Guide to Transportation Funding Programs

of interest to local governments and others

In this document you will find information regarding state and federal programs that provide transportation project funding of interest to local governments and other entities. This information is intended to serve as a guide for preliminary funding searches. For more detail, we encourage you to contact the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) bureau listed for each program. (In some cases, the DOT district office or a Regional Planning Affiliation/Metropolitan Planning Organization is the recommended contact – maps and information for your area can be found beginning on page 71.)

As always, to help you find as many potential funding sources as possible, we have included some programs under more than one heading.

October 2019
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Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy (RISE)

Intent of program
This state program was established to promote economic development in Iowa through construction or improvement of roads and streets.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Iowa cities and counties

Qualifications for funding
Funding may be in the form of a grant, loan or combination thereof. Projects must involve construction or improvement of a public roadway. Project types:

- Immediate Opportunity – projects related to an immediate, non-speculative opportunity for permanent job creation or retention. Jobs created are to be value-adding in nature (e.g. manufacturing, industrial, professional office [not personal service related], non-retail.) Relocation of jobs within the state does not qualify. Local match is a minimum of 20 percent.
- Local Development – projects that support local economic development but that do not require an immediate commitment of funds (e.g. industrial parks, tourist attractions), or do not meet the Immediate Opportunity criteria. Projects are evaluated using the following five factors: development potential, economic impact, local commitment and initiative, transportation need, and area economic need. Local match is normally 50 percent. Locations certified through the Iowa Economic Development Authority’s “Iowa’s Certified Sites Program” may be eligible for greater RISE participation, resulting in funding commitments requiring 30-40 percent local match depending on the size of the certified site.

Type of submittal required
Application and request forms are available from the DOT and at www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm
See also: https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/Grant-Programs/Revitalize-Iowas-Sound-Economy-RISE-Program

Application deadline
Applications/requests are accepted throughout the year for Immediate Opportunity projects. February 1 and September 1 are deadlines for Local Development projects.

Special project requirements
Iowa DOT staff reviews all road project concepts, cost estimates, plans, and specifications. Plans and specifications shall be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer. Code of Iowa requirements for public expenditures apply (e.g. right-of-way activities, environmental clearances and letting procedures). Local Development applications assisting the redevelopment of brownfield sites receive added consideration. Roadway improvements are monitored throughout the life of the project with an Accomplishment Report required three years after the roadway is open to traffic. Local Development projects require development in the area to be in RISE eligible uses and Immediate Opportunity projects are contingent on job creation and/or retention.

Type of approval required
Iowa DOT staff recommendation with Iowa Transportation Commission approval

Average length of time for acceptance decision
Immediate Opportunity projects may have a response time as short as a few weeks. Local development projects require approximately four months.

Program’s annual funding level
Approximately $12 million for cities and $6 million for counties

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1738
https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/Grant-Programs/Revitalize-Iowas-Sound-Economy-RISE-Program
Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Program

Intent of program
This state loan and grant program was established to build or improve rail infrastructure or facilities that will spur economic development and job growth and to provide assistance to railroads for the preservation and improvement of the rail transportation system.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Those eligible to request funds include:
- businesses and industries
- railroads
- local governments
- economic development agencies

Qualifications for funding
Projects may be funded through a grant or loan, or a combination thereof. Justification for projects will focus on job creation, wage quality and project investment.

Project types include:
- Job creation – rail projects which support immediate local business location or expansion, economic development or provide assistance to railroads for improvement of the rail transportation system that are tied to job growth. Grants in this category require a commitment to create a specific number of jobs within three years of the rail project completion. Grants require a fifty percent local match; loans a 20 percent local match.
- Rail network improvement – projects related to the preservation and improvement of the state’s rail system. Loans available with no specific job creation requirement. Twenty percent local match is required.
- Rail Port Planning and Development - projects include planning and development studies that collect information and create databases that enable a community, county or region to make fact-based decisions concerning the location, design, or funding requirements for a rail port facility. The end result of a planning study should help decision makers evaluate rail development options that support industrial and business progress and economic growth in the community and regions. Grants require a 20 percent local match.

Type of submittal required
Application forms are available from the DOT and at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/rrlgp
Applications are accepted at any time and reviewed periodically when funds are available.
A notice of funding availability and application deadlines will be announced at: https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/rrlgp

Type of approval required
The Transportation Commission reviews and approves all grant and loan funding.

Program's annual funding level
The program is funded from loan repayments and state appropriations - funding availability varies.

