Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program

Disclaimer

The contents of this presentation do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind States or the public in any way. This presentation is intended only to provide information regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. However, compliance with applicable statutes or regulations cited in this presentation is required.

This is a webinar for the Fiscal Years 2022-2023 Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Posted: April 4, 2023

Applications Due: August 1, 2023

Website Link: https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/wildlife-crossings

NOFO Link: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Funding Opportunity Number: 693JJ323NF00011

Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Program Overview
- Application Review Process
- Application Process
- Resources
- Questions

Source: Adobe Stock

Agenda

- **Welcome & Opening Remarks**
- Program Overview
- Application Review Process
- Application Process
- Resources
- Questions

Source: Adobe Stock

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The U.S. Department of Transportation Welcomes You!

Source: FHWA

Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- **Program Overview**
- Application Review Process
- Application Process
- Resources
- Questions

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Overview

Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) present a danger to human safety and wildlife survival.

- There are more than 1,000,000 WVCs annually (23 U.S.C. § 171(a)(1)).
- WVCs result in a total estimated annual cost of $8.38 billion (23 U.S.C. § 171(a)(3)).
- WVCs result in tens of thousands of serious injuries and hundreds of fatalities within the United States (23 U.S.C. § 171(a)(2)(B)).
- WVCs threaten the survival of species (23 U.S.C. § 171(a)(4)).

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Overview

WCPP was established in Section 11123(b) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-58, November 15, 2021), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and codified at 23 U.S.C. § 171.

The WCPP provides competitive grants for projects that seek to **reduce the number of WVCs** and, in doing so, **improve habitat connectivity** for terrestrial and aquatic species (23 U.S.C. § 171(b)).

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Funding

NOFO Section B.1

	Program Funding					
Fiscal Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Available	$60M	$65M	$70M	$75M	$80M	$350M

Funds are authorized under BIL § 11101(d)(1) and appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund.

WCPP Funding

NOFO Section B.1

	Program Funding					
Fiscal Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Available	$60M	$65M	$70M	$75M	$80M	$350M

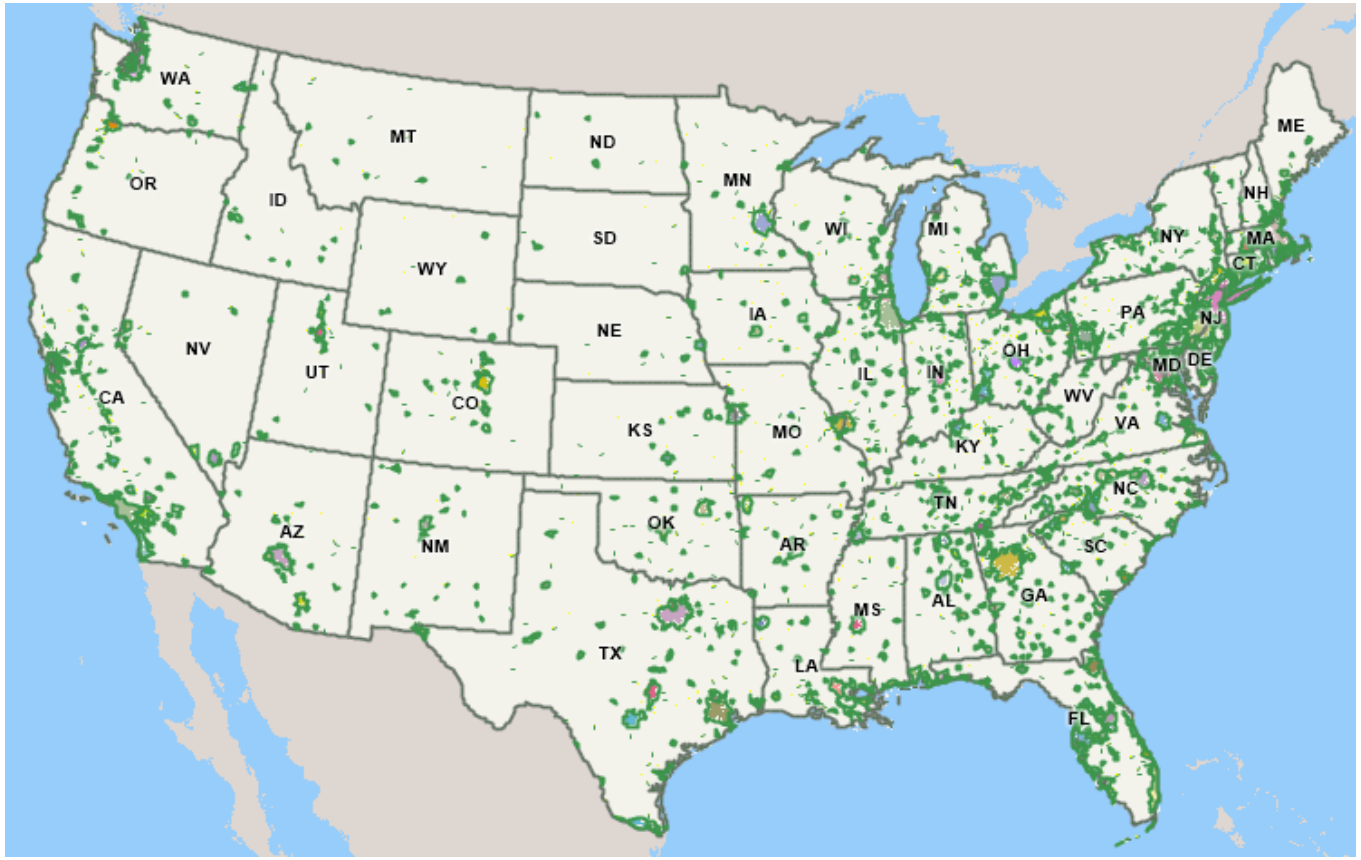
The total amount available to be awarded for this NOFO is **$111,850,000** combining FY22 and FY23 funds, minus reductions due to the imposition of the annual limitation on FHWA contract authority.

WCPP Funding

NOFO Section B.3.a

At least 60% of funds will be awarded to rural areas (23 U.S.C. § 171(g)).

- Rural areas are all areas that are not urban (23 USC 101(a)(25)).
- Urban areas are FHWA Adjusted Urban Area. A map of urban areas can be found here:
  - https://hepgis.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwagis/ViewMap.aspx?map=MPO+Boundaries|FHWA%20Adjusted%20Urban%20Area



Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Program Overview
- **Application Review Process**
- Application Process
- Resources
- Questions

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Is the application Complete?

Is the application Eligible?

- ❑ Eligible Applicant
- ❑ State DOT Consultation Requirement met, if applicable
- ❑ Cost Share

WCPP Eligible Applicants

NOFO Section C.1

Eligible Applicants are the following entities or a group of such entities (23 U.S.C. § 171(c)):

1. A State Department of Transportation (State DOT);
2. A metropolitan planning organization (MPO);
3. A unit of local government;
4. A regional transportation authority;
5. A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function;
6. An Indian Tribe; or
7. A Federal land management agency (FLMA).

Source: Adobe Stock

For a group of entities, a lead applicant must be identified, and requirements are based on the lead applicant.

WCPP State DOT Consultation

NOFO Section C.3.b

Eligible Applicants are the following entities or a group of such entities:

1. A State DOT;
2. An MPO;
3. A unit of local government;
4. A regional transportation authority;
5. A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function;
6. An Indian Tribe; or
7. An FLMA.

Must consult with the State DOT where the applicant is located (23 U.S.C. § 171 (d)(2))

Tribes are only required to consult for projects that are not located on Tribal Lands (23 U.S.C. § 171 (d)(2))

For a group of entities, a lead applicant must be identified, and requirements are based on the lead applicant.

WCPP Grant Administration

NOFO Section B.5

Eligible Applicants are the following entities or a group of such entities:

1. A State DOT;
2. An MPO;
3. A unit of local government;
4. A regional transportation authority;
5. A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function;
6. An Indian Tribe; or
7. An FLMA.

Grants administered by the State DOT for the State in which the project is located (23 U.S.C. § 171(f)(2)(A)(ii))

For a group of entities, a lead applicant must be identified, and requirements are based on the lead applicant.

WCPP Grant Administration

NOFO Section B.5

Eligible Applicants are the following entities or a group of such entities:

1. A State DOT;
2. An MPO;
3. A unit of local government;
4. A regional transportation authority;
5. A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function;
6. An Indian Tribe; or
7. An FLMA.

Grants administered by the State DOT

Grants administered by FHWA (23 U.S.C. § 171(f)(2)(A)(i))

For a group of entities, a lead applicant must be identified, and requirements are based on the lead applicant.

