

Federal Grant Options for Coastal Communities

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

❖ *FY 2019 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Grants Program*

The Department of Transportation seeks to provide funding assistance for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure with significant regional and local impact through the BUILD Transportation grant program. The FY 2019 cycle will give special consideration to projects which aim to improve access to affordable transportation options, improve transportation infrastructure, address public safety, and promote regional connectivity to spur economic growth in rural areas. Consideration will also be given to projects that concurrently include broadband development in rural areas to promote energy independence. Prior BUILD funding recipients can apply for funding to support additional phases of the awarded project.

Eligible Entities: State, local, and tribal governments, and units of State and local governments.

Program Funding: \$900 million with an anticipated award floor of \$5 million and award ceiling of \$25 million for urbanized areas and an award of \$1 million each for rural areas. Fifty percent of available funds (or \$450 million) are to be awarded to urbanized areas and the other fifty percent to rural areas.

Application Deadline: July 15, 2019

Additional program information can be found [here](#).

❖ *FY 2019 Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program*

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has announced funding availability of up to \$423.35 million for buses, bus facilities, and bus equipment. The purpose of the Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program is to assist in the financing of buses and bus facilities capital projects, including replacing, rehabilitating, purchasing or leasing buses or related equipment, and rehabilitating, purchasing, constructing or leasing bus-related facilities. Funds will be awarded competitively, and may include costs incidental to the acquisition of buses or to the construction of facilities, such as the costs of related workforce development and training activities, and project administration expenses. FTA may

award additional funds if they are made available to the program prior to the announcement of project selections.

Eligible Entities: State, local, and tribal governments, and units of state and local governments.

Program Funding: \$423.35 million with an anticipated award ceiling of \$42,335,024.

Application Deadline: June 21, 2019

Additional program information can be found [here](#).

❖ *Passenger Ferry Grant Program*

The Passenger Ferry Grant program (49 U.S.C. 5307(h)) provides competitive funding for projects that support passenger ferry systems in urbanized areas. These funds constitute a core investment in the enhancement and revitalization of public ferry systems in the nation's urbanized areas. Funds are awarded based on factors such as the age and condition of existing ferry boats, terminals and related infrastructure; benefits to riders, such as increased reliability; project readiness; and connectivity to other modes of transportation. Eligible activities include support existing ferry service, establish new ferry service, and repair and modernize ferry boats, terminals, and related facilities and equipment. Funds may not be used for operating expenses, planning, or preventive maintenance.

Eligible Entities: Funding is made available to designated recipients, eligible direct recipients of Section 5307 funds, States and federally recognized Tribes that operate a public ferry system in an urbanized area.

Program Funding: The award ceiling is \$6 million. Once awards are announced, funds are available for the year the announcement is made plus five years. Funding is allocated to projects on a competitive basis, from proposals submitted to FTA in response to Notices of Funding Opportunities. The federal share is not to exceed 80 percent of the net project cost for capital expenditures. The federal share may be 90 percent for the cost of vehicle-related equipment attributable to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Clean Air Act.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2019

Additional program information can be found [here](#).

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

❖ *FY 2019 Preparedness Grants*

The grant programs provide funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as transportation authorities, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector, to improve the nation's readiness in preventing, protecting against, responding to, recovering from and mitigating terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. The FY 2019 grant guidance will continue to focus on the nation's highest risk areas, including urban areas that face the most significant threats. Eligibility and application deadlines vary per grant, please review full NOFO and supporting information.

Preparedness Grant Program Allocations for Fiscal Year 2019:

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG): \$350 million to assist state, local, tribal, territorial governments in enhancing and sustaining all-hazards emergency management capabilities. Program information available [here](#).

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP): \$415 million to support the implementation of risk-driven, capabilities-based State Homeland Security Strategies to address capability targets. States are required to dedicate 25 percent of SHSP funds to law enforcement terrorism prevention activities. Program information available [here](#)

Port Security Grant Program (PSGP): \$100 million to help protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism, enhance maritime domain awareness, improve port-wide maritime security risk management, and maintain or reestablish maritime security mitigation protocols that support port recovery and resiliency capabilities. Program information available [here](#).

Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP): \$88 million to owners and operators of transit systems to protect critical surface transportation and the traveling public from acts of terrorism and to increase the resilience of transit infrastructure. Program information available [here](#).

Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP): \$2 million to owners and operators of intercity bus systems to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism and to increase the resilience of transit infrastructure. Program information available [here](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

❖ *FY 2019 Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program*

The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program provides long-term, low-cost, supplemental credit assistance through direct loans or loan guarantees for water infrastructure projects to enhance investment in water and wastewater infrastructure. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: (1) enhancing energy efficiency in the operation of public water systems or treatment plants; (2) repairs, rehabilitation, or replacement of water systems and treatment plants; (3) brackish or sea water desalination; (4) drought prevention, reduction, and mitigation; and (5) property acquisition. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates it will provide approximately \$6 billion in long-term low-cost financing and accelerate \$12 billion in investments through this program.

Eligible Entities: State and tribal governments, units of local government, corporations, partnerships, joint ventures, and trusts.

Program Funding: \$60 million to cover the subsidy cost of providing WIFIA credit assistance.

Application Deadline: July 5, 2019

Additional program information can be found [here](#).