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1066
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/rrlgp
Linking Iowa’s Freight Transportation System (LIFTS) Program

**Intent of program**
The LIFTS program seeks to address the gaps in multimodal funding to assist in bolstering the freight transportation system – be that by truck, train, barge, airplane, or multiple modes. This program is a grant funding opportunity utilizing federal funding to improve Iowa’s freight system and will focus on projects not typically funded through traditional highway funding programs.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
A transportation provider, transportation user, city, county, or any other entity with an interest in a freight transportation improvement is eligible to apply for funding. Joint applications and public/private partnerships are allowed and encouraged. Applicants must provide a local match for their project. The minimum amount of matching funds required of a public entity or a public/private partnership is 20%. Private entities must provide a 50% match if not partnering with a public agency.

**Qualifications for funding**
Prior to incurring costs intended to be reimbursed or credited toward the non-federal share of eligible project costs, the project funding agreement must be executed and authorization by the FHWA must be obtained. Activities or items eligible for reimbursement include:
- Development phase activities, including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, preliminary engineering and design work, and other preconstruction activities.
- Construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation
- Acquisition of real property (including land relating to the project and improvements to land)
- Acquisition of equipment that facilitates direct intermodal interchange, transfer, or access into or out of the facility.
- Operational improvements directly relating to improving system performance.

**Type of submittal required**
Application forms are available from the DOT and at [https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts#486411783-application](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts#486411783-application)
Applications are accepted at any time and reviewed periodically when funds are available.

Notices of funding availability and application deadlines are announced at: [https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts)

**Type of approval required**
The Transportation Commission reviews and approves all grant funding.

**Program’s annual funding level**
The program is funded from 10% apportionment from Iowa’s share of the National Highway Freight Program - funding availability varies.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1066
[https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts)
Federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

**Intent of program**
Funding for airport improvements and airport planning

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Public agencies owning public-use airports in the Federal Aviation Administration’s (FAA) National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems are eligible to request funds.

**Qualifications for funding**
10 percent local match/90 percent federal share

**Type of submittal required**
Sponsor general aviation and commercial airports not receiving primary entitlement must submit applications to the DOT with the following enclosures:
- sponsor identification sheet;
- Airport Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) data sheet (pre-application);
- five-year Capital Improvement Plan;
- certification that the project is in a current airport layout plan and that an environmental analysis has been completed; and
- Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) document, if requesting federal assistance for SRE.

Commercial airports receiving primary entitlements apply directly to FAA.

**Requested amount – minimum/maximum**
$25,000 minimum application amount

**Application deadline**
Late December (date varies)

**Special project requirements**
- Projects must be federal AIP eligible and justified.
- FAA environmental concurrence is required.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
- Project development oversight is performed by FAA.
- Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
  - federal Equal Employment Opportunity Act;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
  - federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates.

**Type of approval required**
The DOT prioritizes projects and submits them to FAA. FAA then selects projects for funding and offers the grant directly to the airport sponsor.

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
One year

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Aviation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1691
[www.iowadot.gov/aviation](http://www.iowadot.gov/aviation)
State Airport Improvement Program – Airport Development and Immediate Safety Enhancement

Intent of program
This program provides funding for airport improvements, navigational aids, communications equipment, marketing, safety, security, outreach, education, and planning. Airport Development and Immediate Safety Enhancement are specific funding programs under the Airport Improvement Program.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Publicly owned airports in Iowa

Qualifications for funding
• Airport Development: up to 85 percent state share (projects must meet the objectives of state aviation system plan)
• Immediate Safety Enhancements: 70 percent state share of project

Type of submittal required
• Airport Development: Sponsor identification, project application sheet with description and justification, five-year capital improvement plan and sponsor resolution endorsing project
• Immediate Safety Enhancements: project application, including description of project and two estimates for the repairs

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
• Airport Development: $5,000 minimum
• Immediate Safety Enhancement: $10,000 maximum

Application deadline
• Airport Development: date varies – first week of May
• Immediate Safety Enhancement: ongoing

Special project requirements
• Airport Development: new construction must be shown on an airport layout plan
• security-related projects: the airport must have a security plan

Type of approval required
• Airport Development: DOT staff recommendation, with Iowa Transportation Commission approval
• Immediate Safety Enhancement: approval by the DOT Bureau of Aviation

Average length of time for acceptance decision
• Airport Development: two months
• Immediate Safety Enhancement: one week

Program’s annual funding level
Varies, depending on available funds in the State Aviation Fund

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Aviation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1691
www.iowadot.gov/aviation
Airport Vertical Infrastructure Program

Intent of program
This state program funds improvements to the vertical infrastructure at commercial service and general aviation airports in Iowa.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Publicly owned airports in Iowa

Qualifications for funding
Commercial Service Airports
- Fifty percent of funding is equally distributed among the commercial service airports.
- Forty percent of funding is distributed based on passenger boardings.
- Ten percent of funding is distributed based on cargo.

General Aviation Airports
- The state share of a project can be up to 85 percent.
- Priority is given to projects meeting the objectives of the state aviation system plan, airport role, demonstrated need and justification, local participation, and multi-jurisdictional support.

