

National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) Program

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

April 6, 2022

<u>Agency:</u> Department of Transportation	<u>Bureau:</u> Office of the Secretary of Transportation
<u>Application Deadline:</u> May 23, 2022	<u>Max Award:</u> 50% allocated to projects between \$100M-\$500M; 50% allocated to projects over \$500M

Description

The National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) program was created to fund major projects that are too large or complex for traditional funding programs. The program will provide grants on a competitive basis to support multijurisdictional or regional projects of significance that may also cut across multiple modes of transportation.

USDOT has combined the Mega Program with 2 other discretionary programs (INFRA and Rural) under a single Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant (MPDG) opportunity. Each eligible applicant may submit three unique applications per grant program (Mega, INFRA, and Rural), for a total application limit of nine. Unless specified by the lead applicant, each application will be considered for all discretionary programs where project eligibility criteria are met.

Eligible Recipients

1. a State or a group of States
2. a metropolitan planning organization
3. a unit of local government
4. a political subdivision of a State
5. a special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority
6. a Tribal government or a consortium of Tribal governments
7. a partnership between Amtrak and 1 or more entities described in (1) through (6)
8. a group of entities described in any of (1) through (7)

Matching Grant Requirements

Mega grants can be used for up to 60% of project costs. Other federal grants may be applied, but the total federal share for a project receiving Mega grants may not exceed 80%.

Eligible Projects

- A highway or bridge project on the National Multimodal Freight Network
- A highway or bridge project on the National Highway Freight Network
- A highway or bridge project on the National Highway System

- A freight intermodal (including public ports) or freight rail project that provides public benefit
- A railway highway grade separation or elimination project
- An intercity passenger rail project
- A public transportation project that is eligible under assistance under Chapter 53 of title 49

New or Existing Program

New program established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Tips for Being Competitive

The Department seeks to fund projects under the MPDG common application that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, address climate change impacts through specific design elements, address environmental justice, and address equity and barriers to opportunity. Competitive applicants will also successfully demonstrate positive impacts in the six project outcome criteria: 1) safety; 2) state of good repair; 3) economic impacts, freight movement, and job creation; 4) climate change, resiliency, and the environment; 5) equity, multimodal options, and quality of life; and 6) innovation.

Labor Requirements

Each applicant selected for MPDG grant funding must demonstrate an effort to create good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union and incorporation of high labor standards. To the extent that applicants have not sufficiently considered job quality and labor rights in their planning, as determined by the Department of Labor, the applicants will be required to do so before receiving funds for construction, consistent with Executive Orders 14025 and 14052.

Examples of Prior Award Recipients

N/A

Agency Contact

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Upcoming Webinars and Information Sessions

- [April 7, 1-3pm EDT](#): How to Apply for the MPDG Opportunity
- [April 12, 1-3pm EDT](#): How to Apply for the MPDG Opportunity - Rural and Tribal Applicants, Areas of Persistent Poverty, and Historically Disadvantaged Communities

Webinar recordings and presentation slides for previous events can be found at the [MPDG Webinar Page](#).

Types of Partners Required

None required; however, due to the extensive nature of the projects being funded, partners will likely be needed to demonstrate the lead applicant's ability to complete the project scope.

Total Allocation

\$1 billion for FY2022

Links to Grant Opportunity

- [Multimodal Projects Discretionary Grant \(MPDG\) Opportunity on Grants.Gov](#)
- [Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant - Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [The Mega Grant Homepage](#)
- [MPDG - Frequently Asked Questions](#)