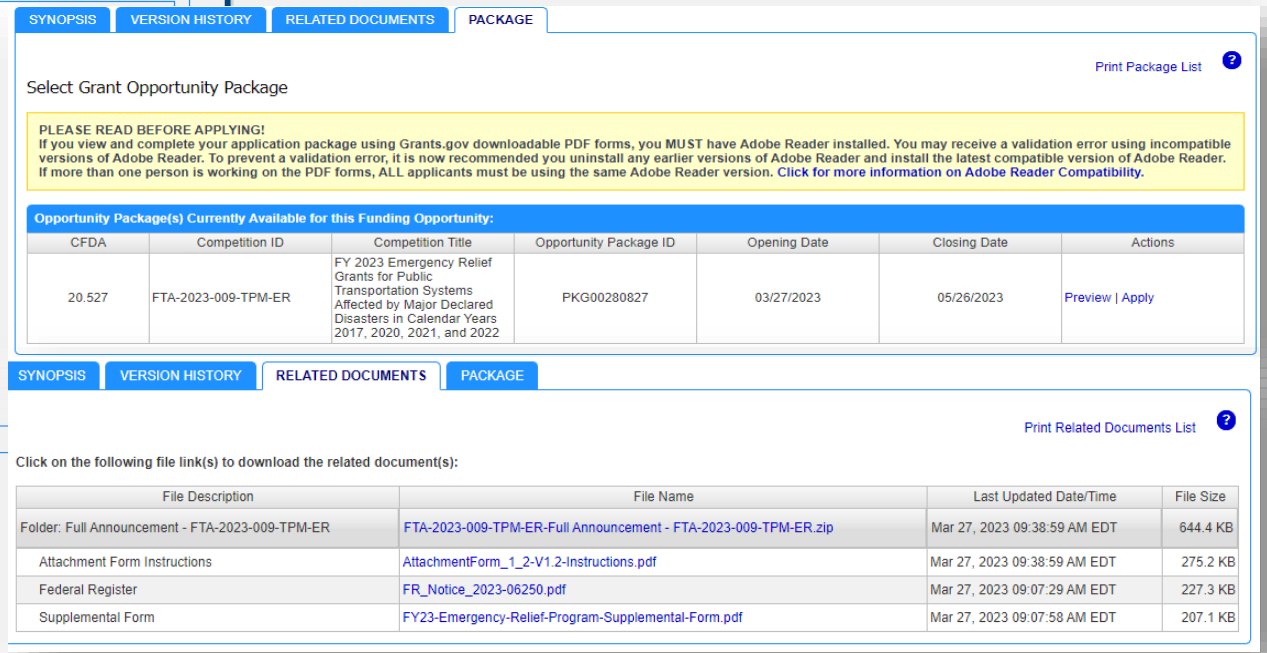
https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices

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

Download Application



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



Application Package

SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | PACKAGE

Print Package List

Select Grant Opportunity Package

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.

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

CFDA	Competition ID	Competition Title	Opportunity Package ID	Opening Date	Closing Date	Actions
20.527	FTA-2023-009-TPM-ER	FY 2023 Emergency Relief Grants for Public Transportation Systems Affected by Major Declared Disasters in Calendar Years 2017, 2020, 2021, and 2022	PKG00280827	03/27/2023	05/26/2023	Preview | Apply

Preview Opportunity Package Details

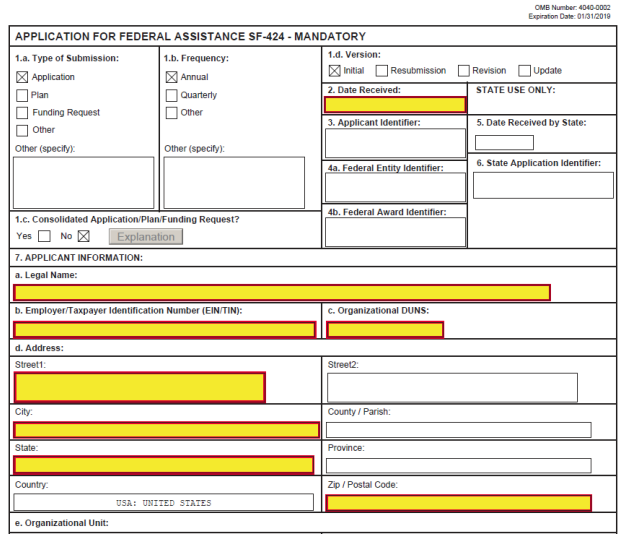
Opportunity Package Details:

