



U.S. Department of Transportation

Notice of Funding Opportunity Number 693JJ321NF00005

*“Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies
Deployment Initiative”*

Issue Date: June 22, 2021

Application Due Date: August 23, 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
N/A	SUMMARY INFORMATION	3
N/A	WEBINAR DETAILS	4
A	PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	5
B	FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION	15
C	ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	16
D	APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION	17
E	APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION	33
F	FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION	39
G	FEDERAL AWARDED AGENCY CONTACTS	40

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is using www.Grants.gov for issuance of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Applicants must register at Grants.gov under NOFO number to receive notifications of updates/amendments to this NOFO. It is the Applicant's responsibility to monitor the Grants.gov site for any updates/amendments to this NOFO.

Summary Information

Funding Opportunity Summary:	Up to \$60 million in Federal funding to provide grants to eligible entities to develop model deployment sites for large scale installation and operation of advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment.
Federal Agency Name:	U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office of Operations 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Mail Drop: E86-205 Washington, DC 20590 Attn: David Harris
Funding Opportunity Title:	Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) Initiative
Announcement Type:	This is the initial announcement of this funding opportunity. This is not a follow-on notice.
Funding Opportunity Number:	693JJ321NF00005
Type of Award:	Cooperative Agreements or Allocations to State departments of transportation
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:	20.200 Highway Research & Development
Application Due Date:	Submission Deadline: Applications Due by August 23, 2021 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time through www.Grants.gov
Questions:	Submit Questions to: ATCMTD@dot.gov

Funding Opportunity Informational Webinar

DOT will host an Informational Session regarding this funding opportunity focused on the ATCMTD Initiative. This session will be conducted as a virtual forum and will focus on specific topics to help potential applicants gather additional information and ask specific questions.

Participation in this session is not mandatory to submit an application under this NOFO. However, we encourage potential applicants to take advantage of this opportunity to gather information regarding this specific funding opportunity.

INFORMATIONAL SESSION: ATCMTD INITIATIVE

SESSION:	Virtual Webcast: Background and Application Information for the ATCMTD Initiative
DATE:	TBD
TIME:	1:00 pm Eastern Time

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION: To Be Determined

Note: DOT will also consider conducting additional virtual and/or in person workshops regarding the ATCMTD Initiative funding opportunity.

Substantive Changes from Fiscal Year 2020 NOFO

Note: Applicants are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the entire NOFO. This page is only guidance to identify significant changes and does not identify all changes.

The Focus Areas, beginning on page 10, have been revised.

The table, identifying which of the technologies, DOT goals, and focus areas are addressed in the application, beginning on page 21 has been revised.

SECTION A – PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Section 503(c)(4) of Title 23, United States Code (U.S.C.), directs DOT to establish an Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) Initiative to provide grants to eligible entities to develop model deployment sites for large scale installation and operation of advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment. DOT intends for these model technology deployments to help demonstrate how emerging transportation technologies, data, and their applications can be effectively deployed and integrated with existing systems to provide access to essential services and other destinations. This also includes efforts to increase connectivity to employment, education, services and other opportunities; support workforce development; or contribute to increased mobility, particularly for persons with visible and hidden disabilities and elderly individuals. The Assistance Listing number for this opportunity is 20.200 – Highway Research and Development.

DOT will make no fewer than five and no more than 10 awards of up to \$12 million individually.

1. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

DOT hereby requests applications to result in awards to eligible entities to develop model deployment sites for large scale installation and operation of advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment. These model deployments are expected to provide benefits in the form of:

- reduced traffic-related fatalities and injuries;
- reduced traffic congestion and improved travel time reliability;
- reduced transportation-related emissions;

- optimized multimodal system performance;
- improved access to transportation alternatives, including for underserved populations;
- public access to real time integrated traffic, transit, and multimodal transportation information to make informed travel decisions;
- cost savings to transportation agencies, businesses, and the traveling public; or
- other benefits to transportation users and the general public.

This competitive ATCMTD Grant Program will promote the use of innovative transportation solutions. The deployment of these technologies will provide Congress and DOT with valuable real-life data and feedback to inform future decision making.

2. LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Specific statutory authority for conducting this effort is found in 23 U.S.C. § 503(c)(4), which authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to "...establish an advanced transportation and congestion management technologies deployment initiative to provide grants to eligible entities to develop model deployment sites for large scale installation and operation of advanced transportation technologies to improve safety, efficiency, system performance, and infrastructure return on investment."

Per 23 U.S.C. §503(c)(4)(I)(i), funding for this effort is expected to be made available from amounts authorized under 23 U.S.C. §§ 512 through 518, as well as § 503(b). This authority was extended by the Continuing Appropriations Act 2021 and Other Extensions Act (P.L. 116-159).

The authority to enter into a cooperative agreement for this effort is found under 23 U.S.C. §502 - Surface Transportation Research, Development, and Technology, paragraph (b)(3) which states:

"(3) cooperation, grants, and contracts. — The Secretary may carry out research, development, and technology transfer activities related to transportation—

- (A)** independently;
- (B)** in cooperation with other Federal departments, agencies, and instrumentalities and Federal laboratories; or
- (C)** by making grants to, or entering into contracts and cooperative agreements with one or more of the following: the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, any Federal laboratory, Federal Agency, State agency, authority,

association, institution, for-profit or nonprofit corporation, organization, foreign country, or any other person.”

3. BACKGROUND

Projects funded under this initiative will deploy advanced transportation and congestion management technologies, which could include:

- i. **Advanced traveler information systems** – Systems that provide real time, predicted, and individualized information about travel choices, based on data from sensors (traffic, weather), mobile sources (personal portable devices, connected vehicles), and other information systems (public transportation, shared-use mobility, traffic incident management, construction, parking, congestion pricing/tolls or other costs) to allow travelers and shippers to make informed decisions regarding destinations, when to travel, routes, or modes. This information should be publicly accessible and not limited to users with smart phones.
- ii. **Advanced transportation management technologies** – Technologies that assist transportation system operators in managing and controlling the performance of their systems to provide optimal services or respond to dynamic conditions, including interjurisdictional and intermodal coordination; technologies may include traffic signal equipment, advanced data collection and processing (from sensors, connected vehicles and other mobile sources, other information systems), dynamic lane controls/configurations, and cooperative transportation management algorithms including pricing strategies across jurisdictions/agencies/facilities/modes.
- iii. **Infrastructure maintenance, monitoring, and condition assessment** – Technologies and systems that monitor the behavior or assess the condition of transportation infrastructure to allow agencies to better manage their transportation assets through optimizing resource allocation, preventative maintenance processes, and responses to critical conditions.
- iv. **Advanced public transportation systems** – Technologies that assist public transportation system operators or other shared mobility entities in managing and optimizing the provision of public transportation and mobility services; technologies may include remote fleet monitoring systems, coordinated communication systems, algorithms, and applications to enable better transit connections for users, advanced data collection and processing (from sensors, mobile/connected sources, other information systems) to provide dynamic responsive transit services, and communication and data systems that enable shared mobility services.
- v. **Transportation system performance data collection, analysis, and dissemination systems** – Technologies and systems that actively monitor