WCPP Eligible Partners

NOFO Section C.1

Eligible Applicants can provide funding to the following Eligible Partners (23 U.S.C. § 171(f)(2)(B)):

- An MPO;
- A unit of local government;
- A regional transportation authority;
- A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function;
- An Indian Tribe;
- An FLMA;
- A foundation, nongovernmental organization, or institution of higher education;
- A Federal, Tribal, regional, or State government entity; or
- A group of the above eligible entities

Source: Adobe Stock

Eligible Applicants can also provide funding to subrecipients and contractors.

WCPP Eligible Project Types

NOFO Section C.3.c

Non-Construction and Construction Projects are Eligible.

- Construction projects include all activities that lead to a built project, while non-construction projects include all other projects, such as research projects and planning studies
- Applicants must determine if the project is Non-Construction or Construction, then submit the corresponding forms with their application.

Source: Microsoft Office Stock Images

WCPP Eligible Project Types

NOFO Section B.4

Examples of Non-Construction Projects

- Research on safety innovations to reduce WVCs;
- Research and monitoring on the effectiveness of WVC mitigation;
- Development of mapping tools to document WVCs;
- Analysis of impacts of WVCs and best practices to reduce WVCs;
- Planning studies to identify terrestrial and aquatic wildlife migration corridors and roadway barriers to habitat that lead to WVCs;
- Tracking wildlife and mapping WVCs; or
- Outreach campaign to educate the public on the hazards of WVCs.

Examples of Construction Projects

- Design and pre-construction of an underpass or overpass for wildlife passage;
- Environmental permitting and right-of-way acquisition to construct a wildlife crossing structure;
- Adaptation or replacement of a culvert or bridge structure to accommodate connectivity for terrestrial species that are experiencing WVCs;
- Construction of a wildlife overpass or underpass and fencing;
- Preservation or restoration of habitat necessary to secure the effectiveness of a crossing project; or
- Construction of multiple crossing structures in an area to connect habitat for terrestrial or aquatic species.

WCPP Eligible Project Costs

NOFO Section C.3.c

Eligible Project Costs include the following:

Examples of Non-Construction Project Costs	Examples of Construction Project Costs	
• Planning • Research • Public outreach • Feasibility analyses	• Environmental review • Preliminary engineering and design work • Preservation • Replacement • Reconstruction • Rehabilitation • Acquisition of real property and rights-of-way	• Environmental mitigation • Permitting • Public outreach • Project monitoring • Construction contingencies • Operations

Projects may consist of subsets of activities that are eligible (e.g. only environmental reviews and permitting).

Funds cannot be used for pre-award costs. All project costs must conform to 2 CFR part 200, Subpart E and FHWA reserves the right to make cost eligibility determinations on a case-by-case basis.

WCPP Eligible Project Size

NOFO Section B.2

There is no minimum or maximum project size.

Applicants are encouraged to submit for large scale projects of $200,000 or greater.

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Eligible Project Duration

NOFO Section B

There is no required project duration.

Research and monitoring efforts may occur for several years.

Once a grant agreement is executed, and funds are obligated, they are available until expended.

For grants to State DOTs, or administered by State DOTs, the DOT Payment System will be “Current Bill” in FMIS and the start of the period of performance will begin on the date that WCPP funds are authorized in FMIS and end on the project end date in FMIS.

For grants to Tribes or FLMAs, the DOT Payment System will be “DELPHI iSupplier” and the start of the period of performance will begin on the effective date of the grant agreement as executed by FHWA and the recipient and end on the project end date of the period of performance that is listed in the grant agreement.

FHWA is reporting program progress annually to Congress on this pilot program.

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Cost Sharing

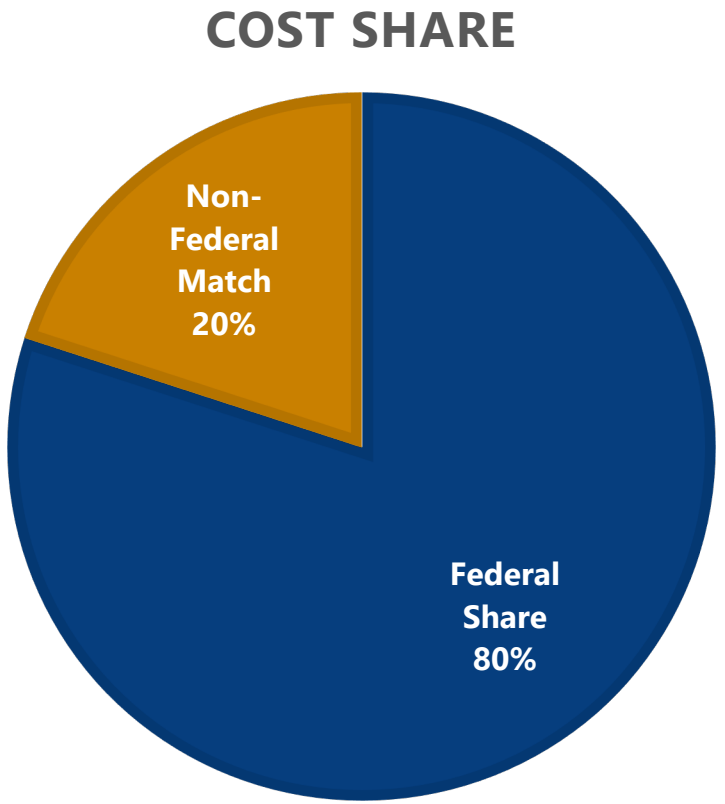
NOFO Section C.2

All projects and applicants are subject to cost share requirements per 23 U.S.C. § 120.

- Applicants must provide at least 20 percent of the total project cost.
- The match must come from **non-Federal sources** unless specified by Congress.

There are some exceptions per 23 U.S.C. § 120.

- Certain safety projects may be 100% federal share (23 U.S.C. § 120 (c)(1)).
- Projects on the interstate may be 90% or more federal share (23 U.S.C. § 120(a)(1)).
- Projects in states containing Federal and nontaxable Indian lands may be more than 80% federal share (23 U.S.C. § 120 (b)(1)).
- Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP) and Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funds may be used as non-federal match (23 U.S.C. § 120(k)).



More info on match: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/fedshare_fact_sheet.cfm

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Applications that are complete and eligible will be evaluated further.

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Does the application either *Align* or *Strongly Align* with the 2 primary merit criteria?

- ❑ Reduce WVCs
- ❑ Improve habitat connectivity

WCPP Primary Merit Criteria

NOFO Section E.1.a

Criterion # 1.1: Reduction of Wildlife Vehicle Collisions.

The FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project is likely to protect motorists and wildlife by reducing the number of WVCs.

Include available and relevant information on:

- WVC problem
- Proposed solution, expected impact, and timeframe
- Transportation facilities in the area
- Affected species
- Long term maintenance needs

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Primary Merit Criteria

NOFO Section E.1.a

Criterion #1.2: Improvement of Terrestrial and Aquatic Habitat Connectivity.

The FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project is likely to improve terrestrial and aquatic habitat connectivity.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Habitat connectivity problem
- Affected species and the impact to them
- Surrounding land use
- Expected benefit of the project

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Applications will receive the following category rating:

- *Strongly Recommended* applications have (1) *Strong Alignment* with both Primary Merit Criteria; or (2) *Strong Alignment* with one Primary Merit Criteria and *Alignment* with the other Primary Merit Criteria.
- *Recommended* applications have *Alignment* with both Primary Merit Criteria.
- *Not Recommended* applications have *No Alignment* with one or both Primary Merit Criteria, and will not be evaluated further.

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Does the application either *Align* or *Strongly Align* with at least 3 of the 6 Secondary Merit Criteria?

- ❑ Leveraging Investments
- ❑ Economic Development and Visitation Opportunities
- ❑ Innovation
- ❑ Education and Outreach
- ❑ Monitoring and Research
- ❑ Survival of Species

WCPP Secondary Merit Criteria

Criterion #2.1: Leveraging Investments.

FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project is expected to leverage Federal investment by encouraging non-Federal contributions to the project, including projects from public-private partnerships.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Extent of contributions
- Source and availability of contributions

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Secondary Merit Criteria

NOFO Section E.1.b

Criterion #2.2: Economic Development and Visitation Opportunities.

FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project is expected to support local economic development and improve visitation opportunities.

Include available and relevant information on:

- How the project equitably supports economic development, including from visitation
- How the improvements will not conflict with the WCPP goals of reducing WVCs and improving habitat connectivity

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Secondary Merit Criteria

Criterion #2.3: Innovation.

FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project will incorporate innovative technologies, including advanced design techniques and other strategies to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in reducing WVCs and improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial or aquatic species.

Include available and relevant information on:

- How new technologies and innovations will be utilized
- Impact to reducing WVCs
- Impact to improving habitat connectivity

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Secondary Merit Criteria

Criterion #2.4: Education and Outreach.

FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project will provide educational and outreach opportunities.