Type of submittal required
- Commercial Service Airports and General Aviation Airports: project application sheet with description and justification, five-year capital improvement plan and sponsor resolution endorsing the project

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
General Aviation: $5,000 minimum; new construction: $150,000; rehabilitation: $75,000

Application deadline
Date varies – first week of May

Special project requirements
Funding is intended for major rehabilitation or new construction of vertical infrastructure including hangars, terminals, fuel facilities, and maintenance buildings. Not intended for general maintenance. New construction must be shown on the airport layout plan.

Type of approval required
DOT staff recommendation with Iowa Transportation Commission approval

Average length of time for acceptance decision
Two months

Program’s annual funding level
Funding varies, depending on appropriation amount (FY 2017: commercial service - $1.5 million; general aviation - $750,000)

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Aviation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1691
www.iowadot.gov/aviation
Linking Iowa’s Freight Transportation System (LIFTS) Program

**Intent of program**
The LIFTS program seeks to address the gaps in multimodal funding to assist in bolstering the freight transportation system—be that by truck, train, barge, airplane, or multiple modes. This program is a grant funding opportunity utilizing federal funding to improve Iowa’s freight system and will focus on projects not typically funded through traditional highway funding programs.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
A transportation provider, transportation user, city, county, or any other entity with an interest in a freight transportation improvement is eligible to apply for funding. Joint applications and public/private partnerships are allowed and encouraged. Applicants must provide a local match for their project. The minimum amount of matching funds required of a public entity or a public/private partnership is 20%. Private entities must provide a 50% match if not partnering with a public agency.

**Qualifications for funding**
Prior to incurring costs intended to be reimbursed or credited toward the non-federal share of eligible project costs, the project funding agreement must be executed and authorization by the FHWA must be obtained. Activities or items eligible for reimbursement include:

- Development phase activities, including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, preliminary engineering and design work, and other preconstruction activities.
- Construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation
- Acquisition of real property (including land relating to the project and improvements to land)
- Acquisition of equipment that facilitates direct intermodal interchange, transfer, or access into or out of the facility.
- Operational improvements directly relating to improving system performance.

**Type of submittal required**
Application forms are available from the DOT and at [https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts#486411783-application](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts#486411783-application)
Applications are accepted at any time and reviewed periodically when funds are available.

Notices of funding availability and application deadlines are announced at: [https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts)

**Type of approval required**
The Transportation Commission reviews and approves all grant funding.

**Program’s annual funding level**
The program is funded from 10% apportionment from Iowa’s share of the National Highway Freight Program - funding availability varies.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1066
[https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts)
Rail Programs

Railroad Revolving Loan and Grant Program

Intent of program
This state loan and grant program was established to build or improve rail infrastructure or facilities that will spur economic development and job growth and provide assistance to railroads for the preservation and improvement of the rail transportation system.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Those eligible to request funds include:
- businesses and industries
- railroads
- local governments
- economic development agencies

Qualifications for funding
Projects may be funded through a grant or loan, or a combination thereof. Justification for projects will focus on job creation, wage quality and project investment.
Project types include:
- Job creation – rail projects which support immediate local business location or expansion, economic development or provide assistance to railroads for improvement of the rail transportation system that are tied to job growth. Grants in this category require a commitment to create a specific number of jobs within three years of the rail project completion. Grants require a fifty percent local match; loans a 20 percent local match.
- Rail network improvement – projects related to the preservation and improvement of the state’s rail system. Loans are available with no specific job creation requirement. Twenty percent local match is required.
- Rail Port Planning and Development - projects include planning and development studies that collect information and create databases that enable a community, county or region to make fact-based decisions concerning the location, design, or funding requirements for a rail port facility. The end result of a planning study should help decision makers evaluate rail development options that support industrial and business progress and economic growth in the community and regions. Grants require a 20 percent local match.

Type of submittal required
Application forms are available from the DOT and at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/rrlgp

Applications are accepted at any time and reviewed periodically when funds are available.
A notice of funding availability and application deadlines will be announced at:
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/rrlgp

Type of approval required
The Transportation Commission reviews and approves all grant and loan funding.

Program’s annual funding level
The program is funded from loan repayments and state appropriations - funding availability varies.

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1066
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/rrlgp
Highway-Railroad Crossing Safety Program

Intent of Program
This federally funded program improves the safety of public highway-railroad grade crossings

Who is eligible to request funding?
Railroad companies and public road jurisdictions

Qualifications for funding
• 10 percent non-federal match required (from the railroad company and/or public road jurisdiction)
• inclusion of crossing location on a prioritized list of projects. Priorities are determined through a benefit cost analysis that takes into consideration the extent of vehicle and train traffic at the crossing, speed of trains, certain characteristics of the crossing, effectiveness of the proposed improvement, estimated cost of the improvement and other factors. Generally, those crossings with a high probability for a serious crash with a proposed improvement anticipated to be effective and cost efficient will receive the highest priority.