- the performance of and interactions between transportation systems and permit agencies and other interested entities to conduct analyses and research, and explore innovative, value-added products and services.
- vi. **Advanced safety systems, including vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) and vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) communications, technologies associated with automated vehicles, and other collision avoidance technologies, including systems using cellular technology** – Deployment of technology-based safety systems such as described at Safer Car (<http://www.safercar.gov/>) or at the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program <https://www.its.dot.gov/index.htm> , or other applicable safety technologies.
 - vii. **Integration of intelligent transportation systems with the Smart Grid and other energy distribution and charging systems** – Technologies that link information from ITS and other transportation systems with information from Smart Grid and other energy distribution and charging systems to provide users with better information related to opportunities for recharging electric vehicles, and to provide energy distribution agencies with better information related to potential transportation-user demand.
 - viii. **Electronic pricing and payment systems** – Technologies that permit users to electronically conduct financial transactions for mobility services across jurisdictions and agencies, such as unified fare collection, payment, and tolling systems across transportation modes; or
 - ix. **Advanced mobility and access technologies, such as dynamic ridesharing and information systems to support human services for elderly and disabled individuals** – Technologies and systems that leverage data and communications systems to allow public agencies and human service organizations to provide improved mobility services to at-risk users such as elderly, disabled, or other individuals that require transportation assistance.

4. VISION, GOALS, AND FOCUS AREAS

DOT recognizes that each location has unique attributes, and each location's proposed deployment will be tailored to its vision and goals. Applications may be submitted for deploying any eligible technology. However, this section provides a framework for applicants to consider in the development of a proposed deployment by presenting DOT's vision, goals, and focus areas.

DOT's vision for the ATCMTD Initiative is the deployment of advanced technologies and related strategies to address issues and challenges in safety, mobility, sustainability,

economic vitality, equity, and air quality that are confronted by transportation systems owners and operators. The advanced technologies are integrated into the routine functions of the location or jurisdiction and play a critical role in helping agencies and the public address their challenges. Management systems within transportation and across other sectors (e.g., human services, energy, and logistics) share information and data to communicate between agencies and with the public. These management systems provide benefits by maximizing efficiencies based on the intelligent management of assets and the sharing of information using integrated technology solutions. The advanced technology solutions and the lessons learned from their deployment are used in other locations, scaled in scope and size, to increase successful deployments and provide widespread benefits to the public and agencies.

Goals for the ATCMTD Initiative include:

- Reduced costs and improved return on investments, including through the enhanced use of existing transportation capacity;
- Delivery of environmental benefits that alleviate congestion, reduce transportation-related emissions and streamline traffic flow;
- Measurement and improvement of the operational performance of the applicable transportation networks;
- Reduction in the number and severity of traffic crashes and an increase in driver, passenger, and pedestrian safety;
- Collection, dissemination, and use of real time transportation related information to improve mobility, reduce congestion, and provide for more efficient and accessible transportation, including access to safe, reliable, and affordable connections to employment, education, healthcare, freight facilities, and other services;
- Monitoring transportation assets to improve infrastructure management, reduce maintenance costs, prioritize investment decisions, and ensure a state of good repair;
- Delivery of economic benefits by reducing delays, improving system performance and throughput, and providing for the efficient and reliable movement of people, goods, and services;
- Accelerated deployment of V2V, V2I, and technologies associated with automated vehicles and other advanced technologies;
- Integration of advanced technologies into transportation system management and operations;
- Demonstration, quantification, and evaluation of the impact of these advanced technologies, strategies, and applications towards improved safety, efficiency, equity, and sustainable movement of people and goods; and

- Reproducibility of successful systems and services for technology and knowledge transfer to other locations facing similar challenges.

Although proposals are not limited to DOT priorities, the Department is particularly interested in deployment programs and projects in the following seven “Focus Areas”:

- **Climate Change and Environmental Justice Impacts:** The Department seeks to select projects that have considered climate change and environmental justice in the planning stage and were designed with specific elements to address climate change impacts. Projects should directly support Climate Action Plans or apply environmental justice screening tools in the planning stage. Projects should reduce emissions, promote energy efficiency, incorporate electrification or zero emission vehicle infrastructure, increase resiliency, or recycle existing infrastructure.
- **Racial Equity and Barriers to Opportunity:** The Department seeks to use the ATCMTD Program to encourage racial equity in two areas: (1) planning and policies related to racial equity and barriers to opportunity; and (2) project investments that either proactively address racial equity and barriers to opportunity, including automobile as a form of barrier, or redress prior inequities and barriers to opportunity. This Focus Area supports the Department’s strategic goal related to infrastructure, with the potential for significantly enhancing environmental stewardship and community partnerships, and reflects Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government* (86 FR 7009).
- **Integration of intelligent transportation systems with the Smart Grid and other energy distribution and charging systems:** Technologies that link information from ITS and other transportation systems with information from Smart Grid and other energy distribution and charging systems to provide users with better information related to opportunities for recharging electric vehicles, and to provide energy distribution agencies with better information related to potential transportation-user demand.
- **Advanced public transportation systems:** Technologies that assist public transportation system operators or other shared mobility entities in managing and optimizing the provision of public transportation and mobility services; technologies may include remote fleet monitoring systems, coordinated communication systems, algorithms, and applications to enable better transit connections for users, advanced data collection and processing (from sensors,

mobile/connected sources, other information systems) to provide dynamic responsive transit services, and communication and data systems that enable shared mobility services.

- Freight Community System:** A Freight Community System (sometimes called Port Community System) is an electronic platform which connects the multiple systems operated by a variety of organizations that make up a freight transportation community, including seaports, airports, rail yards/inland ports and distribution centers. It is shared in the sense that it is set up, organized and used by firms in the same sector – in this case, a freight community – to provide a neutral and open electronic platform enabling an intelligent and secure exchange of information between public and private stakeholders in order to improve the efficiency and competitive position of the ports' community(ies). It optimizes, manages and automates smooth port and logistics processes through a single submission of data by connecting transport and logistics chains. This focus area is important to the departmental goal of integrating freight infrastructure within the surface transportation system, particularly maritime ports, while at the same time providing a platform to reduce the impacts of national freight movement on local communities.
- Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (R.O.U.T.E.S.) Initiative:** A strong transportation network is critical to the functioning and growth of the American economy. The Nation's industry depends on the transportation network to move the goods that it produces, and facilitate the movements of the workers who are responsible for that production. When the Nation's highways, railways, and ports function well, that infrastructure connects people to jobs, increases the efficiency of delivering goods and thereby cuts the costs of doing business, reduces the burden of commuting, and improves economic well-being. Rural transportation networks play a vital role in supporting our national economic vitality. Addressing the deteriorating conditions and disproportionately high fatality rates on our rural transportation infrastructure is of critical interest to the Department, as rural transportation networks face unique challenges in safety, infrastructure condition, and passenger and freight usage. Consistent with the R.O.U.T.E.S. Initiative, the Department will consider how the project will address the challenges faced by rural areas. Example technologies include improved access to transportation services, corridor freight platooning, mobile work zone alerts, improved roadway weather management, improved emergency response services and traffic incident management, curve warning systems, or animal intrusion detection and warning.