Include available and relevant information on:

- How education and outreach will be provided
- How the education and outreach relates to WVCs and habitat connectivity

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Secondary Merit Criteria

Criterion #2.5: Monitoring and Research.

FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project will include monitoring and research to allow FHWA or others to evaluate, compare effectiveness of, and identify best practices in selected projects.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Baseline conditions
- Monitoring methodology
- Data collection, evaluation and sharing

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Secondary Merit Criteria

Criterion #2.6: Survival of Species.

FHWA will assess the extent to which the proposed project is expected to benefit birds, fish, reptiles, mammals, and amphibians that are Federally Threatened or Endangered Species and species that are Proposed or Candidates for listing.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Affected Federally Threatened or Endangered Species, or species that are Proposed or Candidate for listing.
- How the project will benefit those species.

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Applications will receive the following category rating:

- *Strongly Recommended* applications have (1) *Strong Alignment* with two or more of the six Secondary Merit Criteria; and (2) *Alignment* with all the remaining Secondary Merit Criteria.
- *Recommended* applications are applications that are not evaluated as *Strongly Recommended* and which have *Alignment* or *Strong Alignment* with at least three of the six Secondary Merit Criteria.
- *Not Recommended* applications have *No Alignment* with four or more of the six Secondary Merit Criteria and will not be evaluated further.

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Does the application have a *Medium* or *High* project readiness rating?

- ❑ Technical Assessment
- ❑ Environmental Review and Permitting Risk
- ❑ Financial Completeness

WCPP Project Readiness

NOFO Section E.1.c

Technical Assessment.

The Technical Assessment will assess the applicant's capacity to successfully deliver the project in compliance with applicable Federal, State, and local requirements based on factors including, but not limited to, the recipient's experience working with Federal agencies, civil rights compliance, previous experience with FHWA discretionary grant awards, the technical experience and resources dedicated to the project, and the ability for applicants to maintain the project in accordance with Federal law.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Ability to execute a grant agreement, manage the funding, fulfill requirements, and deliver the project
- Support from State DOT to administer the project if the State DOT will be administering the grant.

WCPP Project Readiness

NOFO Section E.1.c

Environmental Review and Permitting Risk.

The FHWA will assess the project's environmental approvals and likelihood of the necessary approvals affecting project obligation and completion.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Environmental review process and timeline
- Status of NEPA or plans and other approvals
- Potential obstacles and proposed responses

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Project Readiness

NOFO Section E.1.c

Financial Completeness.

FHWA will review the availability of matching funds and whether the application presents a complete funding package.

Include available and relevant information on:

- Matching and leveraged funding
- Cost estimates and contingencies
- Plans to address potential overruns
- Plans to fund maintenance and operations

Source: Adobe Stock

WCPP Project Readiness

NOFO Section E.1.c

Applications are ranked in each component of project readiness

Component Rating	1	2	3
Technical Assessment	Uncertain	Somewhat Certain	Certain
Environmental Review and Permitting Risk	High Risk	Moderate Risk	Low Risk
Financial Completeness	Incomplete	Partially Complete	Complete

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Applications will receive the following category rating:

- *High* applications have (1) All 3s; or (2) two 3s and one 2.
- *Medium* applications have (1) One 3 and two 2s; or (2) all 2s.
- *Low* applications have any 1s and will not be evaluated further.

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Does the application have an overall rating of *Recommended* or *Highly Recommended?*

- ❑ Complete and Eligible
- ❑ Primary Merit Criteria Category Rating
- ❑ Secondary Merit Criteria Category Rating
- ❑ Project Readiness Evaluation Category Rating

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2.b

Highly Recommended	• *Strongly Recommended* in Primary Merit Criteria; **AND** • Either *Strongly Recommended* or *Recommended* in Secondary Merit Criteria; **AND** • Either *High* or *Medium* in Project Readiness.
Recommended	• *Recommended* in Primary Merit Criteria; **AND** • Either *Strongly Recommended* or *Recommended* in Secondary Merit Criteria; **AND** • Either *High* or *Medium* in Project Readiness.
Not Recommended	• *Not Recommended* in Primary Merit Criteria; **OR** • *Not Recommended* in Secondary Merit Criteria; **OR** • *Low* in Project Readiness.

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Applications that receive an overall rating of *Highly Recommended* or *Recommended* will be sent to the Senior Level Review Team

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Makes recommendations to the FHWA Administrator

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Makes final selections and awards WCPP grants

WCPP Application Review Process

NOFO Section E.2

Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Program Overview
- Application Review Process
- **Application Process**
- Resources
- Questions

Source: Adobe Stock

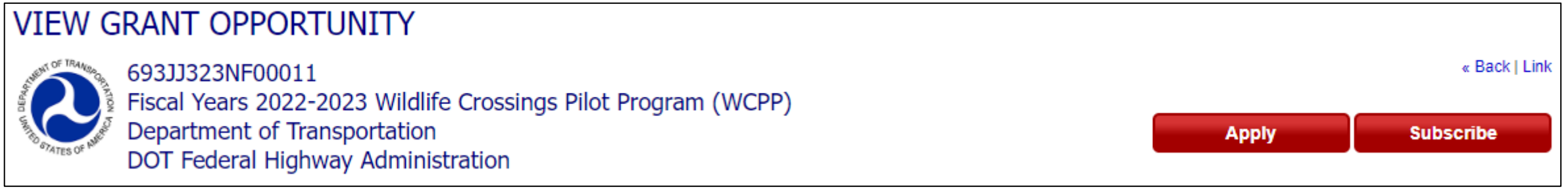
Application Process

Application Process

Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.4

- Funding Opportunity Number: 693JJ323NF00011
- Funding Opportunity Title: Fiscal Years 2022-2023 Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP)
- All applications must be submitted electronically through **Grants.gov** by 11:59 PM (Eastern Time) on Tuesday August 1, 2023.



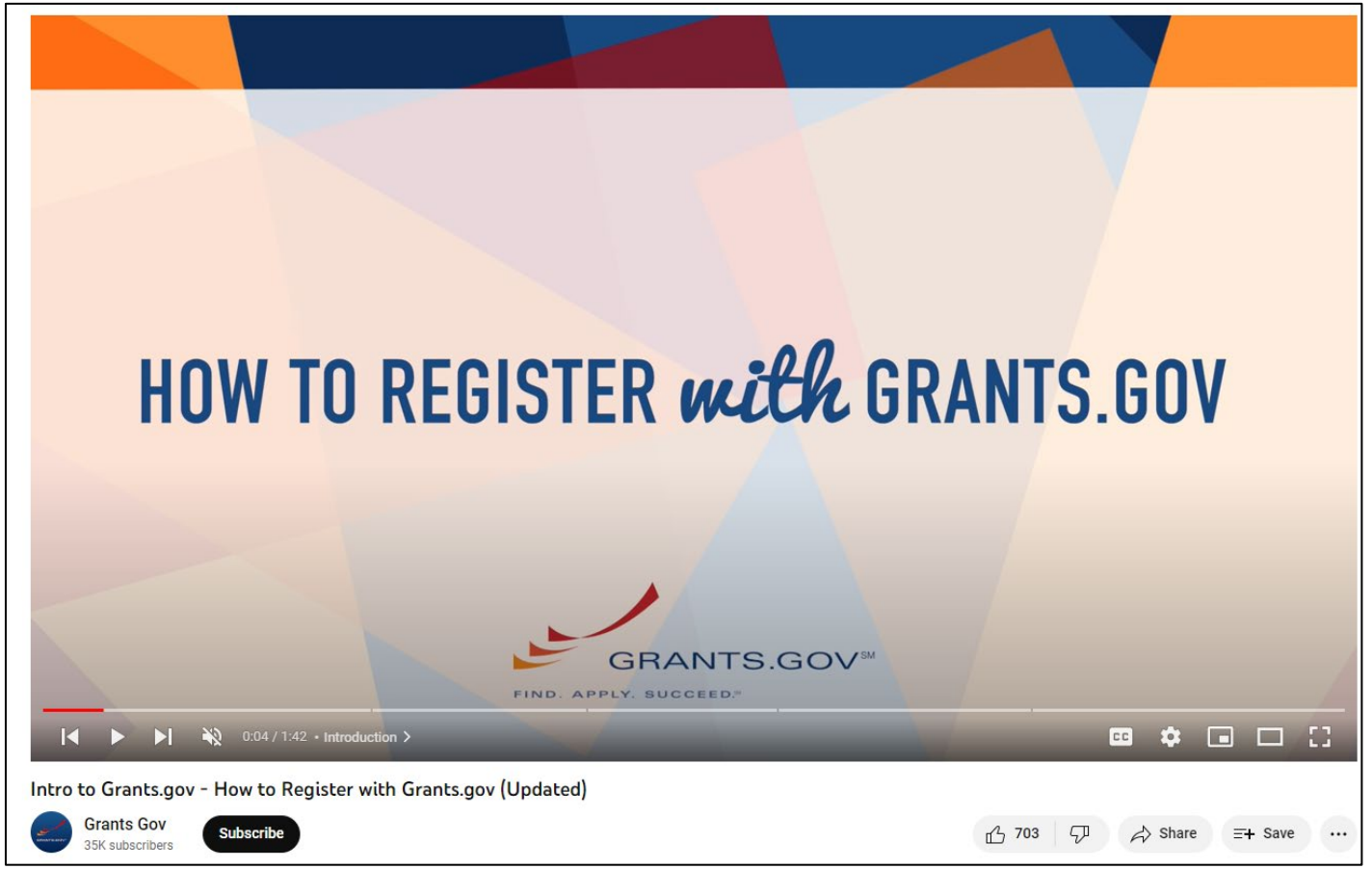
Direct Link to NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.3-4