Agency Contact Information: Thomas Wilson, Program Manager, Office of Program Management, 202-366-5279
Who Can Apply: Organization Applicants

PACKAGE FORMS: Download Instructions

Mandatory Forms (Click to Preview)	Optional Forms (Click to Preview)
» SF424 Mandatory Form [V3.0] » Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1] » Attachments [V1.2]	---

Close



OMB Number: 4040-0002
Expiration Date: 01/31/2019

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE SF-424 - MANDATORY

1.a. Type of Submission: ☒ Application ☐ Plan ☐ Funding Request ☐ Other
Other (specify):

1.b. Frequency: ☒ Annual ☐ Quarterly ☐ Other
Other (specify):

1.d. Version: ☒ Initial ☐ Resubmission ☐ Revision ☐ Update

2. Date Received:

STATE USE ONLY:

3. Applicant Identifier:

5. Date Received by State:

4a. Federal Entity Identifier:

6. State Application Identifier:

1.c. Consolidated Application/Plan/Funding Request? Yes ☐ No ☒ Explanation

4b. Federal Award Identifier:

7. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

a. Legal Name:

b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

c. Organizational DUNS:

d. Address:

Street1:

Street2:

City:

County / Parish:

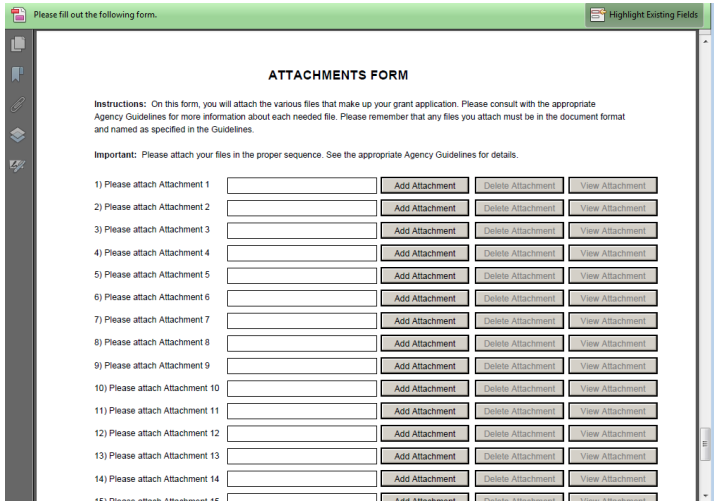
State:

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 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
2) Please attach Attachment 2 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
3) Please attach Attachment 3 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
4) Please attach Attachment 4 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
5) Please attach Attachment 5 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
6) Please attach Attachment 6 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
7) Please attach Attachment 7 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
8) Please attach Attachment 8 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
9) Please attach Attachment 9 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
10) Please attach Attachment 10 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
11) Please attach Attachment 11 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
12) Please attach Attachment 12 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
13) Please attach Attachment 13 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment
14) Please attach Attachment 14 — Add Attachment | Delete Attachment | View Attachment

Application Package

v1.0.0

FY 2023 Emergency Relief Grants for Public Transportation Systems Affected by Major Declared Disasters in Calendar Years 2017, 2020, 2021, and 2022

Validate Form

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:

