



Grant Announcement

Date: March 9, 2023

Subject: Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program

Summary

The Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program (the FSP Program) provides funding for capital projects that reduce the state of good repair backlog, improve performance, or expand or establish new intercity passenger rail service, including privately operated intercity passenger rail service, if an eligible applicant is involved.

Grant Basics

- **FFY 2022 funding available:** \$4.5 billion (FSP-National Set-Aside)
- **Minimum and maximum award amount:** There are no predetermined minimum or maximum dollar thresholds for awards.
- **Application limit:** Applicants are not limited in the number of projects for which they seek funding. While applications covering multiple tracks are not precluded, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) generally expects that applications identify only of the tracks for an eligible activity.
- **Cost share:** The Federal share of total costs for FSP projects shall not exceed 80 percent with a minimum 20 percent non-Federal share being provided by the applicant via public sector (state or local) or private funding.
- **Eligible applicants:** (1) State(s); (2) A group of States; (3) An Interstate Compact; (4) A public agency or publicly chartered authority established by one or more States; (5) A political subdivision of a State; (6) Amtrak, acting on its own behalf or under a cooperative agreement with one or more States; (7) A Federally recognized Indian Tribe; (8) Any combination of the entities described
- **Eligible projects:**
 - A project to replace, rehabilitate, or repair infrastructure, equipment, or a facility used for providing intercity passenger rail service to bring such assets into a state of good repair
 - A project to improve intercity passenger rail service performance, including reduced trip times, increased train frequencies, higher operating speeds, improved reliability, expanded capacity, reduced congestion, and electrification
 - A project to expand or establish new intercity passenger rail service
 - A group of related projects described previously

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- The planning, environmental studies, and final design for a project or group of projects described previously
- **Tracks:** Applicants will submit applications in one of the following tracks for an eligible activity:
 - Track 1 – Project Planning
 - Purpose and need studies, design concepts, environmental analysis etc.
 - Track 2 – Project Development
 - Preliminary Engineering to 30 percent design, NEPA activities etc.
 - Track 3 – FD/Construction
 - Project implementation and deployment, including with respect to equipment
- **Application deadline:**
 - FSP-National Projects – April 21, 2023 at 4 p.m. CDT through www.grants.gov
- **Funding restrictions:** FRA will only approve pre-award costs if such costs are incurred pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the grant agreement and if such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. FRA is prohibited from providing FSP grants for Commuter Rail Passenger Transportation, however, FSP grants can benefit Commuter Rail Passenger Transportation and/or freight rail if they share a corridor with Intercity Rail Passenger Transportation.
- **Application length:** The project narrative may not exceed 25 pages.
- **Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA):** A Benefit Cost Analysis is required.
- **Webinar:** The FFY 22 FSP-National Program NOFO [webinar](#) was held on December 15, 2022. A number of additional webinars regarding various sections of the NSP Program were also held. These webinars can be viewed at under the “Grants & Loans” section at this [website](#).
- **Selection criteria:** 1) Safety, 2) Equitable Economic Growth and Job Creation, 3) Equity and Barriers to Opportunity, 4) Climate Change and Sustainability, 5), Transformation of nation’s transportation infrastructure
- **Contact information or questions:** Malachi Petersen, mpetersen@srfconsulting.com; (701) 893-7408

Link to NOFO: FFY 2022 [FSP Program NOFO](#)