



FEMA

Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the purpose of the FY 2015 TSGP?

The purpose of the FY 2015 TSGP is to provide funding to eligible publicly owned operators of public transportation (which include intra-city bus, commuter bus, ferries, and all forms of passenger rail) to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism and to increase the resilience of transit infrastructure.

The FY 2015 TSGP plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. Delivering core capabilities requires the combined effort of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The FY 2015 TSGP's allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

2. How much funding is available under the FY 2015 TSGP?

The total amount of funds distributed under the FY 2015 TSGP will be \$87,000,000.

3. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2015 TSGP funds?

Agencies eligible for the FY 2015 TSGP are determined based upon daily unlinked passenger trips (ridership) and transit systems that serve historically eligible Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdictions.

Certain ferry systems are eligible to participate in the FY 2015 TSGP and received funds. However, any ferry system electing to participate and receive funds under the FY 2015 TSGP will not be eligible to participate under the FY 2015 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) and will not be considered for funding under the FY 2015 PSGP. Likewise, any ferry system that participates in the PSGP will not be eligible for funding under the TSGP.

4. What are the key milestones associated with the FY 2015 TSGP?

The key milestones associated with FY 2015 TSGP Program are:

- April 2, 2015: Release date for FY 2015 TSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- May 19, 2015: Applications for FY 2015 TSGP are due to DHS/FEMA

5. How will the FY 2015 TSGP funds be allocated?

DHS intends to focus its available transit security grant dollars on the highest-risk systems through a competitive process.

DHS has identified priority project types and placed them into groups based on their effectiveness to reduce risk. These groups have been prioritized based upon Departmental priorities and their ability to strengthen security on a system-wide level, to strengthen security to critical infrastructure assets, and to reduce the risk of catastrophic events and consequences. DHS has identified critical infrastructure assets of national concern through the Top Transit Asset List (TTAL). Critical infrastructure assets are those so vital to the functionality and continuity of a major transit system that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, public health or safety, or any combination thereof. With the creation of the TTAL, DHS can target funding to the remediation of those assets using an informed and risk-based approach.

6. What are the changes in funding levels between FY 2014 and FY 2015?

The FY 2015 funding level for the TSGP is \$87,000,000; \$3,000,000 lower than the FY 2014 funding level of \$90,000,000. This represents a 3.3 percent decrease to the FY 2014 level.

7. What legislation authorized funding for the FY 2015 TSGP Program?

The TSGP is authorized by Section 1406 of the *Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007*, Public Law 110-53 (6 U.S.C. 1135).

8. Where is the FY 2015 TSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) located?

The FY 2015 TSGP NOFO is located online at: <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on www.grants.gov.

9. How will the FY 2015 TSGP applications be submitted?

Applying for an award under the TSGP is a multi-step process:

Eligible applicants must submit their initial application through the grants.gov portal at <http://www.grants.gov>. Applicants in need of grants.gov support should contact the grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726.

Eligible applicants will be notified by FEMA and asked to proceed with submitting their complete application package in the Non Disaster (ND) Grants System. Applicants in need of technical support with the ND Grants System should contact ndgrants@fema.gov or (800) 865-4076.

If applicants have questions regarding the application process, they should contact the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate Call Center at (866) 927-5646

Completed applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT, May 19, 2015.

10. What other resources are available to address programmatic, technical and financial questions?

- For additional program-specific information, applicants may contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or askcsid@dhs.gov. CSID hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT, Monday through Friday.
- For financial-related questions, including pre-and post-award administration and technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via e-mail to ASK-GMD@dhs.gov.

11. What is the FY 2015 TSGP Program period of performance?

The period of performance is thirty-six (36) months from the date of award.