

STATE COORDINATION GRANTS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. Who is eligible to submit the proposal?

A. Grants are for States. Only ONE proposal will be accepted from EACH state (and or territory). The state agencies involved in the coordination of Human Service Transportation should designate a “lead” agency to submit the proposal. Any State agency can be designated as the LEAD.

Q. What is the Grant Deadline?

A. The Grant Deadline is close of business August 23, 2004. Proposals should be submitted electronically to unitedweride@fta.dot.gov.

Q. What are the required components in the grant proposal submission package?

- A. The grant proposal should include the following components:
- 1) Goals and Objectives of the Project
 - a) Conduct the Framework for Action at the State and/or Local Level
 - b) Develop a statewide action plan or a series of local action plans
 - c) For those states with an action plan, they can choose to implement one or more elements outlined in their plan.

NOTE: For those States using the grant funds to IMPLEMENT an element of their action plan---a state action plan must be submitted along with page 41 of the Framework for Action.
 - 2) Brief description of the partnership and process of collaboration intended to carry out the project.
 - 3) Budget
 - 4) Letters of Support from partnership agencies.

Q. What is the length of the proposal submission?

A. The proposal is intended to be no more than 5 pages, double-spaced. This does not include letters of support or the budget. This also does not include the State’s action plan for those States implementing an activity.

Q. Does the Governor have to sign a letter of support?

- A. States who did not participate in the February 2004 National Leadership Forum must provide a letter of support from the Governor.

Q. Will Letters of Support be accepted after the closing date of August 23, 2004?

- A. Letters of support will be accepted for up to 5 days following the deadline for submissions of proposals (Accepted no later than August 28, 2004). Letters of Support can be faxed to 202-366-3136. Attention: Liz Solomon.

Q. Are there local matching funds required?

- A. No, the State Coordination Grants will be 100% federally funded.

Q. Will activities outlined in the UWR grant projects be required to be programmed in the area's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) or State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)?

- A. This is NOT a requirement of the grant making process. However, it is strongly encouraged that both the UPWP and the State TIP are modified during the course of the grant cycle and include this information in the Final Report for the UWR Grant.

Q. Will a Department of Labor Certification (13C) be required for these grants?

- A. No. These grants cannot be used to support transit operation, therefore Labor Certification is not required.

Q. Is assistance available for completing the Project Proposal application?

- A. Technical Assistance for completing the project proposal and implementation of those activities is available through the Technical Assistance Ambassadors at Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) (800-527-8279) and Project ACTION (800-659-6428). You may also call Liz Solomon at 202-366-0242 or Doug Birnie at 202-366-1666.

Q. Are there any specific reporting requirements associated with these grants?

- A. A final report will be required, which should include an updated Framework for Action and an Action Plan.

Q. What is the next step for the United We Ride (UWR) initiative?

- A. The United We Ride (UWR) grants are an effort to support states in their efforts to move the coordination process forward. The Executive Order (EO) calls for a significant level of collaboration and coordination regarding access for consumers; regulatory barriers; and cost efficiencies. The federal agencies outlined in the EO have developed an action plan that includes a plan to address these concerns and challenges. This action plan includes significant collaboration with stakeholders at the state and local levels.

Q. Is there a requirement for collaboration among state departments?

- A. We will only accept ONE application per State. States must address the coordination among state agencies as a requirement of the proposal submittal.

Q. How will this initiative affect funding for other programs, i.e., the Older Americans Act and Funding for Medicaid?

- A. The intent of this initiative is to ensure that various Federal programs are better coordinated across funding streams; build collaboration among Federal Departments; provide the most appropriate, cost effective transportation services within existing resources; and reduce duplication to make funds available for more services.

Q. Are federally recognized Indian Tribes and Nations eligible applicants?

- A. Federally recognized Indian Tribes and Nations are encouraged to work with those State agencies submitting a UWR application.