Type of submittal required
Form provided by the DOT is available at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail

Application deadline
July 1

Type of approval required
DOT staff recommendation with Iowa Transportation Commission approval

Average length of time for acceptance decision
Nine months

Program’s annual funding level
$4.9 million

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1549
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail
Highway-Railroad Crossing Surface Repair Fund

Intent of program
This program assists railroad companies and public road jurisdictions with rebuilding public highway-railroad grade crossing surfaces in Iowa.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Railroad companies or other private entities, such as grain elevators, that own a railroad track; and public road jurisdictions

Qualifications for funding
- 20 percent railroad match
- 20 percent public road jurisdiction match
- 60 percent this funding program

Both the railroad and the public road jurisdiction must enter into a project agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Type of submittal required
Highway-Railroad Crossing Surface Repair Program application signed by both the public road jurisdiction and the railroad. Electronic Application and instructions are available at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail

Application deadline
Applications may be submitted at any time. Applications are time-stamped upon receipt at the DOT and are funded in the order in which they are received. Currently, there is approximately a 3- to 4-year backlog of projects in line for funding, so timely applications are encouraged.

Type of approval required
DOT staff recommendations with Iowa Transportation Commission approval

Program’s annual funding level
Funded at $900,000, appropriated annually from the Road Use Tax Fund

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1108
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail
Rail Programs

Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program

Intent of program
This federal program was established to provide direct loans and loan guarantees to:
• acquire, improve or rehabilitate intermodal or rail equipment or facilities, including track, components of track, bridges, yards, buildings, and shops;
• refinance outstanding debt incurred for those purposes; or
• develop or establish new intermodal or railroad facilities.

Who is eligible to request funding?
• Railroads
• State and local governments
• Government-sponsored authorities and corporations
• Joint ventures that include at least one railroad
• Limited option freight shippers who intend to construct a new rail connection

Qualifications for funding
• Direct loans for up to 100% of the project cost
• Repayment periods up to 35 years
• Interest rates equal to U.S. Treasury rate for comparable-term securities
• A Credit Risk Premium is assessed as a percentage of the total loan amount and varies by the overall risk of each unique transaction.
• Credit Risk Premium can be reduced with collateral, though collateral is not required
• Borrower pays an investigative fee for a financial advisor and outside counsel, if necessary (shall not exceed one half of one percent of the loan amount)

Type of submittal required
Program information can be found on the FRA website at https://railroads.dot.gov/

Type of approval required
The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) will determine whether to approve or disapprove an application based on statutorily created criteria, including creditworthiness of the project and likelihood that the loan will be repaid, as well as a number of public benefits including safety, economic or environmental benefits and service or capacity related improvements.

Application deadline
Applications may be submitted at any time. A decision will be made 90 days after receipt of a complete application, as judged by the FRA.

More information
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1140
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail
Linking Iowa’s Freight Transportation System (LIFTS) Program

**Intent of program**
The LIFTS program seeks to address the gaps in multimodal funding to assist in bolstering the freight transportation system – be that by truck, train, barge, airplane, or multiple modes. This program is a grant funding opportunity utilizing federal funding to improve Iowa’s freight system and will focus on projects not typically funded through traditional highway funding programs.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
A transportation provider, transportation user, city, county, or any other entity with an interest in a freight transportation improvement is eligible to apply for funding. Joint applications and public/private partnerships are allowed and encouraged. Applicants must provide a local match for their project. The minimum amount of matching funds required of a public entity or a public/private partnership is 20%. Private entities must provide a 50% match if not partnering with a public agency.

**Qualifications for funding**
Prior to incurring costs intended to be reimbursed or credited toward the non-federal share of eligible project costs, the project funding agreement must be executed and authorization by the FHWA must be obtained. Activities or items eligible for reimbursement include:

- Development phase activities, including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, preliminary engineering and design work, and other preconstruction activities.
- Construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation
- Acquisition of real property (including land relating to the project and improvements to land)
- Acquisition of equipment that facilitates direct intermodal interchange, transfer, or access into or out of the facility.
- Operational improvements directly relating to improving system performance.

**Type of submittal required**
Application forms are available from the DOT and at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts#486411783-application

Applications are accepted at any time and reviewed periodically when funds are available.

Notices of funding availability and application deadlines are announced at: https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts

**Type of approval required**
The Transportation Commission reviews and approves all grant funding.

**Program’s annual funding level**
The program is funded from 10% apportionment from Iowa’s share of the National Highway Freight Program - funding availability varies.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Rail Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1066
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/financial-assistance/lifts
Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)

Intent of program
This program funds highway/street, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, or freight projects or programs which help maintain Iowa’s clean air quality by reducing transportation-related emissions. Eligible highway/street projects must be on the federal-aid system, which includes all federal functional class routes except local and rural minor collectors.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Applications for ICAAP funding may be submitted by public entities such as cities, counties, public transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), regional planning affiliations (RPAs) and state and federal agencies. Private non-profit organizations, individuals, and private for-profit entities may also apply with the co-sponsor of a public entity. For the purposes of this program, the public entity will assume fiscal responsibility for the project.