Grants.gov Resources:

Video on how to register, set up a profile, and navigate grants.gov



Direct Link to grants.gov video: https://youtu.be/sj3X2XPAQ5g

Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.3-4

Grants.gov Resources:

Grants.gov Support Center

Links to:

- FAQs
- Grants Learning Center
- Online Help

Direct Link to grants.gov support center: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html

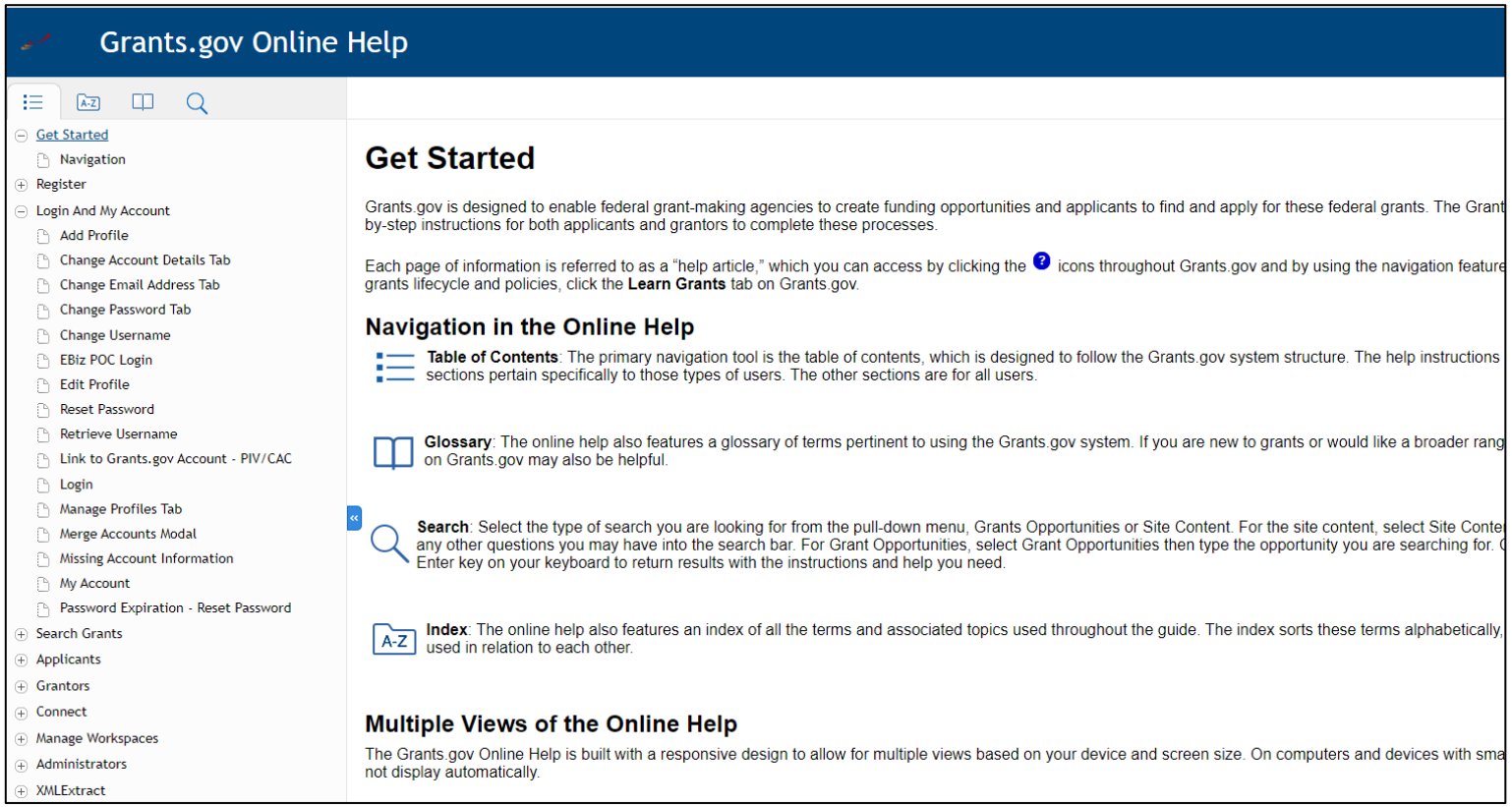
Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.3-4

Grants.gov Resources:

Grants.gov Online Help

Step by Step Instructions



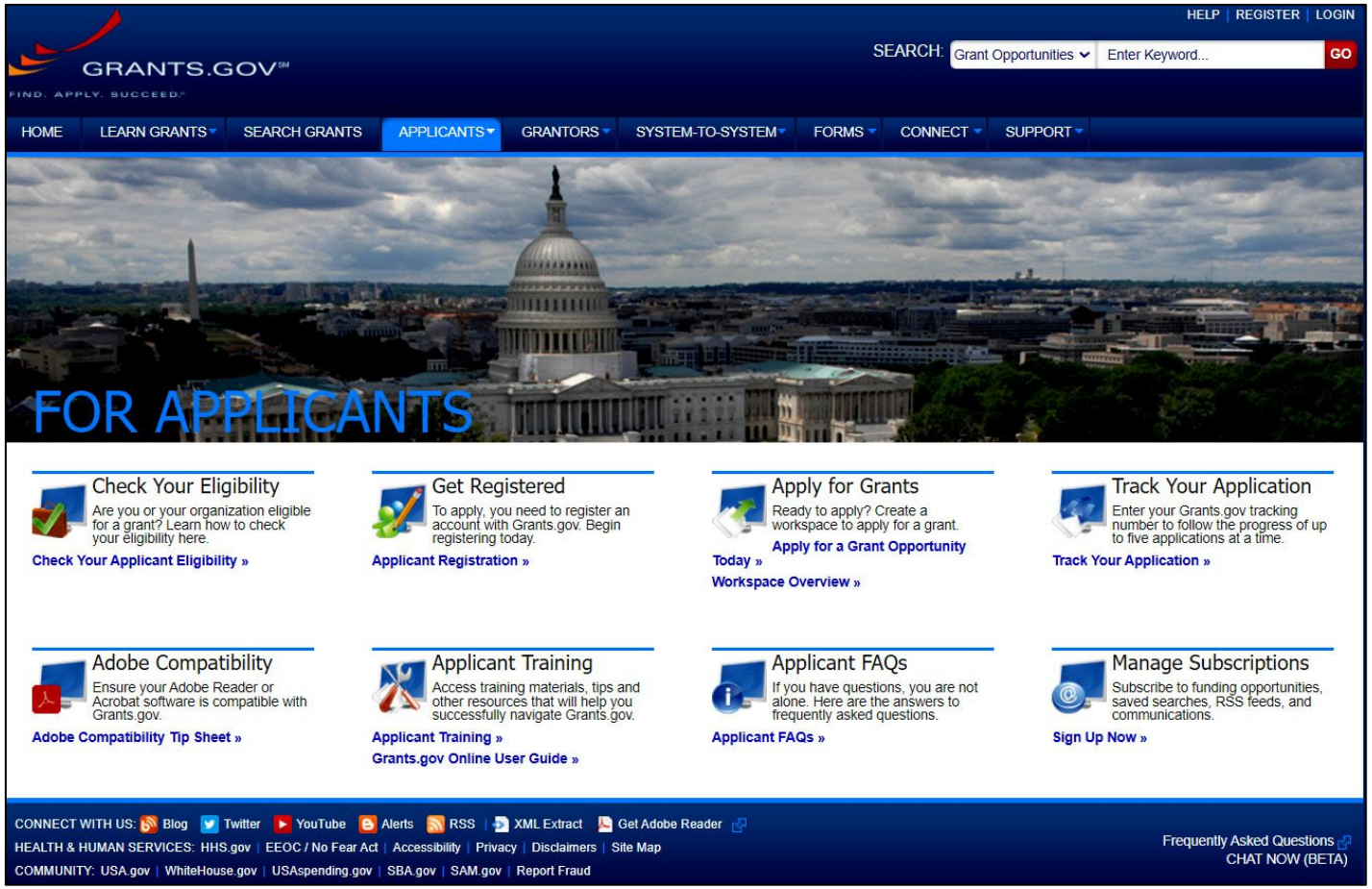
Direct Link to grants.gov Online Help:
https://www.grants.gov/help/html/help/index.htm#t=GetStarted%2FGetStarted.htm

Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.3-4

Grants.gov Resources:

Grants.gov information for applicants



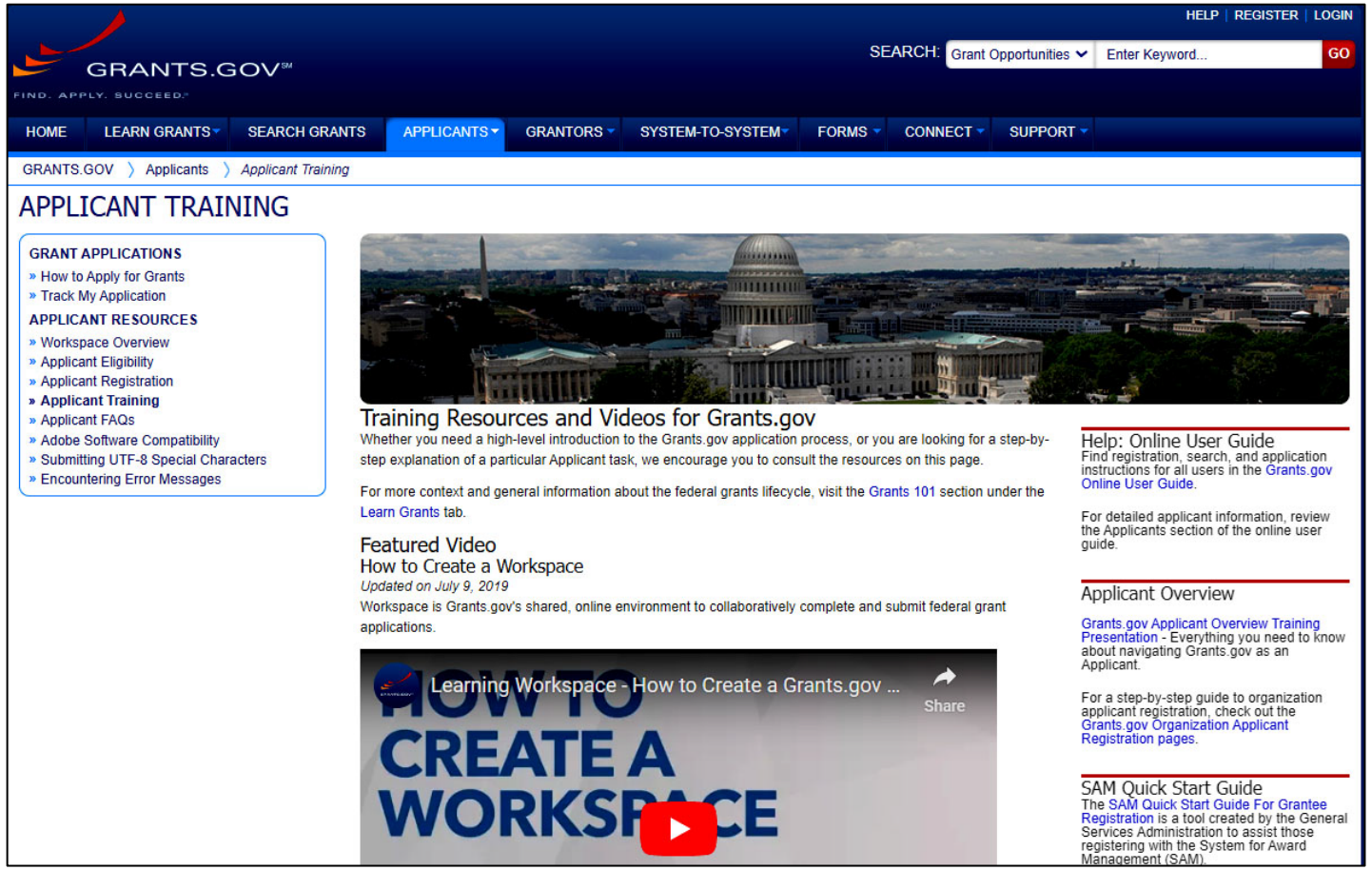
Direct Link to grants.gov: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants.html

Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.3-4

Grants.gov Resources:

Grants.gov online training for applicants



Direct Link to grants.gov training: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-training.html

Application Process: Getting Oriented

NOFO Section D.3-4

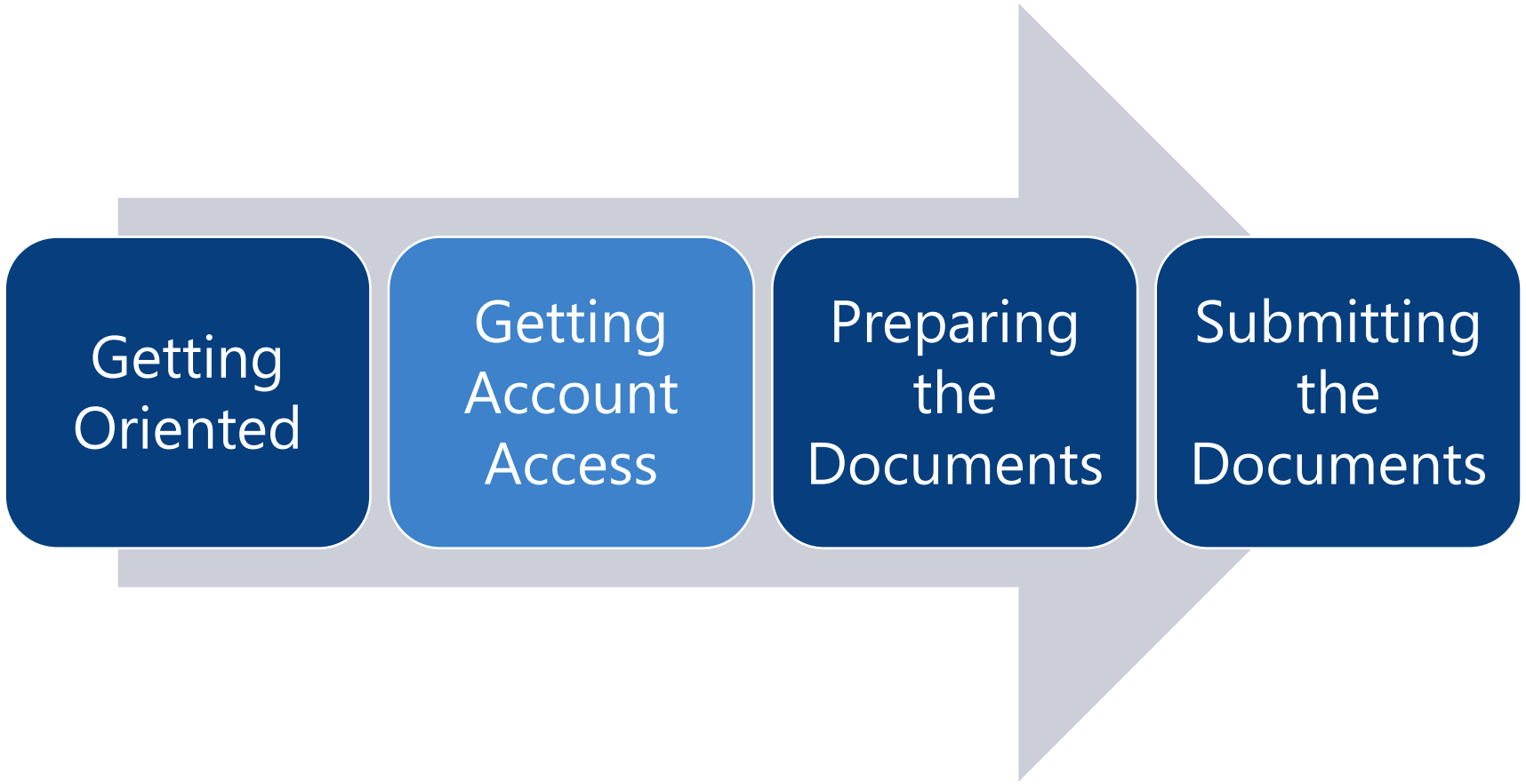
Grants.gov Helpdesk

- 1-800-518-4726 (U.S.)
- 1-606-545-5053 (International)
- support@grants.gov

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (excluding Federal holidays).

