

FHWA Local and Tribal Road Safety MATCH Program

Free Technical Assistance for Local and Tribal Agencies to Help Address Roadway Safety Concerns

Local and tribal roads are diverse in terms of location, infrastructure, operations, and safety concerns. Local and tribal agencies can benefit from learning about strategies to address safety concerns from others who have encountered and mitigated similar challenges on similar roads. The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) **Mentoring, Assistance, Training, and Communication Help (MATCH)** Program provides free, broad-based technical assistance to local and tribal agencies facing roadway safety challenges. The program connects agencies requesting assistance with volunteers that have specific expertise to help successfully address the identified challenges.



Who Can Participate in MATCH?

MATCH consists of Mentees and Mentors. Mentees are the people/agency receiving the technical assistance and Mentors are the experts providing the assistance.

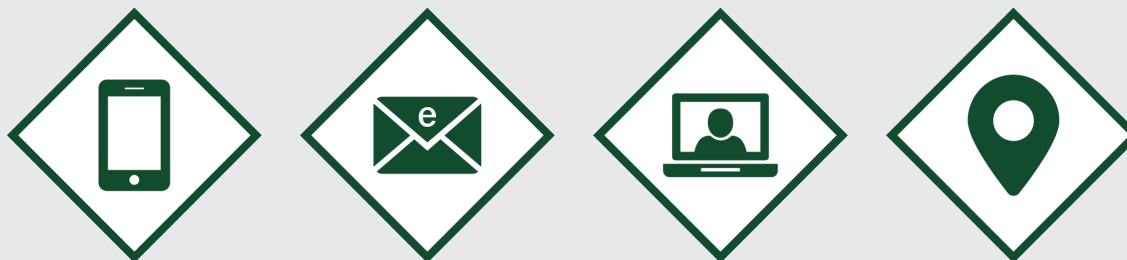
All local and tribal agencies are eligible to apply for technical assistance by a Mentor, but requests must be submitted directly by a public agency. When necessary, FHWA may coordinate with the Mentee's respective State Department of Transportation (DOT), FHWA Division Office, and/or applicable local agencies to support the mentoring request.

Transportation safety professionals from public agencies and centers of learning who have specific expertise related to local or tribal road safety can serve as Mentors. Mentors should have relevant safety experience, be available to provide technical assistance, and will need to provide a bio, resume, and signed letter of commitment to participate in the Program as a Mentor.

*The diversity of local and tribal roads leads to many ways that highway safety problems are evaluated and addressed. There is no one-size-fits-all solution, safety countermeasures will not always be successful in all situations. **MATCH allows agencies to learn from and build on previous experience from Mentors who have faced similar issues on similar roadway types and successfully mitigated those issues.***

How is Technical Assistance Provided?

Technical assistance through MATCH is always **free**. Mentoring can be provided in the form of phone calls, email exchanges, web-conferences, or site visits (on a limited basis). The level of mentoring varies depending on the Mentee's needs. Requesting agencies may specify how they would like to receive assistance when making the request (e.g., phone call from a Mentor, structured web-conference).



What is Required of Mentees and Mentors?

Mentees will need to submit a request for technical assistance, describing their roadway safety challenge(s) (e.g., addressing roadway departures) and their assistance needs. In addition to participating in the scheduled technical assistance, Mentees are expected to submit a short report following the assistance using a template provided by FHWA, summarizing the mentoring activities and providing feedback on their experience.

Mentors will provide technical assistance based on their specific expertise and availability. Following provision of technical assistance, Mentors will use a report template provided by FHWA to submit a brief summary of the activities and give feedback on their mentor experience.

How to Apply

Mentees: Agencies requesting technical assistance can apply online at <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/local-rural/local-and-tribal-road-safety-match-program>. The MATCH Coordinator will then contact the requestor to gather more information and determine the best approach for providing technical assistance.

Mentors: View the Mentor Informational Flyer at https://highways.dot.gov/sites/fhwa.dot.gov/files/2022-06/MATCH_Mentor.pdf for more details about being a Mentor. If you are interested in becoming a Mentor, please email MATCH@dot.gov to express your interest and include your name, agency (or prior agency if retired), job position/role, years of relevant experience, relevant certifications, and description of areas/expertise where you feel you would best serve as a Mentor.