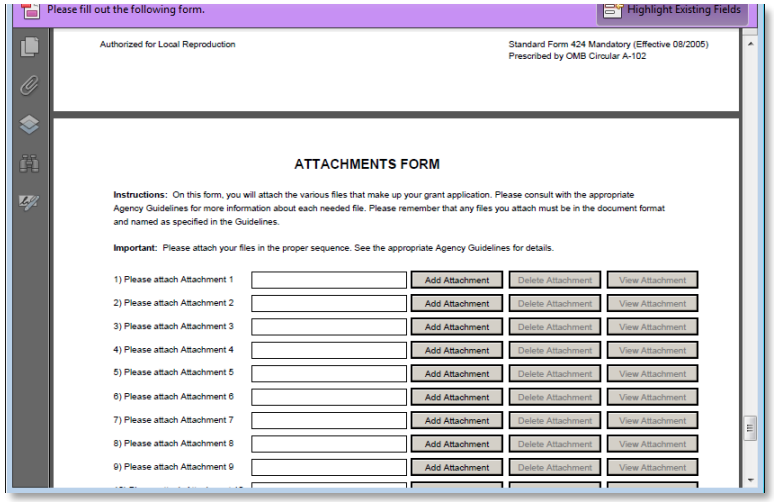
Organization Chief Executive Officer:
(Name and Direct Phone Number)

Applicant Type:
- ○ Direct or Designated Recipient
- ○ State
- ○ Local Governmental Authority
- ○ Federally-Recognized Indian Tribe

Project Location
(as of 2010 Census):
- ☐ Large Urbanized Area (200,000+ people)
- ☐ Small Urbanized Area (50,000-199,999 people)
- ☐ Rural (less than 50,000 people)

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.

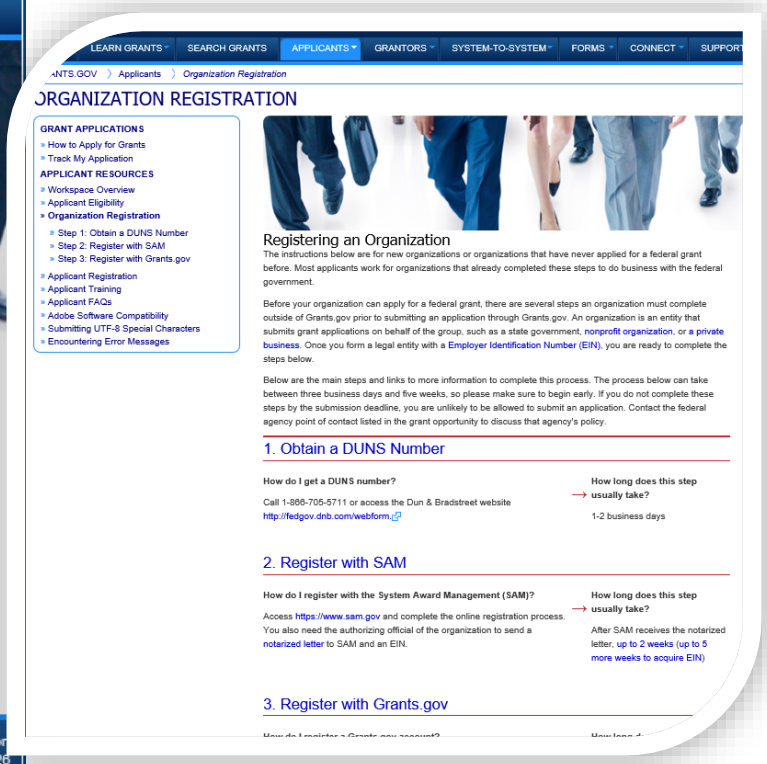


CAUTION: Do not use "**Supplemental Form**" from prior years or create your own form. Please use the file provided on the FTA website.