- Complete Trip:** The Complete Trip Program is a DOT Initiative that is exploring emerging technologies to enhance travel that includes opportunities for people with mobility challenges by providing travel opportunities that are seamlessly integrated into their daily lives. The lack of transportation options for all travelers, including travelers with disabilities, travelers from rural areas, and lower income travelers is a persistent challenge for access to jobs, education, healthcare and other activities. The Complete Trip Program will: Engage stakeholders to assess impacts and effectiveness of accessible technologies, define complete trip and what it means and what is missing; advance technological innovation for accessible transportation through foundational research, prototype development, and technology transfer programs; improve transportation systems integration including pedestrian and built environments; coordinate with key partners, within the Federal Government, the research community, stakeholder organizations, and private industry; and, demonstrate, deploy, evaluate and provide guidance for accessible transportation technologies. DOT is interested in emerging technologies that support the Complete Trip Program.

Although not required, the Department encourages proposals that include a commitment to make relevant data available to DOT and the public to further advance the objectives of this initiative. For example, in addition to providing the report to the Secretary required by 23 U.S.C. 503(c)(4), projects may provide DOT access to the underlying data used to determine the costs and benefits described in this report.

5. DELIVERABLES

The selected ATCMTD awardees shall provide a schedule for the project deliverables that includes at a minimum the following items.

Deliverable	Approximate Due Date	Section 508 Compliant?
Preliminary Kick-off Meeting – Conduct a preliminary kick-off meeting with DOT at mutually-agreed-upon location.	Within 6 weeks after announcement of project selection.	No
Draft Cooperative Agreement completed. The cooperative agreement shall include a Project Management Plan. The Project Management Plan, shall include, at a minimum:	Within 6 weeks after preliminary kick-off meeting.	No

a) Statement of Work (SOW), with a description of Tasks and Sub-Tasks by which the project work activities will be organized, executed, and monitored. b) A Project Schedule (Gantt Chart or equivalent) displaying start and end times for each Task and Sub-Task, plus achievement of Project Milestones. c) A description of major Project Milestones, including key reports, start of operations of important systems or subsystems, and other important deliverables or events. d) A Staffing Table, which identifies a single Project Manager, plus project staff and/or consultants that will lead and support each Task (or Sub-Task if appropriate). e) A Project Budget, displaying planned expenditures for each Task, with a further breakdown by Cost Element for each Task, and by the Federal share vs. non-Federal share.		
Fully-Executed Cooperative Agreement.	Within 6 weeks after completion of draft agreement.	No
Kick-off Meeting – Conduct a kick-off meeting with DOT at mutually-agreed-upon location.	Within 4 weeks after execution of cooperative agreement.	No
Quarterly Progress Reports – submit progress reports to document activities performed, anticipated activities, and any changes to schedule or anticipated issues.	Quarterly	No
Systems Engineering Documents In accordance with 23 CFR 940.11, the Recipient shall submit electronic copies of the Milestone Systems Engineering documents applicable to this project, for approval by FHWA. This shall include, at minimum: a) Systems Engineering Review Form b) Concept of Operations c) Systems Engineering Management Plan.	As applicable	No
Project Evaluation Plan	Within 90 days after the	No

The Recipient shall submit to FHWA for approval an Evaluation Plan, which shall include, at a minimum: a) Statement of Project Objectives, b) List of Evaluation Criteria (e.g. quantitative performance metrics and/or qualitative assessments) tailored to the Project Objectives, c) Description of Data-Collection procedures tailored to these criteria, which could include, for example, before/after data, surveys, interviews, system-monitoring data, or other data needed to report on achievement of project objectives. d) Outline of Evaluation Report (1-page, <u>draft</u> list of topics to be addressed)	Effective Date	
Data Management Plan (DMP) The Recipient shall submit to FHWA for approval a DMP that provides a preliminary overview of data that may be collected or created through the project, which shall include, at a minimum: a) Data description b) Data access policies c) Data storage and retention approach The Recipient shall then update the DMP throughout the project with more details on the data that is collected or created, including information on data rights and standards. Additional information on DMPs can be found at: https://ntl.bts.gov/ntl/public-access/creating-data-management-plans-extramural-research.	Within 90 days after the Effective Date, to be updated throughout the project.	No
Report to the Secretary – submit a report describing the deployment and operational costs compared to the benefits and savings, and how the project has met the original expectations projected in the deployment plan.	Annually beginning 1 year after execution of cooperative agreement.	Yes
Annual Budget Review and Program Plan Reporting Submit the Annual Budget Review and Program Plan Report. The report should describe:	60 days prior to the anniversary date of award	No

(1) Overview and schedule of tasks, activities, milestones and deliverables for the upcoming year, to include: • the latest deliverables table or project management schedule; and • a discussion of whether the current approved Technical Application attached to the award needs to be updated or not. If an update is warranted, propose the updates. (2) Overview and forecast budget for the upcoming year, including: a discussion of whether the current approved Budget Application attached to the award needs to be updated or not. If an update is warranted, propose the updates.		
Final Report The Recipient shall provide a final report within 90 days after the termination or expiration of this agreement. The FHWA Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) in consultation with the Recipient, will determine the final design and scope of the evaluation and report. Submit an electronic copy of all reports to the ATCMTD mailbox at ATCMTD@dot.gov	Within 90 days after the termination or expiration of this Agreement	Yes
<i>(additional deliverables to be identified in separate rows by the applicant)</i>		

Note: Section 508 requirements are included in NOFO Section F's General Terms and Conditions available online at: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/aaa/generaltermsconditions.cfm>.

SECTION B – FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. FUNDING AND NUMBER OF AWARDS

For fiscal year 2021, \$60 million is available for the ATCMTD program. That amount is subject to statutory obligation limitations each fiscal year and subject to a set aside of up to \$2 million for DOT administrative expenses each fiscal year, making \$60 million available for awards. A single grant recipient may not receive more than \$12 million in 1 fiscal year. DOT anticipates making not less than 5 and not more than 10 awards each fiscal year. This NOFO is the sixth of the annual NOFOs for ATCMTD.

2. TYPE OF AWARD

The planned award type is a cost-reimbursable cooperative agreement or an allocation to a State.

3. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The estimated period of performance is between one and four years.

4. DEGREE OF FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT

DOT anticipates substantial Federal involvement with the ATCMTD recipients during the course of these projects. The anticipated Federal involvement will include technical assistance and guidance to the recipient.

SECTION C – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

To be selected for an ATCMTD award, an applicant must be an eligible applicant. Eligible applicants are State, or local governments, transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations (MPO) representing a population of over 200,000, or other political subdivisions of a State or local government (such as publicly owned toll or port authorities), or a multijurisdictional group or consortia of research institutions or academic institutions. Partnership with the private sector or public agencies, including multimodal and multijurisdictional entities, research institutions, organizations representing transportation and technology leaders, or other transportation stakeholders, is encouraged.

Typically, a consortium is a meaningful arrangement with all members involved in planning the overall direction of the group's activities and participating in most aspects of the group; the consortium is a long-term relationship intended to last the full life of the grant. Any application submitted by a sole research or academic institution and that is not part of a consortium will not be considered for selection.

Note: A multijurisdictional group is any combination of State governments, local governments, metropolitan planning agencies, transit agencies, or other political subdivisions of a State for which each member of the group has signed a written agreement to implement the advanced transportation technologies deployment initiative across jurisdictional boundaries, and is an eligible entity under this paragraph.

2. COST SHARING OR MATCHING

Cost sharing or matching is required, with the maximum Federal share being 50 percent; hence, this NOFO requires a minimum non-Federal cost share of 50 percent. Cost sharing or matching means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds. For a more complete definition, please see the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 CFR Part 200, including section 200.306 on Cost Sharing or matching. Other Federal funds using their appropriate matching share may be leveraged for the deployment but cannot be considered as part of the ATCMTD matching funds, unless otherwise supported by statute.

