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Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects (NSFLTP) Program

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U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

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Disclaimer

Except for any statutes and regulations cited, the contents of this presentation do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind grant recipients in any way. This presentation is intended only to provide information and clarity on existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

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This is a webinar
for the Fiscal Year
(FY) 2023 NSFLTP
Program Notice
of Funding
Opportunity
(NOFO)

FY23 NSFLTP NOFO

Funding
Opportunity
Number:
693JJ3-NSFTLP-FY23

Posted: July 6, 2023

**Applications Due:
November 6, 2023**

NOFO Link:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=349112>

NSFLTP Website Link:

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/significant>

OVERVIEW

NSFLTP Program Description

What changed from the FY 2022

NSFLTP NOFO?

How much funding is available?

What projects are eligible?

What is a Sponsorship Coordinator?

How to apply?

How will applications be reviewed?

How will recipients be announced?

What are the reporting requirements?

Where can you find more information?

Important Websites

Questions

NSFLTP Program Description

► Program purpose

- To provide funding for the construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of nationally-significant projects on Federal or tribal lands.

► Statutory citation

- FAST Act § 1123, IIJA § 11127

► Eligible Applicants

- Federal Land Management Agencies (FLMA)
- Tribal Governments
- States and local transportation agencies may also apply, but only if sponsored by an FLMA or Tribal Government.

NSFLTP Program Description

- Minimum Project Construction Cost – **\$12,500,000.**
- 50% of the available funds **must** go to Tribal transportation facilities
- Not less than one eligible project from National Park Service for a unit with 3,000,000 annual visitors or more shall receive funds
- **Federal share**
 - **100%** for Projects on Tribal transportation facilities
 - **90%** for other Projects not on Tribal transportation facilities
 - Allows the use of **Federal funding** as match, including Title 23 and 49 funds
- **Funding Availability**
 - 3 fiscal years following the fiscal year for which the amounts are appropriated.

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Changes from the FY 2022 NSFLTP NOFO

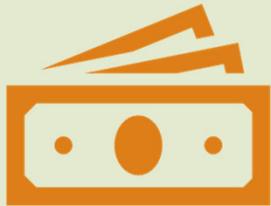


**The FY 2023 NOFO updated
the funding available**



**Amendment #2 extended
the application timeline from
60 to 120 days**

FY 2023 NSFLTP funding available



The funding available for
award in FY 2023 is
\$88,290,000



\$44,145,000 Available for
tribal transportation
facilities

NSFLTP Eligibility Information

- ▶ A **single continuous project** on a Federal lands transportation facility, a Federal lands access transportation facility*, or a tribal transportation facility*

*The facility is not required to be included in an inventory described in 23 U.S.C. sections 202 or 203 [FAST Act, section 1123(c)(1)];

- ▶ **NEPA must be complete**, as demonstrated through—
 - a record of decision with respect to the project;
 - a finding that the project has no significant impact; or
 - a determination that the project is categorically excluded; and
- ▶ The project must have an estimated total project cost **equal to or exceeding \$12,500,000**

NSFLTP Eligibility Information

- Eligible Activities
 - Construction related costs only
 - Design or preliminary engineering are not eligible activities/costs
- Eligible Applicants
 - FLMA
 - Tribal Governments
 - States and local transportation agencies* may also apply, but the application must include documentation that an FLMA or Tribe supports the project

*This includes States, local governments, political subdivisions of a State or local government, metropolitan planning organizations or MPOs, and special purpose districts or public authorities with a transportation function, including port authorities.

Sponsorship Coordinator

- ▶ Sponsorship Coordinator provides
 - FHWA a list of sponsored applications, including their own.
 - Enough detail to match the projects with applications.
- ▶ Each Tribe and FLMA should designate one person to be Sponsorship Coordinator.
- ▶ A list of Sponsorship Coordinators can be obtained at:
<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/significant/list-sponsorship-coordinators>

Application and Submission Information

- ▶ All applications must be submitted in **Grants.gov**
- ▶ Content and Form of Application Submission
 - Standard Form 424, 424C, 424D, LLL, and Key Contacts
 - Cover Page
 - Narrative, including a project description, location, parties involved, funding, budgeting, project risks, and a discussion of how the project addresses Statutory and Discretionary criteria.
 - NEPA documentation, maps, letters of support
- ▶ NOFO's link on Grants.gov:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=349112>

Application Review Information, overview



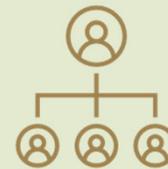
FHWA reviews applications

FHWA reviews applications to ensure the materials are complete and responsive to the NOFO instructions.



Technical Review Team

Technical staff from FHWA Reviews projects for eligibility and rate applications against the selection criteria described in the NOFO.