Application Process

NOFO Section D

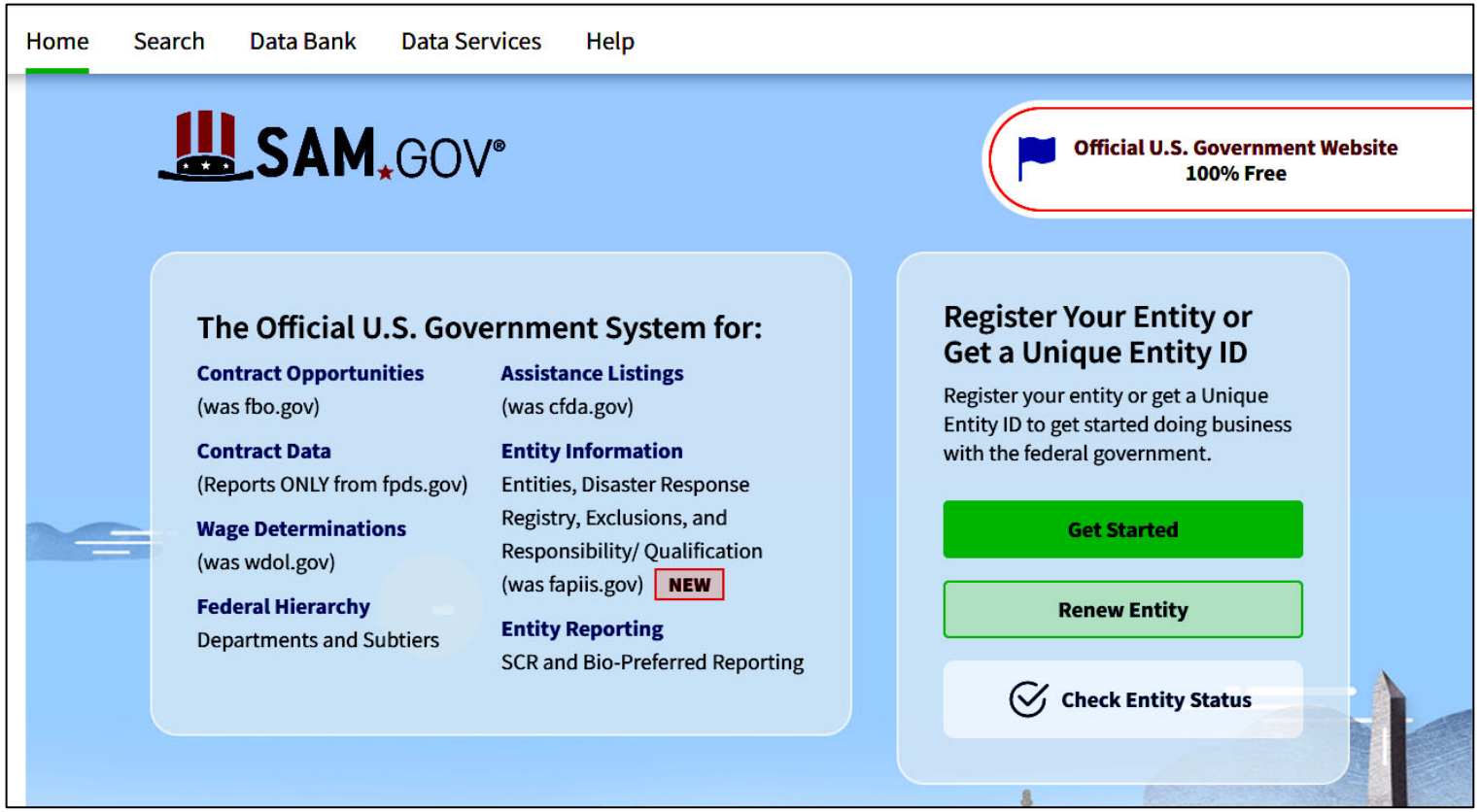


Application Process: Getting Account Access

NOFO Section D.3-4

- Must be registered in SAM.gov
- Must have an UEI (Unique Entity Identifier) (replaces DUNS Number)

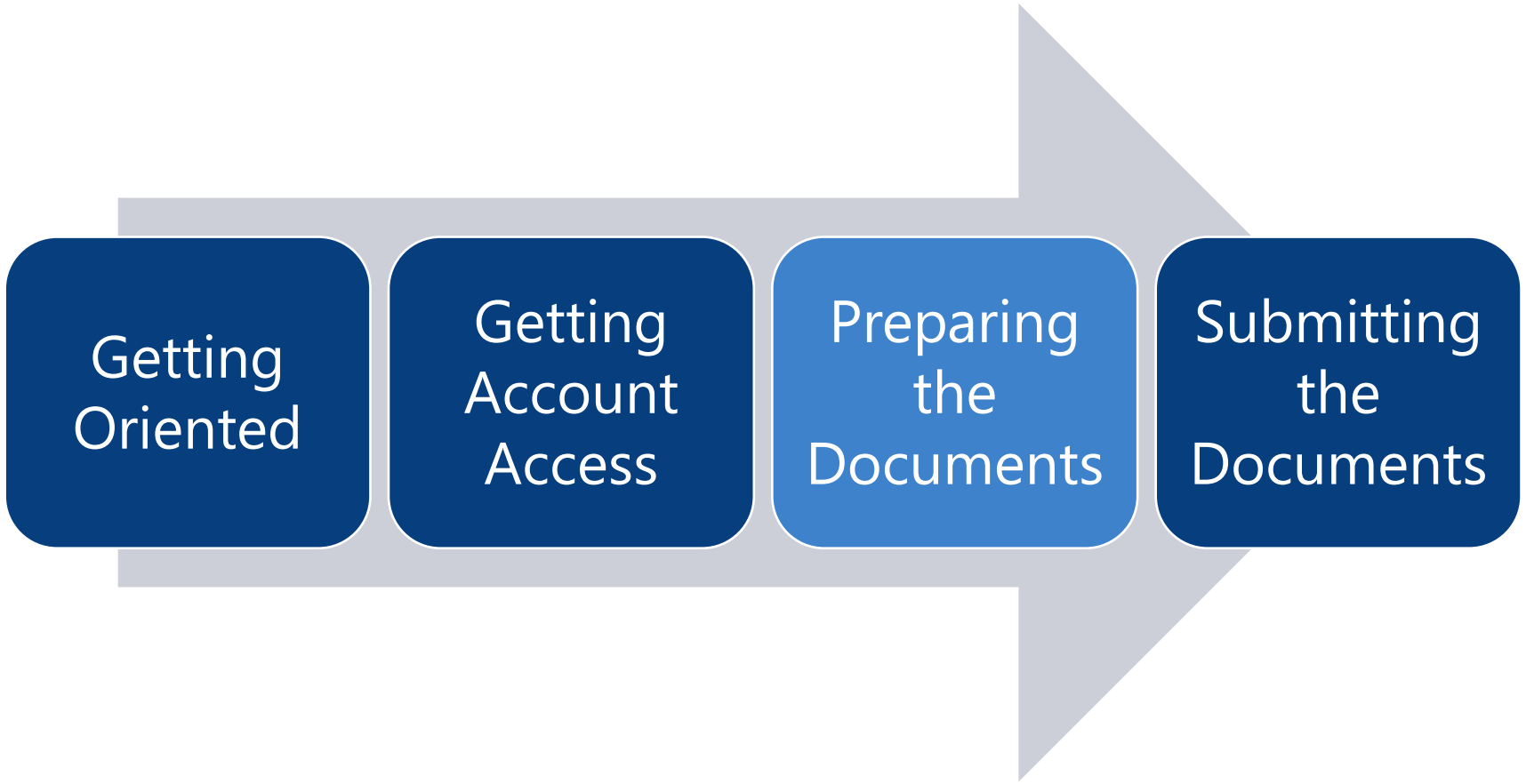
- These processes can take several weeks to complete, so should be started well before the application deadline.



Grants.gov registration information: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/registration.html

Direct Link to SAM: https://sam.gov/content/home or https://sam.gov

Application Process



Application Process: Preparing the Documents

NOFO Section D.2.a

Applications **must** include the following (submitted as individual PDFs):

Non-Construction Projects	Construction Projects
Standard Form 424 (Application for Federal Assistance)	
Grants.gov Lobbying Form (Certification Regarding Lobbying)	
Standard Form LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities)	
Standard Form 424A (Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs)	**Standard Form 424C** (Budget Information for Construction Programs)
Standard Form 424B (Assurances for Non-Construction Programs)	**Standard Form 424D** (Assurances for Construction Programs)
Project Abstract	
Project Narrative	

In addition, the **Key Contacts form** is optional for all applications.

Forms are available for download at: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-mandatory-family.html.

Application Process: Preparing the Documents

NOFO Section D.2

The **Project Abstract** should:

- Be one page with standard formatting
- Summarize the project type, scope, and goals
- Describe how the project supports program and policy goals

Source: Microsoft Office Stock Images

Application Process: Preparing the Documents

NOFO Section D.2

The **Project Narrative** should:

- Be no more than 25 pages with standard formatting. Appendices do not count towards the 25 page limit
- Include information necessary for FHWA to determine that the project satisfies program requirements, primary and secondary merit criteria, and project readiness.
- Provide supporting data and documentation in a form that is directly verifiable by DOT (to the extent practicable).