3. OTHER INFORMATION

The ATCMTD recipients may use not more than 5 percent of the funds awarded each fiscal year to carry out planning and reporting requirements for the project.

DOT encourages applicants to identify any project components that have independent utility and separately detail the costs and requested ATCMTD funding for each component in their applications. If the application identifies one or more independent project components, the application should clearly identify how each independent component addresses the selection criteria and produces benefits on its own, and describe how the full proposal, of which the independent component is a part, addresses the selection criteria.

SECTION D – APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. ADDRESS TO REQUEST APPLICATION PACKAGE

Applicants may access application packages and must submit their applications via [Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov) under the NOFO number cited herein. Applications must be submitted through the Grants.gov workspace. Please note: legacy PDF packages are no longer available.

The Applicant must complete and submit all forms included in the application package for this notice as contained at www.Grants.gov.

Should applicants have any difficulties in accessing any standard forms and require paper copies, please contact Ryan Buck by either of the means below:

Ryan Buck
 202-366-4229
 Ryan.Buck@dot.gov

2. **CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

Applicants shall submit an application consisting of the following application volumes and sections:

Table D.2 – Application Volumes

Volume	Section	Page Limitations
Volume I. Technical Application	I - Cover Page	One (1) file, 30-page limit
	II - Project Narrative	
	III – Management Structure	
	IV - Staffing Description and Résumés	
	Appendix – Résumés	No page limit
Volume II. Budget Application	I - Application Standard Forms	One (1) file, no page limit
	II – Summary Budget Information	
	III – Cost Share Information	
	IV - Organizational Information	

Note: Applicants shall provide résumés in Volume 1 of the application. Résumés will not count against the page limit. Applicants shall provide letters of commitment in Volume 2.

For the submitted application package, FHWA suggests that pictures, graphics, and other large files be reduced in number and quality to keep the size of the files of the application manageable and in line with the Grants.gov suggested maximum size of 200 megabytes for the entire grant application package.

DOT recommends that applicants use a file naming format of: Applicant organization-2021-ATCMTD-fileID (e.g., Vol-1, Vol-2) where “Applicant_organization” reflects the applicant’s legal name, abbreviated as appropriate. If an applicant organization is submitting multiple applications, project names or identifiers may be added to the workspace title in parentheses after the applicant organization. For example, a workspace in Grants.gov may be titled “Applicant_organization(Project 1)-2021-

ATCMTD.” If necessary, the workspace title can be edited per the instructions on Grants.gov.

VOLUME 1 – TECHNICAL APPLICATION

a) Section I - Cover Page Including the Following Table:

Project Name	
Eligible Entity Applying to Receive Federal Funding	
Total Project Cost (from all sources)	\$
ATCMTD Request	\$
Are matching funds restricted to a specific project component? If so, which one?	Yes/No
State(s) in which the project is located	
Is the project currently programmed in the: • Transportation Improvement Program • Statewide Transportation Improvement Program • MPO Long Range Transportation Plan • State Long Range Transportation Plan	Yes/No – <i>please specify in which plans the project is currently programmed</i>
Technologies Proposed to Be Deployed (briefly list)	
Will the project use connected vehicle technologies? If so, which technologies will be used—for instance, will the project use: • DSRC/5.9 GHz spectrum? • Cellular/4G/5G communications? • Another connectivity technology? (please specify - e.g., “Wi-Fi,” “Bluetooth,” “RFID,” etc.) If the connectivity technology has yet to be determined, please specify “TBD”	Yes/No – <i>please specify which technology(ies) will be used</i>
Will the project use automated driving system technologies?	Yes/No
Is the project located in a rural area? A rural area is an area not in a Census-designated urbanized area (a Census-designated urban area 50,000 residents or more).	Yes/No

b) Section II - Project Narrative

The Project Narrative must include all the necessary information required for DOT to determine that the project satisfies the ATCMTD Program requirements described in Sections A, B, and C, and for DOT to evaluate the project in relation to the selection criteria specified in Section E.1. To the extent practicable, applicants should provide data and evidence of project merits in a form that is verifiable or publicly available. DOT expects applications to be complete upon submission.

DOT recommends that the project narrative, at a minimum, provide the following information: table of contents, detailed SOW, detailed project schedules, staffing description, and any appropriate exhibits or attachments that will aid in the review and assessment of the application. All exhibits and attachments must clearly identify what technical area of the project narrative that the document supports. At a minimum, the Project Narrative should address the following content:

1. A short (50-70 words) summary of the proposed project at the beginning of the Project Narrative section.
2. An introduction that provides a clear, concise description of the project and the proposed technology deployment(s).
3. A description of the geographic area or jurisdiction the deployment will service.
4. A description of the real-world issues and challenges to be addressed by the proposed technology deployments. Applicants should discuss how the proposed technology deployments address the goals of the initiative, and any applicable technology focus area.
5. A description of transportation systems and services to be included in the project.
6. A deployment plan that includes providing long-term operation and maintenance of advanced transportation and congestion management technologies to achieve implementation goals.
7. A description of any challenges in the regulatory, legislative, or institutional environments or other obstacles to deployment.
8. Quantifiable system performance improvements, such as--
 - a) reducing traffic-related crashes, congestion, and costs;
 - b) optimizing system efficiency; and
 - c) improving access to transportation services.
9. Quantifiable safety, mobility, and environmental benefit projections such as data-driven estimates of how the project will improve mobility for people and goods.
10. Vision, goals, and objectives of the applicant for the technology deployment,

- including any future related deployments; the vision of the organization and goals, objectives, and activities to be pursued in addressing the identified issues and challenges.
11. A plan to leverage and optimize existing local and regional advanced transportation technology investments.
 12. A detailed schedule for conducting the technology deployment and for completion of all proposed activities, to include achievable timeframes for successful execution of project milestones
 13. Any support or leveraging of the ITS Program or innovative technology initiatives (DOT ITS initiatives are described on-line at <http://www.its.dot.gov>.)
 14. A table (or other summary) clearly identifying which of the 9 technologies in Section A.3 and the 11 DOT goals, and 7 focus areas in Section A.4 will be implemented and/or addressed by the proposal. The following template may be used to convey this information:

Technologies	Implemented/Addressed by Proposal (check all that apply)
1. Advanced traveler information systems	
2. Advanced transportation management technologies	
3 Infrastructure maintenance, monitoring, and condition assessment	
4. Advanced public transportation systems	
5. Transportation system performance data collection, analysis, and dissemination systems	
6. Advanced safety systems, including V2V and V2I communications, technologies associated with automated vehicles, and other collision avoidance technologies, including systems using cellular technology	
7. Integration of intelligent transportation systems with the Smart Grid and other energy distribution and charging systems	
8. Electronic pricing and payment systems	
9. Advanced mobility and access technologies, such as dynamic ridesharing and information systems to support human services for elderly and disabled individuals	
ATCMTD Goals	Implemented/Addressed by Proposal (check all that apply)
1. Reduced costs and improved return on investments, including through the enhanced use of existing transportation capacity	
2. Delivery of environmental benefits that alleviate congestion and streamline traffic flow	
3. Measurement and improvement of the operational performance of the applicable transportation networks	
4. Reduction in the number and severity of traffic crashes and an increase in driver, passenger, and pedestrian safety	

