

On Wednesday, March 4, 2020, FTA hosted a webinar on two newly-announced funding opportunities, the [Safety Research and Demonstration Program](#) and the [Bus Operator Compartment Redesign Program](#). Information regarding the [Bus Operator Compartment Redesign Program](#) is listed below. For information regarding the [Safety Research and Demonstration Program](#), please click [here](#).

Safety Research and Demonstration Program Webinar Questions and Answers

Question: What is the complete definition of a shared corridor for the Safety Research and Demonstration (SRD) Program?

Answer: A shared corridor for this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) means light rail vehicles and streetcars operating adjacent to vehicular traffic and pedestrian traffic, including pedestrian crossings and highway rail grade crossings.

Question: Can one lead transit applicant partner with five other transit agencies in a single grant application, or must each agency file an application?

Answer: Multiple rail transit agencies may participate in the same project.

Question: Can FTA suggest potential partners with an FTA recipient ID?

Answer: Applicants should engage in their own process for contacting and developing partnerships. In the process, the applicant may ask a prospective partner if it has an FTA recipient ID.

Question: Will other types of rail safety innovation be considered in addition to trespassing, suicide, and operational safety of shared corridors?

Answer: Yes, all rail safety improvement applications will be considered. However, FTA has a strong interest in applications on the topics described in the NOFO and this webinar.

Question: What types of activities must be included in the application?

Answer: This is a safety demonstration program. Applicants need to provide information on activities to ensure successful demonstration of technologies, practices, and/or designs to improve rail transit safety.

Question: Can capital elements be included in the proposal for the demonstration program?

Answer: Yes, costs for equipment for the program can be included, but they must be for the purpose of conducting research and validating the effectiveness of solutions. See OMB Circular 6100.IE section 4 for additional details.

Question: Can indirect costs be considered a cost share element?

Answer: See OMB Circular 6100.IE under Financial Management for a list of what costs are eligible and what are not.

Question: Can staff time not reimbursed by the grant be considered a cash match?

Answer: Yes, employee time can be considered as cost share. See OMB Circular 6100.IE under Financial Management for further details.

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