FHWA recommends that the **Project Narrative** follow the outline below:

- Basic Project Information – Description, Location, and Parties
- Budget Narrative - Grant Funds, Sources and Uses of all Project Funding
- Project Merit Criteria
- Project Readiness
- Administration Priorities

Application Process: Preparing the Documents

NOFO Attachment A

FHWA recommends that applicants use the **Application Checklist** to develop their project narrative.

- A tool to assist applicants provide the required information laid out in the NOFO:
  - Basic Project Information
  - Project Costs
  - Project Merit Criteria
  - Project Readiness
- NOT required for submission
- Only providing information in the checklist DOES NOT guarantee application completeness
- Found under *Related Documents* with NOFO at grants.gov

ATTACHMENT A

WILDLIFE CROSSINGS PILOT PROGRAM APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides this Application Checklist for the Fiscal Years (FY) 2022 and 2023 Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) to assist project sponsors who intend to apply for a WCPP grant. This checklist is a tool that can assist applicants to ensure their application is complete. It is not required to be submitted with the application. Interested project sponsors who qualify as eligible applicants should read FY 2022 and FY 2023 WCPP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) in its entirety and especially where noted in this application checklist to submit eligible and competitive applications.

Basic Project Information

Basic Project Information - Provide a narrative for the below items on basic details pertinent to the project, including project name, description, location, involved parties, etc. Items in this section will be used to determine grant program eligibility as detailed in Section C of the NOFO.		
1	Project Name	
2	Project Description	Provide a concise description of the project including a

Direct Link to NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

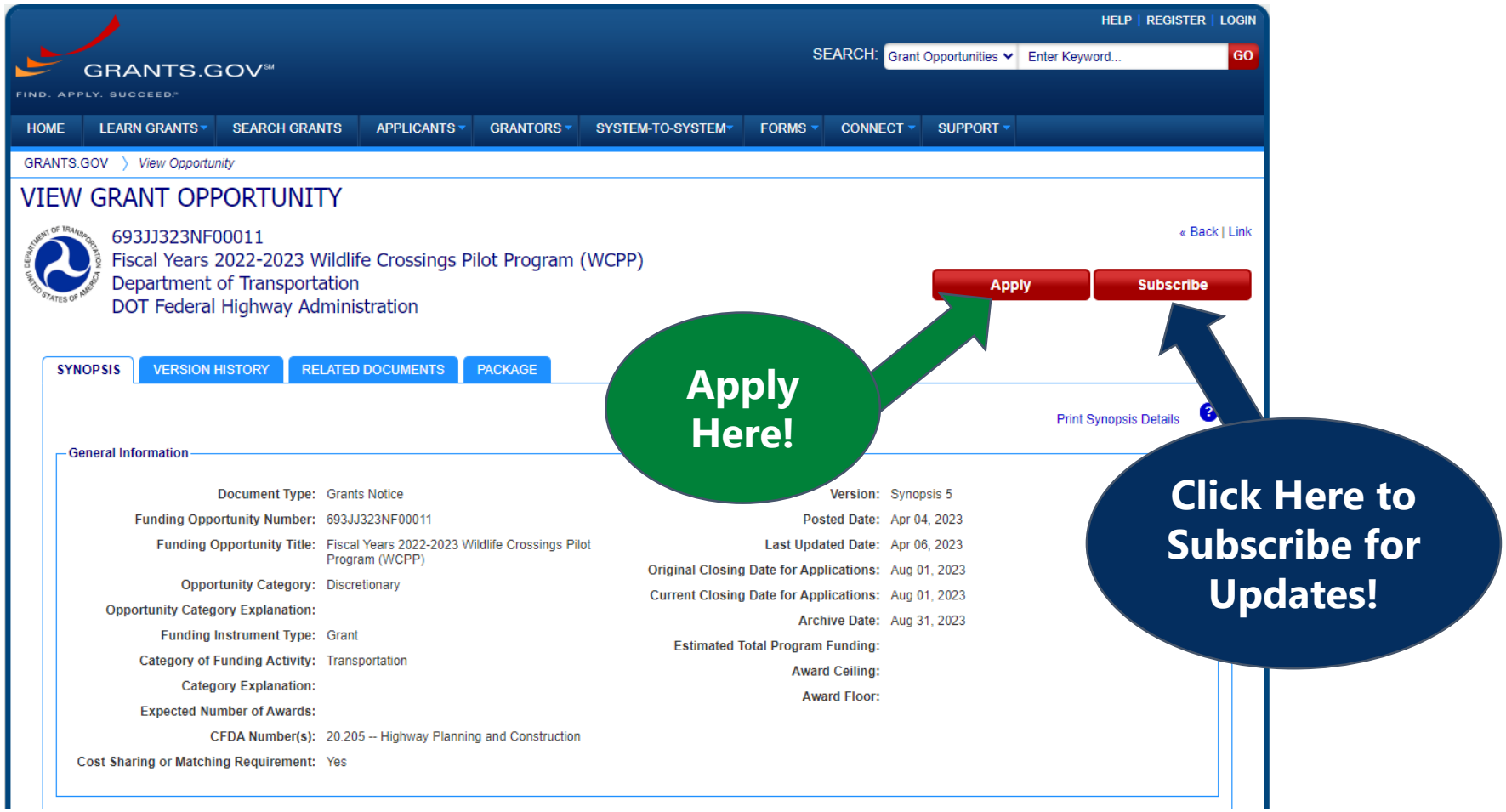
Application Process

Application Process: Submitting the Documents

NOFO Section D

Select **Apply** to submit the application.

Once you have an account, you can stay informed by clicking **Subscribe** to subscribe to grant opportunity updates.

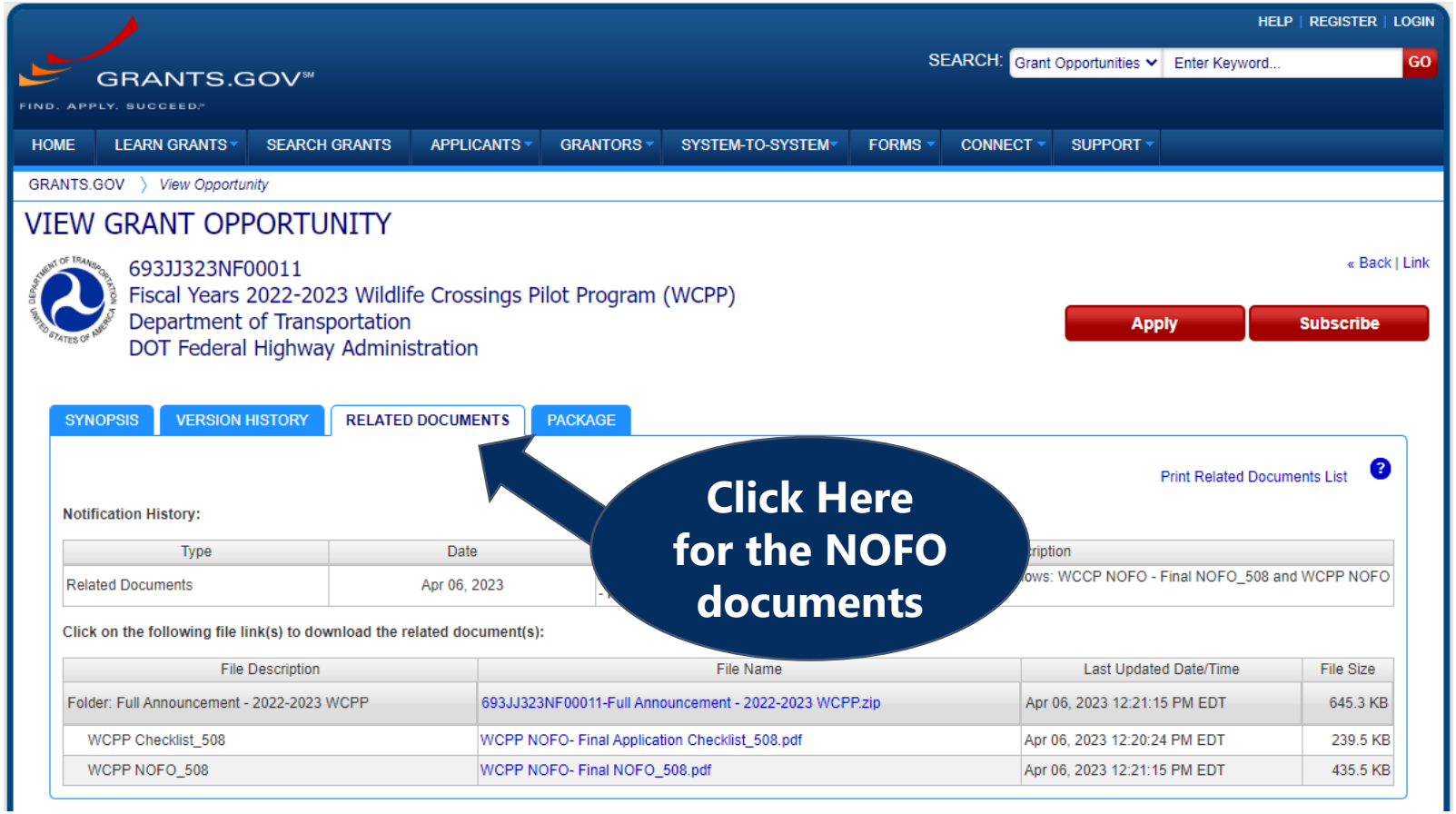


Direct Link to NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Application Process: Submitting the Documents