Applications on Grants.gov

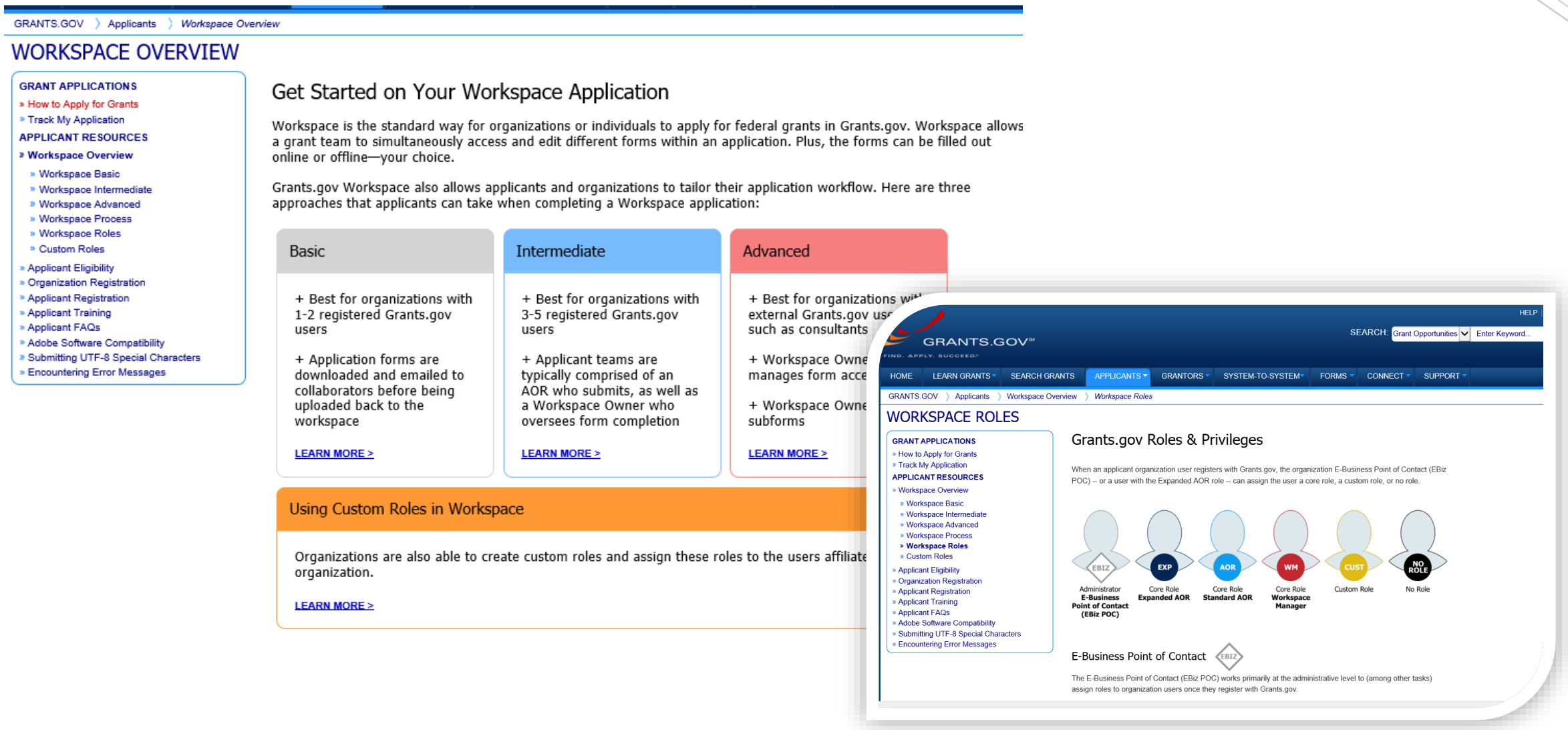
https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html

Applicant – Organization Registration



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

Workspace in 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

GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support
1-800-518-4726
support@grants.gov

