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FY 2023 State Transit Assistance Special Projects Program

January 12, 2022



State Transit Assistance Special Projects Program

**Program reworked after update of Iowa
Administrative Code 761-920 *State Transit
Assistance* in 2020.**

**\$300,000 set aside from State Transit Assistance
funds annually to fund training fellowships
(\$125,000) and special projects (\$175,000).**

**All Iowa public transit systems are eligible to
apply.**

Special Projects are extraordinary, emergency, or innovative in nature and may include but are not limited to:

1. Expanding the scope of planning, managerial, or technical expertise.
2. Increasing the public's awareness and understanding of transit.
3. Enhancing the capacity for administration consolidation and service coordination.
4. Reducing impediments to intramodal or intermodal transfers.
5. Increasing the cooperation and coordination between private and public sectors.
6. Developing, demonstrating, or refining a technical, procedural, or mechanical innovation that may be utilized by other public transit systems in Iowa.
7. Responding to an emergency situation that places an extraordinary and unforeseen strain on the resources of a public transit system.

Grants can include projects which support transit services developed in conjunction with human service agencies or local community partners or statewide projects to improve public transit in Iowa.

Projects are intended to assist with start-up of new services that have been identified as needs by health, employment or human service agencies or other community partners.

Statewide projects may be used on transit marketing and projects exploring new transit technologies.

Operating and small capital projects are eligible for funding up to a maximum of 50% state participation for two years. Vehicles and facilities are not eligible under this program.

One project per transit system at a time is allowed.

Priority is given to projects which include a financial contribution from human service agencies or community partners.

Applications due October 1. Projects begin July 1 of the following fiscal year. Up to two years of funding may be requested.

Special Project application evaluation criteria:

- **Financial contribution from human service agency(ies) or community partners.**
- **Demonstration of Need.**
- **Demonstration of Benefits.**
- **Demonstration of Coordinated Transportation.**
- **Addressing Long Range Public Transit Needs.**

Available Funding and Application Summary

- **Available Annual Funding: \$175,000**
- **October 1, 2021, Competitive Application Summary:**
 - Total number of project applications: 1
 - Total FY23 funding request: \$34,000
 - Total FY24 funding request: \$24,000
 - Total amount requested: \$58,000
- **Low-No Bus Program grant project administration:**
 - Total FY22 funding request: \$43,200

Competitive Application Received/Recommended

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
Perry Flex Connect	HIRTA (Region 11)	\$70,000 (FY23)	\$34,000 (49%)	\$34,000 (49%)
		\$53,000 (FY24)	\$24,000 (45%)	\$24,000 (45%)

Perry Flex Connect Project Executive Summary:

Implement a deviated flex service within the city of Perry to allow people to catch a bus at several designated areas to enhance access to healthcare, employment, shopping, education and community services, such as the food pantry or financial assistance.

Low-No Bus Program Grant Project Administration

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
Low-No Bus Program grant project administration	CALSTART	\$216,000(FY22)	\$43,200 (20%)	\$43,200 (20%)

Low-No Bus Program Grant Project Administration

On behalf of three Iowa public transit agencies, Iowa DOT applied for and received a FY 2021 Low or No-Emission (Low-No) Bus Program grant totaling \$2,784,940. This funding was announced by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) on June 25, 2021. With Low-No emission buses being a new technology area for the Iowa DOT and the three awarded public transit agencies, a national non-profit organization specializing in clean transportation technologies known as CALSTART assisted with the writing of the grant and will aid the Department in project administration.

CALSTART's fee for project administration is \$216,000. The majority of the fee, 80%, will be paid for with the FTA grant. The Department is recommending the local match portion, \$43,200 or 20%, be paid with STA Special Project funds.



QUESTIONS?



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