NOFO Section D

See **Related Documents** to view the NOFO and Final Application Checklist



Direct Link to NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Application Process: Submitting the Documents

NOFO Section D

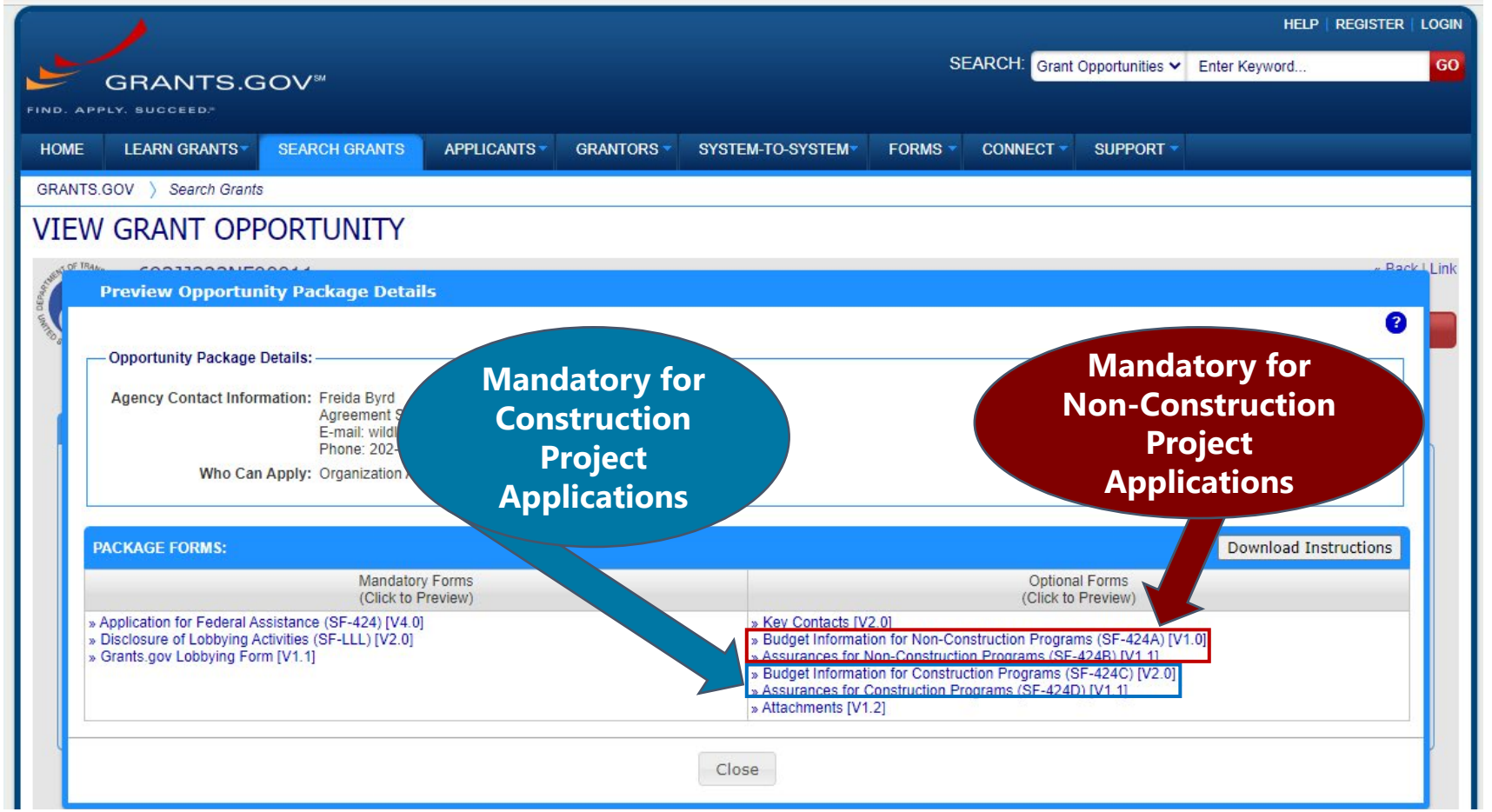
Under the **Package** tab, select **Preview** to view the NOFO Forms

Direct Link to NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Application Process: Submitting the Documents

NOFO Section D

Refer to the list of required forms in Section D.2.a of the NOFO for each project type, as some forms listed as *Optional Forms* on this webpage are actually required based on the project type.



Direct Link to NOFO: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Application Process

Agenda

- Welcome & Opening Remarks
- Program Overview
- Application Review Process
- Application Process
- **Resources**
- Questions

Source: Adobe Stock

Resources

Wildlife Crossings Program Webpage

- Links to NOFO, guidance, resources, etc.
- Information will be updated as it becomes available
- Sign up to receive email updates
- Email the program contact

Wildlife Crossings Program

Program Overview

The Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (Wildlife Crossings Program) is a competitive grant program with the goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species.

In creating the Wildlife Crossings Program, Congress found that there are more than 1,000,000 WVCs annually which present a danger to human safety and wildlife survival, cost over $8 billion, and result in approximately tens of thousands of serious injuries and hundreds of fatalities on U.S. roadways

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), enacted as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 117-58, November 15, 2021) authorized $350 million total in Federal-aid contract authority funding for Federal Fiscal Years (FY) 2022 through 2026 to be awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT or the Department), through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), for the Wildlife Crossings Program. The Wildlife Crossings Program is authorized under Section 11123(b) of BIL and codified at 23 U.S.C. 171.

Program Guidance

- Wildlife Crossings Program Fact Sheet [pending]
- Wildlife Crossings Questions and Answers [pending]

Program Resources

- Wildlife Vehicle Collision Reduction Study: Report to Congress (2008)
- Wildlife Vehicle Collision Reduction Study: Best Practices Manual (2008)
- Wildlife Crossing Structure Handbook (2011)
- Wildlife Vehicle Collision Reduction and Habitat Connectivity Pooled Fund Study (2022)
- Environmental Review Toolkit

Program Contact Information

wildlifecrossings@dot.gov

Email Notifications

Direct Link to Program Webpage: https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/wildlife-crossings

Resources

Related safety and conservation federal funding

- FHWA Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Competitive Grant Programs;
- FHWA's Bridge Investment Program;
- FHWA's Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program;
- FHWA's Tribal Transportation Program;
- FHWA's Federal Lands Transportation Program;
- FHWA's National Culvert Removal, Replacement and Restoration (Culvert AOP) Grants;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's fish passage initiatives; and
- US Fish and Wildlife Service's National Fish Passage Program.

Source: Microsoft Office Stock Images

Resources

FHWA Program Resources

- Wildlife Vehicle Collision Reduction Study: Report to Congress (2008)
- Wildlife Vehicle Collision Reduction Study: Best Practices Manual (2008)
- Wildlife Crossing Structure Handbook (2011)
- Wildlife Vehicle Collision Reduction and Habitat Connectivity Pooled Fund Study (2022)
- Environmental Review Toolkit
- Proven Safety Countermeasures
- Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP)

Source: Microsoft Office Stock Images

Resources

NOFO Section D.2.c.iv.1

Prior to submission of their application, applicants may obtain guidance from:

- An agency in the State with jurisdiction over fish and wildlife to ensure accurate, current, and reliable data and understand the State agency's priorities with respect to habitat connectivity;
- A Federal Agency with jurisdiction for the protection of species and habitat;
- The State DOT or other State agency responsible for maintaining trend analysis and statistics on WVCs;
- The State DOT responsible for updating the State Freight Plan that includes strategies and goals to decrease the impacts of freight movement on wildlife habitat loss;
- Institutions of higher education regarding landscape ecology, and current data;
- Experts in landscape ecology and habitat connectivity;

Source: Microsoft Office Stock Images

Questions?

Website Link: https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/wildlife-crossings

NOFO Link: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=347288

Email: wildlifecrossings@dot.gov