SUPPLEMENTAL FORM

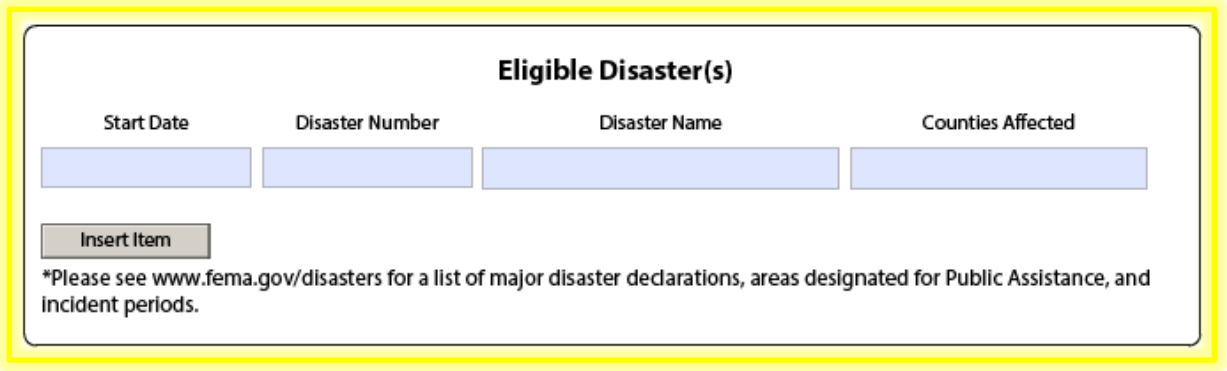
NAERF § E: Eligible Disasters

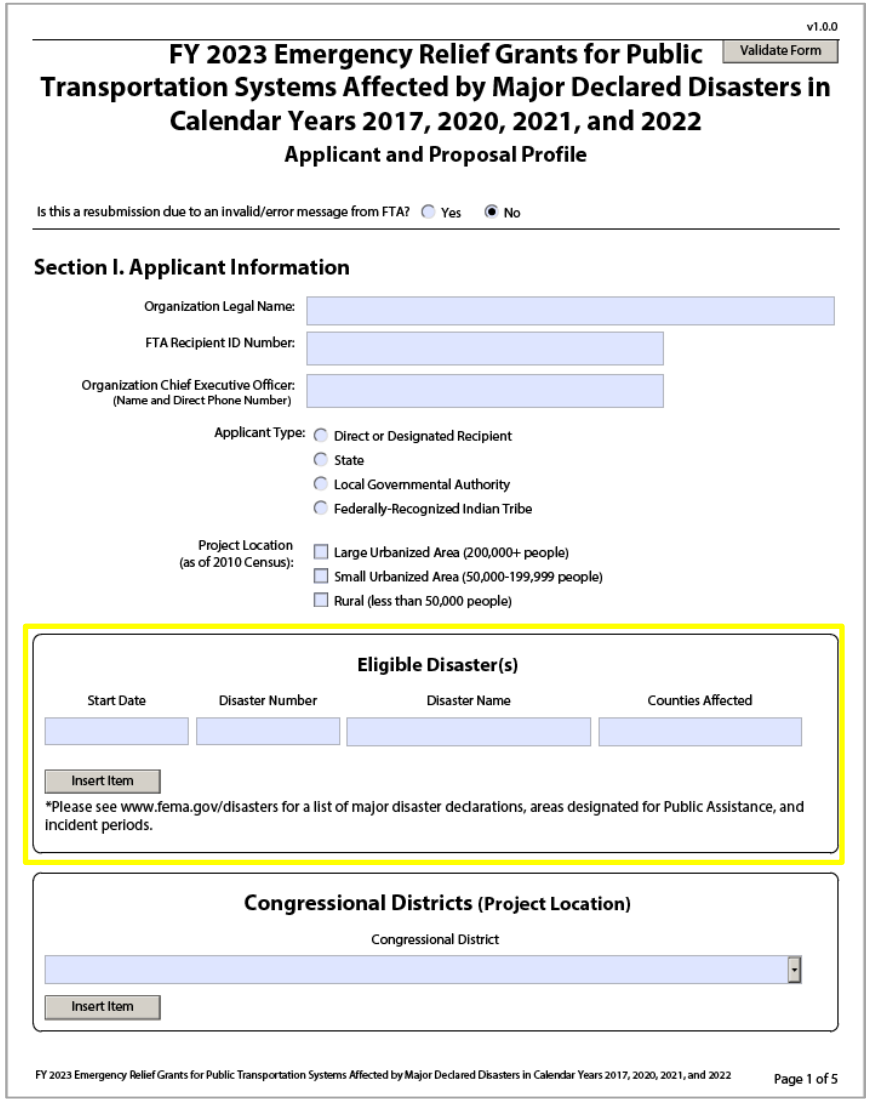
"The information on the supplemental form will be used to determine applicant and project eligibility for the program, and to review the proposal against the criteria described in part E of the NAERF."