Qualifications for funding
- A local match of at least 20 percent is required.
- Eligible projects will fall into one of the following categories:
  - those which reduce emissions via traffic flow improvements and provide a direct benefit to air quality by addressing ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter PM-2.5 or PM-10 (all of these pollutant emissions must be addressed, and a reduction calculation must be provided by the applicant for all types of projects listed);
  - those which reduce vehicle miles of travel;
  - those which reduce single-occupant vehicle trips; or
  - other transportation improvement projects which improve air quality or reduce congestion.

Net operating costs of new transit services are eligible for up to three years (at 80 percent federal/20 percent local participation); however, an application must be submitted for each year funding is requested.

Type of submittal required
Application forms must be submitted with emission reduction calculations and supporting documentation of congestion reduction and/or travel reduction assumptions. Applications are available from the DOT, at www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm or at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
Minimum $20,000 total project cost

Application deadline
October 1, statewide competitive application

Special project requirements - Highway projects
- Projects must be let by the DOT.
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) environmental concurrence is required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
- DOT design criteria should be used for the appropriate road classification.
- Approval by the DOT of plans and specifications is required.
- Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
  - federal equal employment opportunity;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
  - federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates.

(continued on next page)
For those projects on federal-aid routes, refer to FHWA form 1273, “Required Contract Provisions, Federal-Aid Construction Contracts,” for more information. Materials testing, construction inspection and final project acceptance must be done according to DOT procedures.

Special Project Requirements - Transit projects
- Capital improvements require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures and equipment specifications.
- Project candidates must be part of an approved five-year Capital Improvement Program.
- Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
  - civil rights protections;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - competitive procurement;
  - bus testing;
  - pre- and post-procurement audits; and
  - drug and alcohol testing.

Type of approval required
- project evaluation committee/DOT staff recommendation, with Iowa Transportation Commission approval
- inclusion of selected projects in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Regional Planning Affiliations and Metropolitan Planning Organizations must also include selected projects in their respective Transportation Improvement Program
- FHWA and FTA final approval of the STIP
- authorization by FHWA of projects prior to proceeding with work or with advertisement of the project for receipt of bids

Transit projects must be approved by FTA as part of either a direct or a statewide grant.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
Four months

Program’s annual funding level
Approximately $4.0 million

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1713
https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap
Road, Street and Bridge Programs

Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy (RISE)

**Intent of program**
This state program was established to promote economic development in Iowa through construction or improvement of roads and streets.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Iowa cities and counties

**Qualifications for funding**
Funding may be in the form of a grant, loan or combination thereof. Projects must involve construction or improvement of a public roadway. Project types:

- **Immediate Opportunity** – projects related to an immediate, non-speculative opportunity for permanent job creation or retention. Jobs created are to be value-adding in nature (e.g. manufacturing, industrial, professional office [not personal service related], non-retail.) Relocation of jobs within the state does not qualify. Local match is a minimum of 20 percent.

- **Local Development** – projects that support local economic development but that do not require an immediate commitment of funds (e.g. industrial parks, tourist attractions), or do not meet the Immediate Opportunity criteria. Projects are evaluated using the following five factors: development potential, economic impact, local commitment and initiative, transportation need, and area economic need. Local match is normally 50 percent. Locations certified through the Iowa Economic Development Authority’s “Iowa’s Certified Sites Program” may be eligible for greater RISE participation, resulting in funding commitments requiring 30-40 percent local match depending on the size of the certified site.

**Type of submittal required**
Application and request forms are available from the DOT and at www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm. See also: https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/Grant-Programs/Revitalize-Iowas-Sound-Economy-RISE-Program

**Application deadline**
Applications/requests are accepted throughout the year for Immediate Opportunity projects. February 1 and September 1 are deadlines for Local Development projects.

**Special project requirements**
Iowa DOT staff reviews all road project concepts, cost estimates, plans, and specifications. Plans and specifications shall be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer. Code of Iowa requirements for public expenditures apply (e.g. right-of-way activities, environmental clearances and letting procedures). Local Development applications assisting the redevelopment of brownfield sites receive added consideration. Roadway improvements are monitored throughout the life of the project with an Accomplishment Report required three years after the roadway is open to traffic. Local Development projects require development in the area to be in RISE eligible uses and Immediate Opportunity projects are contingent on job creation and/or retention.

**Type of approval required**
Iowa DOT staff recommendation with Iowa Transportation Commission approval

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
Immediate Opportunity projects may have a response time as short as a few weeks. Local development projects require approximately four months.