5. Collection, dissemination, and use of real time transportation related information to improve mobility, reduce congestion, and provide for more efficient and accessible transportation, including access to safe, reliable, and affordable connections to employment, education, healthcare, freight facilities, and other services	
6. Monitoring transportation assets to improve infrastructure management, reduce maintenance costs, prioritize investment decisions, and ensure a state of good repair	
7. Delivery of economic benefits by reducing delays, improving system performance and throughput, and providing for the efficient and reliable movement of people, goods, and services	
8. Accelerated deployment of V2V, V2I, and technologies associated with automated vehicle applications and other advanced technologies	
9. Integration of advanced technologies into transportation system management and operations	
10. Demonstration, quantification, and evaluation of the impact of these advanced technologies, strategies, and applications towards improved safety, efficiency, and sustainable movement of people and goods	
11. Reproducibility of successful systems and services for technology and knowledge transfer to other locations facing similar challenges	
Focus Areas	Implemented/Addressed by Proposal (check all that apply)
1. Climate Change and Environmental Justice Impacts	
2. Racial Equity and Barriers to Opportunity	
3. Integration of intelligent transportation systems with the Smart Grid and other energy distribution and charging systems	
4. Advanced public transportation systems	
5. Freight (or Port) Community Systems	
6. R.O.U.T.E.S.	
7. Complete Trip	

In addition, if an applicant is proposing to deploy automated vehicles or other innovative motor vehicle technology, the application should demonstrate how all vehicles will comply with applicable safety requirements, including those administered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). Specifically, the application should show that vehicles acquired for the proposed project will comply with applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR). If the vehicles may not comply, the application should either (1) show that the vehicles and their proposed operations are within the scope of an exemption or waiver that has already been granted by NHTSA, FMCSA, or both agencies or (2) directly address whether the project will require exemptions or waivers from the FMVSS, FMCSR, or any other regulation and, if the project will require exemptions or waivers, present a plan for obtaining them. If an applicant is proposing to deploy automated vehicles or other innovative motor vehicle

technology, the application should demonstrate how all vehicles will comply with applicable Buy America requirements, 23 U.S.C. 313 and 23 CFR 635.410. In addition, the application should describe whether the deployment of automated technologies will affect the transportation workforce, and, if so, include measures to mitigate any negative effects.

c) Section III – Management Structure

The Applicant shall provide a description of the proposed management structure that will oversee the implementation of the project and provide administration of the agreement. The Applicant shall include all the following information to describe their proposed Management Structure:

1. A description of the Applicant's organization that will be designated as the recipient entering the agreement (i.e., receiving Federal funding) with FHWA including:
 - a) membership of any partnership or entity proposed to carry out the deployment;
 - b) a description of how the entity will manage the program including management of project funding.
2. A plan for partnering with the private sector or public agencies, including multimodal and multijurisdictional entities, research institutions, organizations representing transportation and technology leaders, or other transportation stakeholders.
3. Designation of all proposed sub-recipients, and their role in delivering the project. See 2 CFR § 200.330 for the definition and distinction between a sub-recipient and a sub-contractor.
4. A diagram or flow chart depicting the organizational structure of the project team. Organizations that are designated as sub-recipients or sub-contractors should be clearly identified.
5. Applicants that are multijurisdictional groups or consortia of research or academic institutions do not necessarily have to be an existing organization or coalition but should show evidence that a cooperative agreement, memorandum of understanding, or other organizational mechanism can be executed in a reasonable timeframe after selection.

Note: A multijurisdictional group is any combination of State governments,

local governments, metropolitan planning agencies, transit agencies, or other political subdivisions of a State for which each member of the group has signed a written agreement to implement the advanced transportation technologies deployment initiative across jurisdictional boundaries, and is an eligible entity under this paragraph.

d) Section IV - Staffing Description

Applicants shall provide a staffing description that includes the following information:

1. A description of the organization of staffing to manage and conduct the project, including identification of key personnel with résumés, organization, role, and responsibility. Applicants shall also identify the expected level of involvement for each designated Key Personnel (e.g., percent of work time to be committed to the project during the period of performance).
2. A primary point of contact (POC) and provide complete contact information for this individual.

e) Appendix - Résumés for Key Personnel

Resumes: Applicants shall provide the résumés for all designated Key Personnel. The applicant shall designate no more than five (5) Key Personnel.

f) Formatting

DOT recommends that Volume 1 be prepared with standard formatting preferences: a single-spaced document, using a standard 12-point font such as Times New Roman, with 1-inch margins on 8.5 by 11-inch paper. (Applications may include appropriately-sized pages for conveying detailed information important for the technical review, such as maps.) All application pages shall be consecutively numbered.

g) Page Limitations

Sections I through IV shall not exceed 30 pages in length, excluding cover pages, the table of contents, and exhibits and attachments. Exhibits and attachments shall not exceed 30 pages in length, and shall be limited to documents that support the assertions or conclusions made in the 30-page limitation of Sections I through IV.

The staffing description shall not exceed 5 pages in length (inclusive of the 30-page limitation). There is no overall page limitation for résumés of Key Personnel in the appendix; however, individual resumes shall not exceed four pages in length, and

shall only contain relevant experience pertinent to the subject matter of this NOFO.

VOLUME 2 – BUDGET APPLICATION

a) Section I - Application Standard Forms (SFs)

Volume 2 of the application must include the Standard Form 424 (Application for Federal Assistance), Standard Form 424A (Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs), and the Grants.gov Lobbying Form. Standard Form 424B (Assurances for Non-Construction Programs) is required if the applicant does not have an updated SAM.gov Registration as of 02/01/2019. Standard Forms (SF) are available online at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html>.

On the SF-424, the information in block 8a (Applicant's "Legal Name") must be the same as entered for registration in www.SAM.gov and for the Applicant's Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. The title for an applicant's workspace on www.Grants.gov is limited to 240 characters and may be different than the DUNS name.

For applications under this NOFO, the breakdown of the applicable sections of standard form 424A is:

- **Section A:** Since this is an initial application, only columns (a) through (d) and (g) need to be completed. The Applicant should enter the proposed project as one program or function; however, as an option, the Applicant may subdivide this entry into partial programs (e.g., a Phase I and Phase II).
- **Section B** is a summary of the entire project budget across all years.
- **Section C** is the source of the non-Federal matching share.
- **Section D** is the forecasted funding needs for year one (1).
- **Section E** is the forecasted funding needs for years two (2) and after (i.e., does not include the first year's funding).

b) Section II - Summary Budget Narrative

The Applicant shall provide a summary budget narrative that describes all of the planned project costs (i.e., direct labor, travel, equipment, supplies, contractual, construction, & other) and how these planned costs are connected to the project scope. The summary budget narrative must be sufficiently clear, concise, and detailed to describe how funds will be spent under the project. The Applicant shall also provide a summary budget table that provides estimated costs across project

components or tasks, and across all years of the project. The summary budget should represent the total cost of the project, inclusive of both the Federal share and the required matching non-Federal cost share. An example of a summary level budget table is provided below:

Table 2. Example of Summary Budget Figures

	Year 1 Costs	Year 2 Costs	Year 3 Costs	Year 4 Costs
Description of Project Component or Task				
Description of Project Component or Task				
Description of Project Component or Task				
Description of Project Component or Task				
Total Federal Share =				
Total Non-Federal Share =				

c) Section III - Cost Share Information

The Applicant should show evidence that funding has been identified for the project that will cover the 50 percent non-Federal cost share requirement. The Applicant should include letters of commitment from organizations that will provide a portion of the cost share, and identify the source of those funds (e.g., general treasury funds, revolving loan fund, capital budget, in-kind labor, in-kind equipment, etc.).