Senior Team

Executive leaders from FHWA decide which applications are sent to the Administrator as **Highly Rated**



FHWA Administrator makes the final selections

Application Review Information, Statutory Criteria

► **Statutory criteria**

- Applications will be evaluated against the nine criteria provided in statute and in the NOFO:
 1. Furthers the Department's goals, including state of good repair, economic competitiveness, quality of life, and safety;
 2. Improves the condition of critical transportation facilities, including multimodal transportation facilities;
 3. Needs construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation;
 4. Has matching funds (projects with a greater percentage of matching funds rank higher than projects with a lesser percentage of matching funds);

Application Review Information, Statutory Criteria

Statutory criteria continues

5. Is included on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places
6. Uses new technologies and innovations to increase project efficiency;
7. Is supported (whether for construction or for operation and maintenance) by funds other than those received under this program;
8. Spans two or more States; and
9. Serves land owned by multiple Federal agencies or Indian tribes.

Application Review Information, Discretionary Criteria

► Discretionary criteria

- Applies to all applications:
 - 1. The project's demonstrated project readiness.**
- Applies only to applications on Federal lands access transportation facilities or on Federal land transportation facilities (not on Tribal transportation facilities):
 1. Is the project located in an underserved community? as defined in Executive Order 13985;
 2. The extent to which the project reduces greenhouse gas emissions and improves environmental justice;
 3. The extent to which the project will advance the Racial Equity and Barriers to Opportunity Program objective; and
 4. The extent to which the project will advance the Job Quality, Workforce Development, and Workforce Equity objective.

Application Review Information, application rating guidelines

Highly Recommended

- The project **aligns extremely well** with the objectives of the statutory criteria.
- Projects with 4 or more criteria rated as Strong Alignment
- Or Projects with all the statutory criteria rated as Alignment

Recommended

- The project **aligns well** with the objectives of the statutory criteria.
- Projects with at least 1 criterion rated as Strong Alignment
- or Projects with most of the statutory criteria (5 or more) rated as Alignment

Acceptable

- The project that **aligns** with the objectives of the statutory criterion under consideration.
- Projects with no criteria rated as Strong Alignment but with several criteria rated as Alignment

Not Recommended

- The project **does not align well** with objectives of the statutory criterion under consideration or does not align with eligibility criteria.

Recommended, and Highly Recommended applications are sent to the FHWA Administrator as **Highly Rated**.

FHWA Administrator makes the final selections

Federal Award Administration Information

► Notification of Selection

- The FHWA will announce awarded projects by posting a list of selected projects at <https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/significant/>
 - Following the announcement, FHWA will call the point of contact listed in form SF-424 to initiate negotiation of a project-specific agreement
- The selection announcement is not an authorization to start work and incur cost.
- Recipients can only do work and incur costs after a grant/project agreement is in place

Federal Award Administration Information

► Reporting

- Recipients of NSFLTP Program funding are responsible for meeting reporting requirements
- Federal Financial Report (SF-425) on the financial condition of the project bi-annually
- Annual Budget Review and Program Plan to monitor the use of Federal funds and ensure accountability and financial transparency in the NSFLTP Program
- FHWA reserves the right to request additional information, if deemed needed, to better understand the status of the project.

Important Websites

- There are several websites mentioned in the NOFO, including
 - Grants.gov
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=343073>
 - SAM.gov
<https://sam.gov/content/home>
 - NSFLTP website
<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/significant>