**Program’s annual funding level**
Approximately $12 million for cities and $6 million for counties

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1738
https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/Grant-Programs/Revitalize-Iowas-Sound-Economy-RISE-Program
Highway Bridge Program (STBG set-aside)

Intent of program
Using a set-aside of Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funds, this federal program provides for the replacement or rehabilitation of structurally deficient or functionally obsolete public roadway bridges.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Any agency with public road jurisdiction

Qualifications for funding
- Local match of 20 percent is required (80 percent federal funding).
- The bridge candidate must be classified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.
- Bridge replacement candidates must have a structure inventory and appraisal (SI&A) sufficiency rating of 60 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.
- Bridge rehabilitation candidates must have an SI&A sufficiency rating of 80 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.

Type of submittal required
- Cities submit letters of request for specific eligible bridges, along with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) structure number, location and estimated cost of the project.
- Counties select bridges based on county allocations. Structure information, similar to that provided by cities, is forwarded to the appropriate Regional Planning Affiliation or Metropolitan Planning Organization (RPA/MPO).

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
Cities are limited to $1 million per bridge candidate (only one bridge per city per year).

Application deadline
City bridge candidate applications must reach the DOT by October 1. County bridges have no application process.

Special project requirements
- Projects must be let by the DOT.
- FHWA must authorize work prior to letting.
- FHWA environmental concurrence is required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- If federal-aid bridge funds are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
- DOT design criteria must be used for the appropriate road classification.
- DOT specifications must be used.

Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
- federal equal employment opportunity;
- use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
- federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates (on federal routes).


(continued on next page)
Type of approval required

- The county selects projects and forwards them to the appropriate RPA/MPO for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- DOT staff uses a formula to prioritize and select city bridge projects.
- Successful city candidates are responsible for ensuring inclusion of the project in the appropriate RPA/MPO TIP.
- FHWA gives final approval of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

Program’s Annual Funding Level

Please see https://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/publications/im/1100.pdf for more information on funding levels. Actual level is subject to annual obligation limits.

More information/applications

Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Local Systems
- secondary roads engineer (county projects)
- urban engineer (city projects)
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1064 (county projects)
515-239-1291 (city projects)
Federal-aid Swap Highway Bridge Program (STBG set-aside)

Intent of program
Using a set-aside of Federal-aid Swap Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program funds, this state program provides for the replacement or rehabilitation of structurally deficient or functionally obsolete public roadway bridges.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Any agency with public road jurisdiction in an RPA or MPO that has not opted out of the Federal-aid Swap program.

Qualifications for funding (City program)
- Only phase of work funded is Construction
- Local match of 20 percent is required (80 percent state funding).
- Any cost spent to develop the project may be applied to the 20 percent local match requirement. Examples of these costs are Engineering Design, Construction Inspection, Right-of-Way Acquisitions, historic or environmental mitigation, utility relocation, etc.
- The bridge candidate must be classified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.
- Bridge replacement candidates must have a structure inventory and appraisal (SI&A) sufficiency rating of 60 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.
- Bridge rehabilitation candidates must have an SI&A sufficiency rating of 80 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.

Qualifications for funding (County program)
- Local match is not required.
- The bridge candidate must be classified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.
- Bridge replacement candidates must have a structure inventory and appraisal (SI&A) sufficiency rating of 60 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.
- Bridge rehabilitation candidates must have an SI&A sufficiency rating of 80 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.

Type of submittal required
- Cities submit letters of request for specific eligible bridges, along with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) structure number, location and estimated cost of the project.
- Counties select bridges based on county allocations.

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
Cities are limited to $1 million per bridge candidate (only one bridge per city per year).

Application deadline
City bridge candidate applications must reach the DOT by October 1. County bridges have no application process.

Special project requirements
- Projects must be let by the DOT.
- Several environmental reviews are required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- DOT design criteria must be used for the appropriate road classification.
- DOT specifications must be used.

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Type of approval required
- The county selects projects and forwards them to the appropriate RPA/MPO for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- DOT staff uses a formula to prioritize and select city bridge projects.
- Successful city candidates are responsible for ensuring inclusion of the project in the appropriate RPA/MPO TIP.

Program’s Annual Funding Level
Please see [https://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/publications/im/1100.pdf](https://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/publications/im/1100.pdf) for more information on funding levels. Actual level is subject to annual obligation limits.

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Local Systems
- secondary roads engineer (county projects)
- urban engineer (city projects)
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1064 (county projects)
515-239-1291 (city projects)
Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)

Intent of program
This program funds highway/street, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, or freight projects or programs which help maintain Iowa’s clean air quality by reducing transportation-related emissions. Eligible highway/street projects must be on the federal-aid system, which includes all federal functional class routes except local and rural minor collectors.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Applications for ICAAP funding may be submitted by public entities such as cities, counties, public transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), regional planning affiliations (RPAs) and state and federal agencies. Private non-profit organizations, individuals, and private for-profit entities may also apply with the co-sponsor of a public entity. For the purposes of this program, the public entity will assume fiscal responsibility for the project.