Note: The maximum amount of funding requested from the ATCMTD Program cannot exceed \$12 million per year nor exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the activities proposed to be funded. The maximum amount that will be awarded will depend on the number of awards, the reduction in ATCMTD funds due to the imposition of the Federal-aid highways obligation limitation, and the amount reserved for DOT administrative expenses. Selection of an application to receive grant funding in one fiscal year is not a commitment of any future funding. Applications will be solicited annually for competitively selecting grant recipients for that funding year.

d) Section IV - Organizational Information

In addition to the forms and budget information noted above, provide the following organizational information in a pdf format:

- a. Identify any exceptions to the anticipated award terms and conditions as contained in Section F, Federal Award Administration Information. Identify any preexisting intellectual property that you anticipate using during award performance, and your position on its data rights during and after the award period of performance.
- b. The use of a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) DUNS number is required on all applications for Federal grants or cooperative agreements. Please provide your organization's DUNS number in your budget application.
- c. A statement to indicate whether your organization has previously completed an A-133 Single Audit and, if so, the date that the last A-133 Single Audit was completed.
- d. A statement regarding Conflicts of Interest. The Applicant must disclose in writing any actual or potential personal or organizational conflict of interest in its application that describes in a concise manner all past, present or planned organizational, contractual or other interest(s), which may affect the Applicants' ability to perform the proposed project in an impartial and objective manner. Actual or potential conflicts of interest may include but are not limited to any past, present or planned contractual, financial, or other relationships, obligations, commitments or responsibilities, which may bias the Applicant or affect the Applicant's ability to perform the agreement in an impartial and objective manner. The Agreement Officer (AO) will review the statement(s) and may require additional relevant information from the Applicant. All such information, and any other relevant information known to DOT, will be used to determine whether an award to the Applicant may create an actual or potential conflict of interest. If any such conflict of interest is found to exist, the AO may (a) disqualify the Applicant, or (b) determine that it is otherwise in the best interest of the United States to contract with the Applicant and include appropriate provisions to mitigate or avoid such conflict in the agreement pursuant to 2 CFR 200.112.
- e. A statement to indicate whether a Federal or State organization has audited or reviewed the Applicant's accounting system, purchasing system, and/or property control system. If such systems have been reviewed, provide summary information of the audit/review results to include as applicable summary letter or agreement, date of audit/review, Federal or State POC for such review.
- f. Terminated Contracts - List any contract/agreement that was terminated for convenience of the Government within the past three years, and any contract/agreement that was terminated for default within the past five years. Briefly explain the circumstances in each instance.

- g. The Applicant is directed to review Title 2 CFR §170 (http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr170_main_02.tpl) dated September 14, 2010, and Appendix A thereto, and acknowledge in its application that it understands the requirement, has the necessary processes and systems in place, and is prepared to fully comply with the reporting described in the term if it receives funding resulting from this notice. The text of Appendix A will be incorporated in the award document as a General Term and Condition as referenced under this notice's Section F, Federal Award Administration Information.
- h. Disclose any violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations. Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR 200.338 entitled Remedies for Noncompliance, including suspension or debarment. (See also 2 CFR Part 180 and 31 U.S.C. 3321).

3. UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

The Applicant is required to: (i) be registered in SAM before submitting its application; (ii) provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and (iii) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding Agency.

DOT may not make a Federal award to an Applicant until the Applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements. If an Applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time DOT is ready to make a Federal award, DOT may determine that the Applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another Applicant.

4. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

Applications must be submitted through www.grants.gov by submission deadline of August 23, 2021 11:59 PM ET.

Applicants interested in applying are encouraged to email ATCMTD@dot.gov no later than the submission deadline with applicant name, State in which project is located, approximate total project cost, amount of the ATCMTD grant request, and a two-to three-sentence project description. DOT seeks this early notification of interest to

inform its allocation of resources for application evaluations and to facilitate timely and efficient awards.

Late Applications

The Grants.gov registration process usually takes 2–4 weeks to complete. Late applications that are the result of failure to register or comply with Grants.gov applicant requirements in a timely manner will not be considered. Only applicants who comply with the submission deadline described in this notice and submit applications through the Grants.gov Workspace will be eligible for award. Applicants are strongly encouraged to make submissions in advance of the deadline.

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered except in the case of unforeseen technical difficulties with Grants.gov that are beyond the applicant's control. In those instances, the applicant must contact the Grants.gov help desk prior to the application deadline with the user name of the registrant and details of the technical issue experienced.

Please note: applicants must obtain a Grants.gov Help Desk Tracking Number if they are experiencing technical difficulties. After the submission deadline, the applicant must contact the ATCMTD@dot.gov email address, and provide the following information:

- a. Details of the technical issue experienced;
- b. Screen capture(s) of the technical issues experienced along with corresponding Grants.gov grant tracking number;
- c. The legal business name for the applicant that was provided in the SF-424;
- d. The AOR name submitted in the SF-424;
- e. The DUNS number associated with the application; and
- f. The Grants.gov Help Desk Tracking Number.

After DOT staff review all information submitted and contact the Grants.gov Help Desk to validate reported technical issues, DOT staff will contact late applicants to approve or deny a request to submit a late application through Grants.gov. If the reported technical issues cannot be validated, late applications will be rejected as untimely.

5. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

An application under this NOFO is not subject to the State review under E.O. 12372.

6. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

DOT will not reimburse any pre-award costs or application preparation costs.

7. OTHER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

a. HOW TO REGISTER TO APPLY THROUGH GRANTS.GOV

a. *Instructions:* Read the instructions below about registering to apply for FHWA funds. Applicants should read the registration instructions carefully and prepare the information requested before beginning the registration process. Reviewing and assembling the required information before beginning the registration process will alleviate last-minute searches for required information.

The registration process can take up to 4 weeks to complete. Therefore, registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact your ability to meet required application submission deadlines.

If individual applicants are eligible to apply for this grant funding opportunity, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/individual-registration.html>

Organization applicants can find complete instructions here:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>

1) *Obtain a DUNS Number:* All entities applying for funding, including renewal funding, must have a DUNS number from D&B. Applicants must enter the DUNS number in the data entry field labeled "Organizational DUNS" on the SF-424 form.

For more detailed instructions for obtaining a DUNS number, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-1-obtain-duns-number.html>

2) *Register with SAM:* In addition to having a DUNS number, organizations applying online through Grants.gov must register with SAM. All organizations must register with SAM in order to apply online. Failure to register with SAM will prevent your organization from applying through Grants.gov.

For more detailed instructions for registering with SAM, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-2-register-with-sam.html>

3) *Create a Grants.gov Account:* The next step in the registration process is to create an account with Grants.gov. Applicants must know their organization's DUNS number to complete this process. Completing this process automatically triggers an email request for applicant roles to the organization's E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) for review. The EBiz POC is a representative from your organization who is the contact listed for SAM. To apply for grants on behalf of your organization, you will need the AOR role.

