RAISE Grants
Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity

2022 RAISE
Transportation
Discretionary Grants
Highlights
2022 RAISE Grant Applications

- Notice of Funding Opportunity- https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-nofo
- Due Date – April 14, 2022 at 5:00 PM Eastern
$1.5 billion multimodal, merit-based, competitive discretionary grant program for surface transportation infrastructure

Supports projects that improve safety, equity, climate and sustainability, and the creation of good-paying jobs, consistent with DOT’s strategic goals

Modal and geographic diversity requirement
What are the Characteristics of the RAISE Grant Program?

- Significant Local or Regional Impact
- Public Entity Eligibility
- Merit-Based Awards
- Encourages projects that address climate change, proactively address racial equity, and reduce barriers to opportunity
- Not more than 50 percent of funds will be awarded to projects located in urban and rural areas, respectively
- Up to $75 million for eligible planning and preconstruction activities
- At least $15 million to Areas of Persistent Poverty or Historically Disadvantaged Communities
## RAISE Grant Basics

### Eligible Applicants
- State Governments, including the District of Columbia
- Any territory or possession of United States
- Unit of Local Government
- Public agency or publicly chartered authority established by 1 or more states
- Special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority
- Federally recognized Indian Tribe or consortium of Tribes
- Transit agency
- A multi-State or multijurisdictional group of entities that are separately eligible

### Eligible Projects
- Highway, bridge, or other road project
- Public transportation projects
- Passenger and freight rail projects
- Port infrastructure investments (including inland port infrastructure and land ports of entry)
- Surface transportation components of an airport project eligible for assistance under part B of subtitle VII of title 49, USC (the Airport Improvement Program—see NOFO for details)
- Intermodal projects
- Projects to replace or rehabilitate a culvert or prevent stormwater runoff for the purpose of improving habitat for aquatic species
- Transportation projects on Tribal land
- Planning and pre-construction activities for any of the above

*Include but not limited to*
RAISE Grant Basics (cont’d)

Eligible Cost Share/Match

• Federal cost share up to 80% in urban areas
• Federal cost share up to 100% in:
  • Rural areas
  • Areas of Persistent Poverty
  • Historically Disadvantaged Communities

Minimum Award Size

• $5 million for projects in urban areas
• $1 million for projects in rural areas

Maximum Award Size

• $25 million per project
• $225 million per State

Not more than 50% of funding will be awarded to projects located in urban and rural areas, respectively
Urban & Rural Definitions

U.S. Census Bureau 2010 population

**URBAN:**
Urbanized Area with Population Greater than 200,000

**RURAL:**
All Other Projects
- Urbanized Area with Population Less than 200,000
- Outside an Urbanized Area (including Urban Cluster)
Areas of Persistent Poverty (APP) and Historically Disadvantaged Communities (HDC)

- At least $15 million will be awarded to Areas of Persistent Poverty and Historically Disadvantaged Communities.

- The definition of Areas of Persistent Poverty is based on Census Tract or County level poverty data, and includes all US territories. The full definition is in the NOFO.

- The definition of Historically Disadvantaged Communities is based on Census Tract indicators, and includes all US territories.

- DOT lists all counties and census tracts that meet these definitions: https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-app-hdc

- Additionally, DOT is providing a mapping tool to assist applicants in identifying whether a project is located in a Historically Disadvantaged Community at https://usdot.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/d6f90dfcc8b44525b04c7ce748a3674a.
RAISE Evaluation Considerations

Does the project align well with the merit criteria?
- Is the information clear, credible, and data-driven?
- Does it have significant local and regional impact?

How do the project’s benefits compare to its costs?

Does the project demonstrate readiness in terms of:
- Environmental risk and permitting
- Technical Assessment of feasibility and capacity to deliver project
- Financial Completeness
  - Obligating funds by September 30, 2026
**RAISE Merit Criteria**

- Each of the eight criteria receive a rating of “high,” “medium,” “low,” or “non-responsive” based on the **rubric in the NOFO**.
- This informs one overall merit rating.

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<td>Mobility and Community Connectivity</td>
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<td>Partnerships and Collaboration</td>
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<td>Innovation</td>
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Technical Assistance

- USDOT offers technical assistance to help applicants through the RAISE process
- “How to Apply” Webinars: February 9th, 10th, 15th, 16th
  Registration will open on https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/outreach
- Ongoing debriefs on previous applications
- Benefit-cost analysis resource guide and webinars
- Send questions to RAISEGrants@dot.gov

- RAISE Website, with Frequently Asked Questions:
  www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants
Question and Answer Session

RAISEgrants@dot.gov

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