Please see FEMA's website for

- Major Disaster Declarations
- Areas designated for Public Assistance
- Incident periods.

www.fema.gov/disasters/declarations





NAERF § E: Projects & Expenses

Documentation to Support Emergency Operating Requests

- Purpose of the emergency public transportation service provided
- Dates, hours, number and type of vehicles
- Information relating to fares received for the emergency service.
  - Only net project costs may be reimbursed.

Documentation to Support Capital Requests

- Detailed damage assessments
- Specific location
- Type of facility or equipment
- Nature and extent of damage
- Most feasible and practical method of repair or replacement
- Estimated repair or replacement cost

If you previously worked with FTA or FEMA to develop damage assessments, you may include them in the application.

Scalability

- Provide a clear explanation of how the project budget would be affected by a reduced award

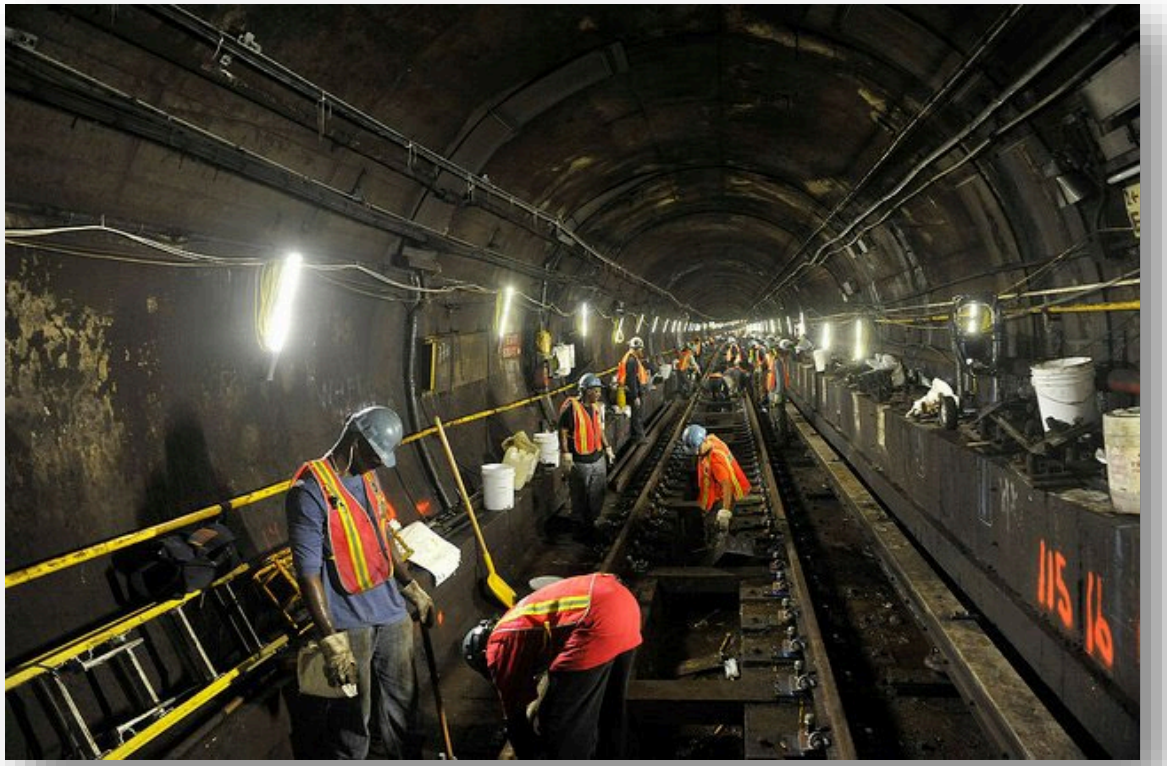
NAERF § E: Local Financial Commitment

- Federal share is 90 percent of the net project cost
  - Insular area maximum Federal share is 100 percent
- Applicants may request a waiver of the non-Federal share requirement
  - FTA's ability to provide a waiver and fully fund an applicant's request may depend on total requests from all applicants.
- To establish the availability of local share:
  - Identify the sources of funding
  - Describe whether such funds are currently available or will need to be secured
  - Document the availability of funds for the project
  - Document any other sources of funding available
    - Insurance policies
    - FEMA grant agreements