For more detailed instructions about creating a profile on Grants.gov, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration.html>

4) *Authorize Grants.gov Roles:* After creating an account on Grants.gov, the EBiz POC receives an email notifying them of your registration and request for roles. The EBiz POC will then log in to Grants.gov and authorize the appropriate roles, which may include the AOR role, thereby giving you permission to complete and submit applications on behalf of the organization. You will be able to submit your application online any time after you have been approved as an AOR.

For more detailed instructions about creating a profile on Grants.gov, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration/authorize-roles.html>

5) *Track Role Status:* To track your role request, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration/track-role-status.html>

b. *Electronic Signature:* When applications are submitted through Grants.gov, the name of the organization's AOR that submitted the application is inserted into the signature line of the application, serving as the electronic signature. The EBiz POC **must** authorize individuals who are able to make legally binding commitments on behalf of the organization as an AOR; **this step is often missed and it is crucial for valid and timely submissions.**

b. How to Submit an Application to DOT via Grants.gov

Grants.gov applicants can apply online using Workspace. Workspace is a shared, online environment where members of a grant team may simultaneously access and edit different Webforms within an application. For each funding opportunity announcement, you can create individual instances of a Workspace.

Below is an overview of applying on Grants.gov. For access to complete instructions on how to apply for opportunities, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html>

1) *Create a Workspace*: Creating a Workspace allows you to complete it online and route it through your organization for review before submitting.

2) *Complete a Workspace*: Add participants to the Workspace, complete all the required forms, and check for errors before submission.

a. *Adobe Reader*: If you decide not to apply by filling out Webforms you can download individual PDF forms in Workspace so that they will appear similar to other Standard or FHWA forms. The individual PDF forms can be downloaded and saved to your local device storage, network drive(s), or external drives, then accessed through Adobe Reader.

NOTE: Visit the Adobe Software Compatibility page on Grants.gov to download the appropriate version of the software at:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html>

b. *Mandatory Fields in Forms*: In the forms, you will note fields marked with an asterisk and a different background color. These fields are mandatory fields that must be completed to successfully submit your application.

c. *Complete SF-424 Fields First*: The forms are designed to fill in common required fields across other forms, such as the applicant name, address, and DUNS number. To trigger this feature, an applicant must complete the SF-424 information first. Once it is completed, the information will transfer to the other forms.

3) *Submit a Workspace*: An application may be submitted through Workspace by clicking the Sign and Submit button on the Manage Workspace page, under the Forms tab. Grants.gov recommends submitting your application package at least 24-48 hours prior to the close date to provide you with time to correct any potential technical issues that may disrupt the application submission.

4) *Track a Workspace*: After successfully submitting a Workspace package, a Grants.gov Tracking Number (GRANTXXXXXXXX) is automatically assigned to the package. The number will be listed on the Confirmation page that is generated after submission.

For additional training resources, including video tutorials, refer to:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html>

Applicant Support: Grants.gov provides applicants 24/7 support via the toll-free number 1-800-518-4726 and email at support@grants.gov. For questions related to the specific grant opportunity, contact the number listed in the application package of the grant you are applying for.

If you are experiencing difficulties with your submission, it is best to call the Grants.gov Support Center and get a ticket number. The Support Center ticket number will assist DOT with tracking your issue and understanding background information on the issue.

a. INTENT TO RELEASE APPLICATIONS AND NAMES OF APPLICANT

In order to expand public awareness of ATCMTD technologies, concepts, and ideas, FHWA may post publicly or release publicly all Volume 1 Technical Applications after award.

By submitting an application in response to this NOFO, the Applicant provides DOT permission to:

- Release publicly the names of all applicants after selection of the ATCMTD awardees; and
- Release publicly Volume 1 Technical Application document (without the résumés of key personnel) after selection of the ATCMTD awardees.

SECTION E – APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF ATCMTD AWARDS

The Government will evaluate applications on following criteria, which are of equal importance.

TECHNICAL MERIT:

- Degree that the proposed technology deployment aligns with program requirements and DOT vision, goals, and focus areas, as listed in Section A.4 of this opportunity.
- Readiness of the proposed technology(ies) to be deployed, and the likelihood of success of the applicant to deploy and sustain the proposed technology(ies), including whether the applicant has clearly articulated achievable timeframes for completion of its project and the proposed approaches to addressing any regulatory environment and other obstacles to deployment including compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and other required permitting as applicable. Provide a brief description how climate change and environmental justice were considered in the planning

stage. Describe how the project reduces greenhouse gas emissions and supports State or local Climate Action Plans or how environmental justice screening tools were employed. If either were not considered in the planning stage, the application should provide a statement as to why consideration is not applicable at this time. Describe how the project enhances racial equity and eliminates barriers to opportunity.

- Applications should clearly address and explain if the proposed project will or may require exemption from the FMVSS, FMCSR, or any other regulation and, if so, your plan for applying for any necessary exemptions.
- Applications should clearly address and explain if the proposed project will or may require a waiver under the Buy America Act.
- Scalability or portability of the proposed technology deployment to other jurisdictions.
- Commitment to evaluate the effectiveness (i.e., cost-benefit) of activities proposed.

STAFFING:

- Degree that the Application includes a program/project management structure or organization that will successfully oversee the proposed technology deployment.
- Expertise and qualifications of key personnel for managing or conducting appropriate aspects of the proposed technology deployment through the period of performance, as well as the expected level of involvement for each designated Key Personnel (e.g., percent of work time to be committed to the project during the period of performance).

COST:

- Cost will be considered in the award decision. The cost information will be analyzed to assess cost reasonableness and conformance to applicable cost principles. Applicants must provide the required matching funds, and supporting detail for these funds, including the applicant's activities to maximize the non-Federal share of the project funding.
- Funding availability will also be considered in the award decision. This evaluation factor will not be rated, but will be considered in the award selection.

2. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

DOT will utilize a two-phased approach for the review and selection of applications. During Phase I, DOT will use a merit review process to evaluate applications and make selections for award. In Phase II, DOT will conduct award discussions with selected applicants to determine the method of award, clarify and request additional budgetary information, and obtain a project SOW.

a) Phase I - Application Review and Selection

Any ineligible applications, as determined by lateness, incompleteness, duplication, or other deficit of eligibility, will not proceed forward. DOT will review all remaining eligible applications. The ATCMTD process consists of a technical evaluation phase and senior review. In the technical evaluation phase, teams of technical experts from a cross-section of DOT modal administrations will determine whether each project satisfies statutory requirements and rate how well it addresses selection criteria. The senior review team will consider the applications and the technical evaluations to determine which projects to advance to the Secretary for consideration. Evaluations in both the technical evaluation and senior review phases will place all eligible projects into one of three rating categories; Highly Recommended, Recommended, and Not Recommended. The evaluations will not assign numerical scores, nor will there be any sorting or rankings within each of the three subcategories. In summary, any project slotted into each category will have the same weight of recommendation in that category. The Secretary will select the projects for award. DOT reserves the right to use outside expertise or contractor support to perform application evaluation. A panel of Agency experts will conduct a risk assessment of the applicant prior to award.