Qualifications for funding
- A local match of at least 20 percent is required.
- Eligible projects will fall into one of the following categories:
  - those which reduce emissions via traffic flow improvements and provide a direct benefit to air quality by addressing ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter PM-2.5 or PM-10 (all of these pollutant emissions must be addressed, and a reduction calculation must be provided by the applicant for all types of projects listed);
  - those which reduce vehicle miles of travel;
  - those which reduce single-occupant vehicle trips; or
  - other transportation improvement projects to improve air quality or reduce congestion.

Net operating costs of new transit services are eligible for up to three years (at 80 percent federal/20 percent local participation); however, an application must be submitted for each year funding is requested.

Type of submittal required
Application forms must be submitted with emission reduction calculations and supporting documentation of congestion reduction and/or travel reduction assumptions. Applications are available from the DOT at www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm or at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
Minimum $20,000 total project cost

Application deadline
October 1, statewide competitive application

Special project requirements - Highway projects
- Projects must be let by the DOT.
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) environmental concurrence is required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
- DOT design criteria should be used for the appropriate road classification.
- Approval by the DOT of plans and specifications is required.
- Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
  - federal equal employment opportunity;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
  - federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates.

(continued on next page)
For those projects on federal-aid routes, refer to FHWA form 1273, “Required Contract Provisions, Federal-Aid Construction Contracts,” for more information. Materials testing, construction inspection and final project acceptance must be done according to DOT procedures.

**Special Project Requirements - Transit projects**
- Capital improvements require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures and equipment specifications.
- Project candidates must be part of an approved five-year Capital Improvement Program.
- Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
  - civil rights protections;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - competitive procurement;
  - bus testing;
  - pre- and post-procurement audits; and
  - drug and alcohol testing.

**Type of approval required**
- project evaluation committee/DOT staff recommendation, with Iowa Transportation Commission approval
- inclusion of selected projects in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program
- Regional Planning Affiliations and Metropolitan Planning Organizations must also include selected projects in their respective Transportation Improvement Program
- FHWA and FTA final approval of the STIP
- authorization by FHWA of projects prior to proceeding with work or with advertisement of the project for receipt of bids

Transit projects must be approved by FTA as part of either a direct or a statewide grant.

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
Four months

**Program’s annual funding level**
Approximately $4.0 million

**Federal-Aid Swap**
The Iowa Transportation Commission is authorized to allocate moneys from the Primary Road Fund for city and county road and bridge projects in exchange for retaining all or a portion of federal-aid road funds that would otherwise be allocated to cities and counties. For more information concerning the Federal-Aid Swap Policy, please go to [https://iowadot.gov/local_systems/federal-aid-swap-information](https://iowadot.gov/local_systems/federal-aid-swap-information).

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1713
[https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap)
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program

Intent of program
This federal program was established to:

- aid public road jurisdictions with funding for roads on federal-aid routes
- bridges on any public road
- provide funding for transit capital improvements (see also “STBG Program - transit” on page 64); and
- provide funding for transportation planning activities.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Eligible entities are any public agencies with public road jurisdiction, public transit responsibilities or transportation planning responsibilities.

Qualifications for funding

Road projects
A minimum of 20 percent non-federal match is required (80 percent federal funding). Road projects must be on a federal-aid road, which includes all federal functional class routes except local and rural minor collectors.

Bridge projects
Replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, protection, and anti-icing/deicing for bridges and tunnels on any public road, including construction or reconstruction necessary to accommodate other modes, are eligible. Additionally, construction of new bridges and tunnels on a federal-aid highway are also eligible. A minimum of 20 percent non-federal match is required (80 percent federal funding).

In addition to the STBG funds distributed to the RPAs and MPOs, a portion of STBG funds have been dedicated for bridge projects meeting the criteria specified under the Highway Bridge Program (see page 20).

Transit projects
See page 64

Type of submittal required
Application forms can be obtained from the appropriate Regional Planning Affiliation or Metropolitan Planning Organization (RPA/MPO).

Application amount – minimum/maximum
Varies according to RPA/MPO guidelines

Application deadline
RPAs/MPOs may have different deadlines for applications.

Special project requirements

Highway projects
- Project contracts must be let by the DOT.
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) must authorize work prior to contract letting.
- FHWA environmental concurrence is required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.

(continued on next page)
• DOT design criteria for the appropriate road classification should be used.
• DOT approval of plans and specifications is required.
• Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
  - federal equal employment opportunity;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
  - federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates.