New Hampshire Snowstorm, 2018

NAERF § E: Final Criteria

- Project Implementation Strategy
  - Not a disqualifying criterion
  - Is the project ready to be implemented within a reasonable period of time?
    - Discuss the environmental review process and potential for categorical exclusion (CE), if relevant
    - Emergency Relief projects may qualify for a CE as described in (F)(2)(d) of the NAERF
    - State whether grant funds can be obligated within 12 months from time of award, if selected.
  - Are implementation plans reasonable and complete?
    - Project timeline and milestones
    - Demonstrated coordination with other organizations whose support is required
    - TIP/STIP not required if there are no changes to location or function



Hurricane Sandy repair work, MTA, New York, NY

- Technical, Legal, and Financial Capacity
  - "Applicants with outstanding legal, technical, or financial compliance issues from an FTA compliance review or FTA grant-related Single Audit finding must explain how corrective actions taken will mitigate negative impacts on the project."

SELECTION & ADMINISTRATION

NAERF § E: Review and Selection

Application Review

- Applications will be reviewed by teams of FTA staff to verify the eligibility of applicants, disasters, and expenses
- FTA reserves the right to request further information

Allocation of Funding

In the event the appropriated funding is not sufficient to fund all eligible projects, in determining the allocation of program funds, FTA may consider:

- Scalability
- Capping the amount a single applicant may receive
- Other factors as described in the NAERF

Project Selection

Final project selections will be posted on the FTA website. There is no minimum or maximum grant award amount.

Tohono O'odham Nation flooding- 2018

NAERF § F: Award Administration

- Pre-Award Authority

- Waiver of Remaining Useful Life Requirement
  - Assets that were destroyed as a result of an eligible Major Declared Disaster are presumed to have no remaining useful life
  - Recipients may apply for funds to replace assets without regard to the Federal interest remaining in the destroyed asset
  - Does not apply if the recipient receives insurance proceeds for an asset and decides not to replace that asset
  - Recipients may have a financial obligation to FTA for assets that have a fair market value (FMV) in excess of $5,000 at the time of disposition
  - See FTA Circular 5010.1E, "Award Management Requirements," Chapter IV, subsection 4 and associated Frequently Asked Questions at https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-disposition-requirements-frequently-asked-questions

- Treatment of Insurance Proceeds
  - If insurance proceeds are received for or allocated to a cost for which FTA provided Emergency Relief Program funds, the recipient will be required to:
    - Amend the grant to reflect a reduced Federal amount
    - Reimburse FTA for any FTA payments (drawdown of funds) in excess of the new Federal amount.
  - FTA will de-obligate any excess or unliquidated funds from the grant.

NAERF § F: Regulatory Waivers

- Charter
  - The Charter Service rule (49 CFR 604) is not triggered for activities directly related to a declaration of emergency by the President, governor, or mayor. Examples:
    - Providing service for evacuations
    - Returning evacuees from shelters to their homes
    - Transporting utility workers
    - Providing service to shelter residents
  - Transit agencies may provide such services for up to 45 days from the declaration of emergency.

- Procurement
  - Noncompetitive contracting is allowed by Federal regulations (2 CFR C.F.R. § 200.320) when the public exigency or an emergency will not permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation.
  - If a recipient will conduct a noncompetitive procurement under an FTA award, it must document its justification in writing at the time of the procurement.

- Emergency Relief Docket

  Allows grantees and subgrantees affected by national or regional emergencies to request temporary relief from FTA administrative and statutory requirements - https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/emergency-relief-program/emergency-relief-docket

Questions

Thomas Wilson

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Washington, DC 20590

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