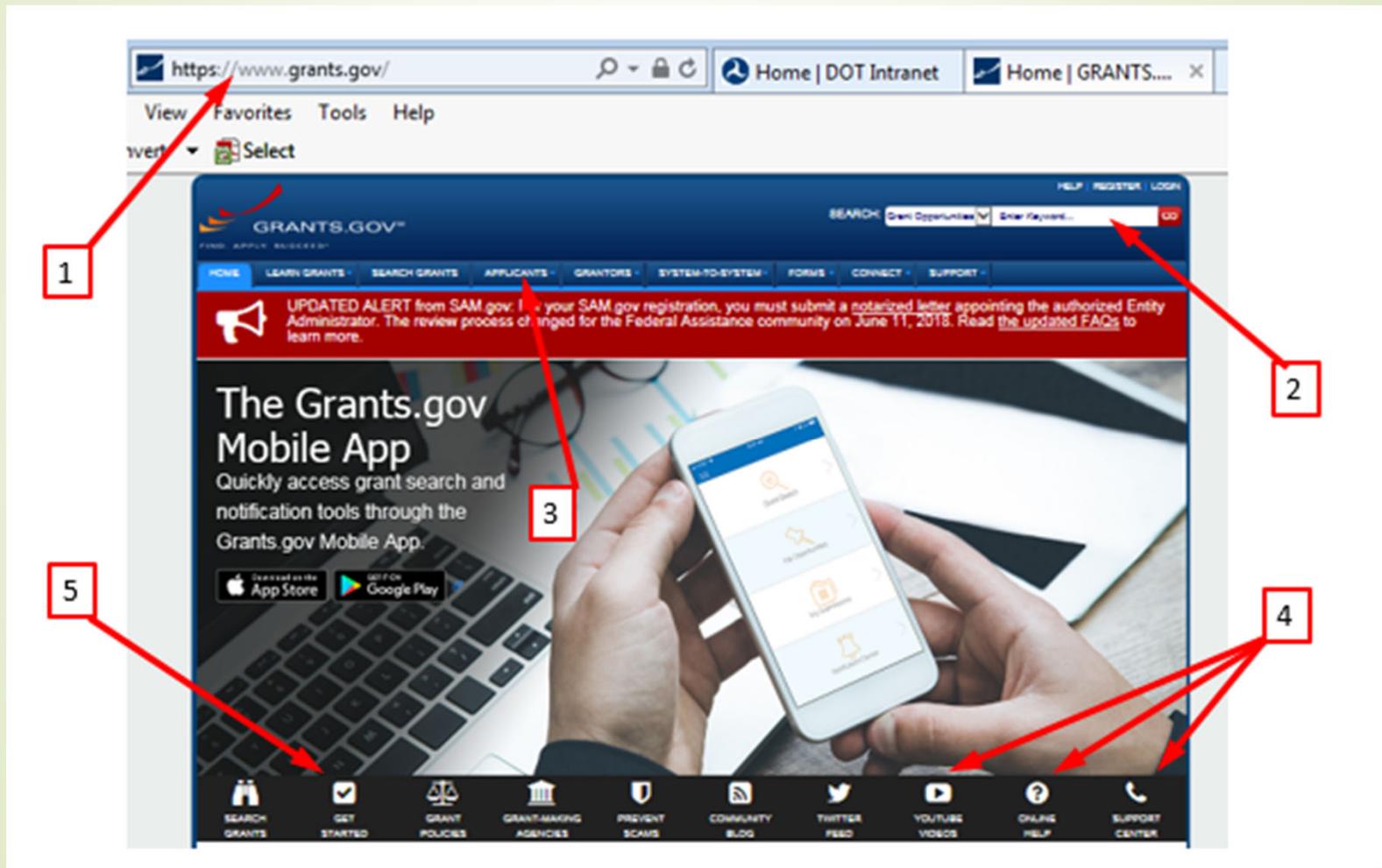
Websites: Grants.gov

➤ Grants.gov



Video on how to register, set up a profile, and navigate grants.gov: <https://youtu.be/sj3X2XPAQ5g>

Websites: Grants.gov



Websites: Grants.gov

- Grants.gov
 - Support Center
 - FAQs
 - Grants Learning Center
 - Online Help



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

Websites: Grants.gov

- ▶ Helpdesk
 - 1-800-518-4726 (U.S.)
 - 1-606-545-5053 (International)
 - [Email: support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov)
 - Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (excluding Federal holidays)
- ▶ **Grants.gov Online Help:**
<https://www.grants.gov/help/html/help/index.htm#t=GetStarted%2FGetStarted.htm>

Websites: SAM.gov

- **What's SAM.gov?** System for Award Management is the website where you register to do business with the U.S. Government
- **How do you sign up?**
 - Create a user account.
 - Register your entity to do business.
- **What if we are Tribe or Alaskan Native Village?** Yes, you must be registered in SAM.gov to receive a Federal award

Websites: SAM.gov

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Direct Link to SAM:
<https://sam.gov/content/home> or
<https://sam.gov>

Websites: SAM.gov

The screenshot shows the SAM.gov website home page. The browser's address bar displays the URL <https://sam.gov/content/home>. A red box labeled '1' highlights the 'Home' link in the top navigation menu. The main content area features the SAM.gov logo and a list of services under the heading 'The Official U.S. Government System for:'. A red box labeled '2' highlights the 'Federal Hierarchy' link. To the right, a callout box titled 'Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID' includes a 'Learn More' link and three buttons: 'Get Started', 'Renew Entity', and 'Check Registration Status'. A red arrow points from the 'Learn More' link to the callout box.

1 Home Search Data Bank Data Services Help

SAM.GOV

Official U.S. Government Website
100% Free

The Official U.S. Government System for:

- Contract Opportunities** (was fbo.gov)
- Contract Data** (Reports ONLY from fpds.gov)
- Wage Determinations** (was wdol.gov)
- Federal Hierarchy** (Departments and Subtiers)
- Assistance Listings** (was cfda.gov)
- Entity Information** (Entities, Disaster Response Registry, and Exclusions)
- Entity Reporting** (SCR and Bio-Preferred Reporting)

[Learn More](#)

Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID

Register your entity or get a Unique Entity ID to get started doing business with the federal government.

[Get Started](#)

[Renew Entity](#)

[Check Registration Status](#)

Websites: NSFLTP

➤ NSFLTP website

- This website contains information specific to the NSFLTP Program.
- Program background
- Previously selected projects
- Frequently asked questions
- Link to the NOFO on Grants.gov

<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/programs/significant>



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

Email us at:

NSFLTP-Program@dot.gov

Questions?