

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

BUS PROGRAM LADDERS OF OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE

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

July 16, 2014



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

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

NOFA: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-06-04/pdf/2014-12925.pdf>

Application Information:

http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/13077_16008.html

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

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for CONTACT US, MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS, REGISTER, and LOGIN. A search bar is present with the text "Grant Opportunities" and a "GO" button. Below the navigation bar, there are several menu items: HOME, ABOUT, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS, GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, OUTREACH, and SUPPORT. The "APPLICANTS" menu is expanded, showing sub-links for APPLICANT ACTIONS (Apply for Grants, Track My Application) and APPLICANT RESOURCES (Grant Eligibility, Individual Registration, Organization Registration, Grant Application Process, Applicant FAQs, Applicant Resources, Applicant Tips). The main content area features a "Find Grants" section with a search button and a "Find Open Grant Opportunities" section with filters for NEWEST OPPORTUNITIES, BROWSE CATEGORIES, BROWSE AGENCIES, and BROWSE ELIGIBILITIES. A table lists several grant opportunities with columns for Funding Opportunity Number, Opportunity Title, and Agency. On the right side, there are sections for "What's New" (SAM Quick Start Guide, Grants.gov Applicant Training Video) and "Grants.Gov Blog" (SYSTEM MAINTENANCE ALERT). The footer contains social media links, contact information, and a copyright notice.

Grants.gov
FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.™

CONTACT US | MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS | REGISTER | LOGIN

SEARCH: Grant Opportunities Enter Keyword... GO

HOME ABOUT SEARCH GRANTS APPLICANTS GRANTORS SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM FORMS OUTREACH SUPPORT

Find Grants
SEARCH Grants.gov for your federal grants by more specific criteria. All discretionary grants of 26 federal grant-making agencies can be found on Grants.gov. You do not have to register with Grants.gov to find grant opportunities.

Search Grant Opportunities >>

APPLICANT ACTIONS
» Apply for Grants
» Track My Application

APPLICANT RESOURCES
» Grant Eligibility
» Individual Registration
» Organization Registration
» Grant Application Process
» Applicant FAQs
» Applicant Resources
» Applicant Tips

What's New
SAM Quick Start Guide For New Grantee 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.fsd.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.
[View More Blog Entries >](#)

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.

Find Open Grant Opportunities
NEWEST OPPORTUNITIES BROWSE CATEGORIES BROWSE AGENCIES BROWSE ELIGIBILITIES [View More >](#)

Funding Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency
BJA-2014-3719	PREA Program: Demonstration Projects to Establish "Zero Tolerance" Cultures for Sexual Assault in Correctional Facilities	Bureau of Justice Assistance
20141231-MR	Programming Grants to Accompany NEH on the Road Exhibitions	National Endowment for the Humanities
20140314-HT	Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities	National Endowment for the Humanities
2014NEA01AW1	Art Works FY 2015	National Endowment for the Arts
2014NEA01CAFT	Challenge America Fast-Track, FY 2015	National Endowment for the Arts
P14AS00016	Quantifying habitat selection & predicting habitat use by Whooping Cranes	National Park Service
DE-FOA-0001042	National Incubator Initiative for Clean Energy (NIICE)	Golden Field Office

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COMMUNITY: [USA.gov](#) | [Whitehouse.gov](#) | [USASpending.gov](#) | [SBA.gov](#) | [FSRS.gov](#) | [SAM.gov](#) | [DUNS Request](#)

GRANTS.GOV
200 Independence Avenue, S.W. • HHH Building
Washington, DC 20201
1-800-518-4726 • support@grants.gov

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

Grants.gov Registration

The screenshot shows the Grants.gov website in a Firefox browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL: www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html?jsessionid=yfYBSLdcSTycnvrQLzrZt7v7hQ9X2YLdL25dQ6LpRQvktxWYJmc. The Grants.gov logo is visible at the top left, with the tagline "FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED." below it. A search bar is located at the top right, with the text "SEARCH: Grant Opportunities" and a "GO" button. The main navigation menu includes links for HOME, ABOUT, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS (which is highlighted), GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, OUTREACH, and SUPPORT. The breadcrumb trail reads "GRANTS.GOV > Applicants > Organization Registration". The main heading is "ORGANIZATION REGISTRATION". On the left side, there is a sidebar with "APPLICANT ACTIONS" (Apply for Grants, Track My Application) and "APPLICANT RESOURCES" (Grant Eligibility, Individual Registration, Organization Registration, STEP 1-5, Grant Application Process, Applicant FAQs, Applicant Resources, Applicant Tips). The main content area is titled "Registering as an Organization" and includes a sub-heading "Brief Overview of Registration Process". A note states: "NOTE: Registration takes, approximately, 3-5 business days; but, allow 4 weeks to complete all steps." Below this, a section for "Foreign Registrants" states: "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." The registration process is broken down into five steps: STEP 1: Obtain DUNS Number (Same day, if requested by phone (1-866-705-5711), DUNS is provided immediately. If your organization does not have one, you will need to go to the Dun & Bradstreet website at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform> 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) at 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).). A final note states: "Attention Faculty 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 Organizational 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; awards are made to the institution. All registration steps for 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 using Grants.gov." The footer of the browser window shows the FTA logo and the text "FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION".

SF-424 Form


oppFTA-2013-006-TPM-cfda20.527.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Pro

File Edit View Window Help

Create [Icons]

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Please fill out the following form. If you are a form author, choose Distribute from the Forms panel in the Tools Pane on the right to send it to your recipients. Highlight Existing Fields

 **Grant Application Package**

Opportunity Title: Notice of Funding Availability for Resilience Projects

Offering Agency: DOT/Federal Transit Administration

CFDA Number: 20.527

CFDA Description: Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program

Opportunity Number: FTA-2013-006-TPM

Competition ID:

Opportunity Open Date: 12/24/2013

Opportunity Close Date: 03/29/2014

Agency Contact: Adam Schildge
Program Manager
E-mail: adam.schildge@dot.gov
Phone: 202-366-0778

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](#)

[Attachments](#)

Optional

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

oppFTA-2013-006-TPM-cfda20.527.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Pro

File Edit View Window Help

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4 / 7 [Navigation] 130% [Zoom] [Tools] [Comment]

Please fill out the following form. If you are a form author, choose Distribute from the Forms panel in the Tools Pane on the right to send it to your recipients. [Highlight Existing Fields]

[Empty Field]

* Last Name:
[Redacted]

Suffix: [Dropdown] * Title:
[Redacted]

Organizational Affiliation:
[Empty Field]

* Telephone Number:
[Redacted]

* Fax Number:
[Redacted]

* Email:
[Redacted]

* Signature of Authorized Representative:
[Redacted]

* Date Signed:
[Empty Field]

Attach supporting documents as specified

Form Attachments:

[Empty Attachment List]

Add Attachment
Delete Attachment
View Attachment
Done

Supplemental Form

http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/LaddersOfOpportunity.pdf

Reset Form v1.5 Validate 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:

File Find Disable View Images Cache Tools Validate | Browser Mode: IE10 Document Mode: Standards 3:32 PM 1/14/2014

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.