The adjectival rating categories to be used during the review and selection process as described in the paragraph above are defined as follows:

Highly Recommended:

- Applicant and proposed technology deployment align extremely well with the objectives of the ATCMTD Program.
- Application meets NOFO requirements, demonstrates excellent technical merit as defined by the evaluation criteria, and has salient features that significantly align with the Government's vision and goals for safety, innovation, and opportunity.
- Application offers outstanding value towards advancing the ATCMTD Initiative.
- Application represents a low to moderate risk of unsuccessful deployment.

Recommended:

- Applicant and proposed technology deployment substantially align with the objectives of the selection criteria under consideration.
- Application meets NOFO requirements, demonstrates sound technical merit as defined by the evaluation criteria, and has salient features that align with the Government's vision and goals for safety, innovation, and opportunity.
- Application offers value towards advancing the ATCMTD Initiative.
- Application represents a low to moderate risk of unsuccessful deployment.

Not Recommended:

- Applicant and proposed technology deployment does not substantially align with the objectives of the selection criteria under consideration,
- Application does not demonstrate sufficient technical merit as defined by the evaluation criteria,
- Application does not offer sufficient salient features that align with the Government's vision and goals,
- Application does not offer sufficient value towards advancing the ATCMTD Initiative, and/or,
- Application includes risk factors that contribute to moderate to high risk of unsuccessful deployment.

DOT will award the applications that are considered the most advantageous to DOT using the criteria cited above, and subject to the results of an Applicant risk assessment. In addition, per 23 USC 503(c)(4)(D)(i) - (iii), DOT shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that grant recipients represent diverse geographic areas of the United States, including urban and rural areas, and that grant recipients represent diverse technology solutions.

The Secretary of Transportation is the official responsible for final award selections. DOT is not obligated to make any award as a result of this notice.

3. RISK ASSESSMENT

Prior to award, each selected applicant will be subject to a risk assessment required by 2 CFR 200.205. If the Federal awarding Agency determines that a Federal award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the Federal award. DOT must review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through

SAM (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)). An applicant may review information in FAPIIS and comment on any information about itself. DOT will consider comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in FAPIIS, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the risk assessment. DOT reserves the right to deny an award based on the results of the risk assessment.

DOT will assess the risks posed by an Applicant before they receive an award. If the Federal awarding Agency determines that a Federal award will be made, special conditions that correspond to the degree of risk assessed may be applied to the Federal award. This Risk Assessment will include evaluation of some or all the following items relative to the Applicant and/or sub-applicants as applicable:

- (1) Applicant's financial stability;
- (2) Applicant's quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in 2 CFR Part 200;
- (3) Applicant's history of performance;

Note: History of performance includes the Applicant's record in managing Federal awards, if it is a prior Recipient of Federal awards, including timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements, conformance to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards, and if applicable, the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards. The Government will evaluate the relevant merits of the Applicant's history of performance based on its reputation and record with its current and/or former customers with respect to quality, timeliness and cost control. The history of performance will be reviewed to assure that the Applicant has relevant and successful experience and will be considered in the risk assessment. In evaluating history of performance, the Government may consider both written information provided in the application, as well as any other information available to the Government through outside sources.

- (4) Applicant's audit reports and findings from audits performed on the Applicant pursuant to 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F—Audit Requirements or the reports and findings of any other available audits;
- (5) Applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities; (6) Applicant's potential for conflict of interest if applicable; and

Note: DOT will review information provided by the Applicant, and any other relevant information known to DOT, to determine whether an award to the Applicant may create an actual or potential conflict of interest. If any such conflict of interest is found to exist, FHWA may (a) disqualify the Applicant, or (b) determine that it is otherwise in the best interest of the United States to award to the Applicant and include appropriate provisions to mitigate or avoid such conflict in the agreement pursuant to 2 CFR 200.112.

(7) Applicant's eligibility to receive Federal funding. Per the guidelines on governmentwide suspension and debarment in 2 CFR Part 180, the Government will confirm that the Applicant and any named sub-applicants are not debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal programs or activities.

Pursuant to 2 CFR Part 200.205, prior to making a Federal award, the Federal awarding Agency is required to review information available through any Office of Management and Budget-designated repositories of governmentwide eligibility qualification or financial integrity information, such as FAPIIS, D&B, and Sam.gov. The Government's review of this information will occur as part of the risk assessment.

b) Phase II – Post-Selection Discussions and Method of Award

In Phase II, DOT and the applicant will reach an agreement on the method for award. There are two possible options for award: award through an allocation to the State department of transportation, or a direct award from FHWA. In Phase II, DOT will also conduct discussions with the selected applicant to clarify elements of the applicant's technical and budget applications. Discussions will include a request for detailed and itemized cost information, including: direct labor categories, hours and rates, fringe benefit rates, travel, equipment, supplies, sub-recipient, contractor and consultant costs and supporting documentation, construction costs, other direct costs, indirect cost rates, and additional supporting budget narrative. The selected applicant will also be required to provide a project SOW.

4. ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT AND FEDERAL AWARD DATES

DOT anticipates awarding funds for advanced transportation and congestion management technologies deployments date to be determined.

SECTION F – FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. FEDERAL AWARD NOTICES

Following the evaluation outlined in Section E, DOT will notify the selected applicants and announce the selected projects. Notice that an applicant has been selected as a recipient does not constitute approval of the application as submitted. Before the award, DOT will contact the POC listed in the SF 424 to initiate negotiation of a project specific agreement. If the negotiations do not result in an acceptable submittal, DOT reserves the right to terminate the negotiation and decline to fund the applicant.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

All awards will be administered pursuant to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards found in 2 CFR 200, as adopted by DOT at 2 CFR 1201. For a list of the applicable laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, polices, guidelines, and requirements related to ATCMTD projects, please see <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/aaa/generaltermsconditions.cfm>. Applicable Federal laws, rules, and regulations set forth in 23 U.S.C. and 23 CFR also apply.

3. REPORTING

a. Progress Reporting on Grant Activity. Each applicant selected for an ATCMTD grant must submit the Federal Financial Report (SF-425) on the financial condition of the project, its progress, and an Annual Budget Review and Program Plan to monitor the use of Federal funds and ensure accountability and financial transparency in the ATCMTD Program.

b. Reporting of Matters Related to Integrity and Performance. If the total value of a selected applicant's currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10 million at any time during the period of performance, then the applicant must maintain the currency of information reported to the SAM and made available in the FAPIIS about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in paragraph 2 of the award terms and conditions. This is a statutory requirement under Section 872 of Public Law 110-417, as amended (41 U.S.C. 2313). As required by Section 3010 of Public Law 111-212, all information posted in the designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available.

c. Reporting to the Secretary. Per 23 U.S.C. 503(c)(4)(F), not later than 1 year after receiving an ATCMTD grant, and each year thereafter, the recipient shall submit a report to the Secretary that describes:

- i. Deployment and operational costs of the project compared to the benefits and savings the project provides; and
- ii. How the project has met the original expectations projected in the deployment plan submitted with the application, such as:
 - a. data on how the project has helped reduce traffic crashes, congestion, costs, and other benefits of the deployed systems;
 - b. data on the effect of measuring and improving transportation system performance through the deployment of advanced technologies;
 - c. the effectiveness of providing real time integrated traffic, transit, and multimodal transportation information to the public to make informed travel decisions; and
 - d. lessons learned and recommendations for future deployment strategies to optimize transportation efficiency and multimodal system performance.

The Agency will offer a standard template to format the annual reports to DOT.

SECTION G – FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS

Address any questions to:

ATCMTD@dot.gov