

RAISE Grants

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity

2022 RAISE
Transportation
Discretionary Grants
Highlights

⁺ 2022 RAISE Grant Applications

- Notice of Funding Opportunityhttps://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/ raise-nofo
- ■Apply <u>www.Grants.gov</u>
- ■Due Date April 14, 2022 at 5:00 PM Eastern



+ RAISE GRANTS

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity

\$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

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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



*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

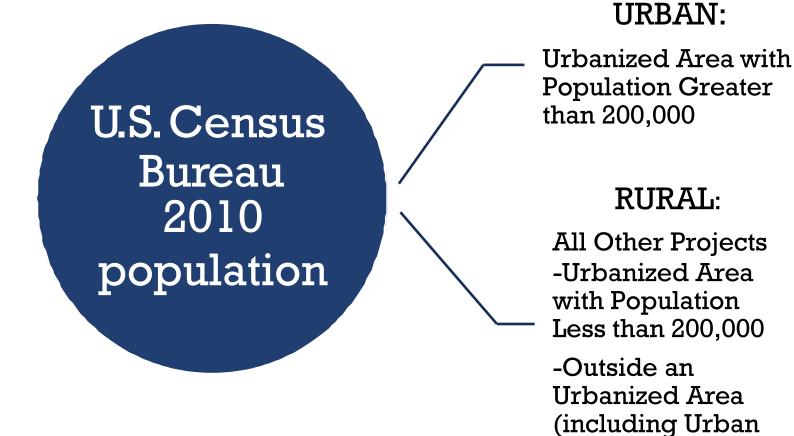
- \$5 million for projects in urban areas
- \$1 million for projects in rural areas

Maximum Award Size

- \$25 million per project
- \$225 million per State



⁺Urban & Rural Definitions



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/d6f90dfcc8b44525b04c7ce748 a3674a.



*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



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RAISE Merit Criteria

- Each of the eight criteria receive a rating of "high," "medium," "low," or "non-responsive" based on the <u>rubric in the NOFO</u>.
- This informs one overall merit rating.

Environmental Sustainability

Quality of Life

Mobility and Community Connectivity

Economic Competitiveness

State of Good Repair

Partnerships and Collaboration

Innovation



+ 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



