

National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) Program

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

July 24, 2023

<u>Agency:</u> Department of Transportation	<u>Bureau:</u> Office of the Secretary of Transportation
<u>Application Deadline:</u> August 21, 2023	<u>Max Award:</u> None specified

Description

Created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant program provides \$5.575 billion for three grant programs: INFRA, Mega, and Rural. The Mega Program supports large, complex projects that are difficult to fund by other means and likely to generate national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits.

Eligible Recipients

- State or Territory;
- Metropolitan planning organization;
- Unit of local government;
- Political subdivision of a State;
- Special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority;
- Tribal government or a consortium of Tribal governments;
- Partnership between Amtrak and 1 or more entities above;
- A group of eligible entities.

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](#) and is a part of any of the project types described above

50% of funding is allocated to projects between \$100M-\$500M and 50% allocated to projects over \$500M.

The Mega Program is one of three programs available through the combined Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant (MPDG) Program. Applicants may choose to apply to one, two, or all three of these grant programs.

Matching Grant Requirements 40% matching requirement

New or Existing Program Existing program

Examples of Prior Award Recipients In FY2022, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the Ohio Department of Transportation received a \$250 million Mega grant for the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project. The funding will cover construction of a new bridge alongside the existing Brent Spence Bridge (BSB), rehabilitate and reconfigure the existing Brent Spence Bridge, and will also include improvements to an approximately eight-mile interstate corridor serving the bridges.

Tips for Being Competitive Mega projects must meet these 6 requirements:

- The project is likely to generate national or regional economic, mobility, or safety benefits.
- The project is in significant need of Federal funding.
- The project will be cost-effective.
- With respect to related non-Federal financial commitments, one or more stable and dependable funding or financing sources are available to construct, maintain, and operate the project, and to cover cost increases.
- The applicant has, or will have, sufficient legal, financial, and technical capacity to carry out the project.
- The application includes a plan for the collection and analysis of data to identify the impacts of the project and accuracy of forecasts included in the application.

Projects that benefit an Area of Persistent Poverty or a Historically Disadvantaged Community may also receive additional consideration.

Labor Requirements The Department aims to award projects that support the creation of good-paying jobs with the free and fair choice to join a union and the incorporation of strong labor standards and workforce programs, in particular registered apprenticeships, labor management partnerships and Local Hire agreements, in project planning stages and program delivery.

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.

Agency Contact mpdgrants@dot.gov

Upcoming Events DOT hosted a series of webinars (listed below) and the recordings are available on the [MPDG Program Page](#).

- How to Apply for the MPDG Opportunity
- How to Apply for the MPDG Opportunity - Rural and Tribal Applicants, Areas of Persistent Poverty, and Historically Disadvantaged Communities
- How to Prepare a Benefit-Cost Analysis for the MPDG Opportunity

Total Allocation \$1.8 billion

Anticipated Award Date Applicants are expected to be ready to obligate funding by September 30, 2026.

How To Apply 1. Applicants must be registered with SAM.gov and Grants.gov.
2. DOT will answer questions up until the application deadline and will publish common questions to the [FAQ](#).
3. Applications must be submitted to [Grants.gov](#) by August 21.

Resources • [Mega Program Page - DOT](#)
• [MPDG Combined NOFO - DOT](#)
• [Grant Opportunity - Grants.gov](#)
• [Frequently Asked Questions - DOT](#)