For projects on federal-aid routes, refer to Form FHWA 1273, “Required Contract Provisions, Federal-Aid Construction Contracts,” for more information. Materials testing, construction inspection and final project acceptance must be done according to DOT procedures.

Transit projects (page 64)
• Capital improvements require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures and equipment specifications.
• Project candidates must be part of an approved five-year Capital Improvement Program.
• Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
  - civil rights protections;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - competitive procurement;
  - bus testing;
  - pre- and post-procurement audits; and
  - drug and alcohol testing.

Type of approval required
• Projects are selected through the process of adopting an RPA/MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
• The DOT reviews and compiles all RPA/MPO TIPs as part of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
• The DOT adopts the STIP.
• Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) give final approval of the STIP.
• FHWA must authorize highway/street/trail projects prior to proceeding with work on or advertisement of the project for receipt of bids.

Transit projects must be approved by FTA, either as part of a direct grant or a statewide grant.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
Nine months

Program’s annual funding level
The annual amount available to RPAs/MPOs is approximately $80 million.

Federal-Aid Swap
The Iowa Transportation Commission is authorized to allocate moneys from the Primary Road Fund for city and county road and bridge projects, in exchange for retaining all or a portion of federal-aid road funds that would otherwise be allocated to cities and counties. For more information concerning the Federal-Aid Swap Policy, please go to https://iowadot.gov/local_systems/federal-aid-swap-information.

More information/applications
The appropriate RPA/MPO (see map and listing on page 72)
County and City Bridge Construction Fund

Intent of program
Construction or replacement of public roadway bridges

Who is eligible to request funding?
Iowa counties and cities

Qualifications for funding
- A local match of 20 percent is required (80 percent state funding).
- Replacement and rehabilitation candidates must be classified as structurally deficient or functionally obsolete according to federal guidelines.
- Replacement and rehabilitation candidates must have a sufficiency rating of 80 or less and average daily traffic of at least 25 vehicles.

Type of submittal required
DOT requests one bridge candidate per year from each county. Cities submit letters of request for specific eligible bridges, along with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) number, location and estimated cost of the project.

Application amount – minimum/maximum
- County projects: limited to available funds (usually $2 million per year)
- City projects: maximum is $500,000 per candidate

Application deadline
- Counties are notified of deadlines when the DOT makes requests for candidates.
- Cities' letters of request should reach the DOT by October 1.

DOT staff evaluates city and county bridge candidates from November through January.

Special project requirements
- DOT will review plans and specifications.
- All Code of Iowa requirements for contract lettings apply.
- Plans must be certified by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- DOT design criteria may be used according to appropriate road classification.

Type of approval required
County bridge projects must be made a part of an approved secondary road construction program. DOT staff uses a formula to prioritize and select projects, then completes the approval and selection process.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
DOT staff notifies successful candidates in January or February of each year.

Program’s annual funding level
Counties: $2 million, cities: $500,000

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Local Systems
- Secondary roads engineer (county projects)
- Urban engineer (city projects)
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1064 (county projects)
515-239-1291 (city projects)
Federal Lands Access Program

**Intent of program**
Provide funding for projects that are located on or adjacent to, or that provide access to, federal lands (public highway, road, bridge, trail, or transit system)

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
State, tribal, or local governments that title or maintain a federal lands access transportation facility

**Type of submittal required**
All project funding requests must be submitted using the Eastern Federal Lands Access Program Application Form. The program information can be found on the FHWA website: [https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/](https://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/)

**Application deadline**
The most recent call for projects ended on October 14th, 2016. The call for projects resulted in a complete program of projects through federal fiscal year 2020.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Program Management
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1409
County-State Traffic Engineering Program (C-STEP)

**Intent of program**
Solve traffic operation and safety problems on primary roads outside incorporated cities

**Who is eligible to sponsor?**
Any Iowa county

**Qualifications for funding**
The county must engineer and administer the project. Improvements must involve a primary road outside any corporate limits.

The two types of projects eligible are *spot improvements* and *linear improvements* -
- Spot improvements are those limited to single locations. County match is 45 percent of the construction cost (55 percent is state funded).
- Linear improvements are those for which a single spot improvement is inadequate. County match determined by jurisdiction, as follows:
  - state retains jurisdiction upon completion of project – county match 70 percent
  - county accepts jurisdiction – county match 40 percent

An engineering analysis of the problem area is required.
- The Iowa Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP) can be used for analysis.
- A county engineer can provide the engineering analysis.
- DOT's Brown Design Manual can be cited for turning warrants when the request includes turning lanes.
- The Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices has warrants for traffic signals.

**Type of submittal required**
Letters of request with a sketch and cost estimate submitted by interested parties

**Application amount minimum/maximum**
Maximum of $200,000 per project for spot improvements

Maximum on linear improvements as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Rehabilitation</th>
<th>Reconstruction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State retains</td>
<td>$45,000 per mile</td>
<td>$75,000 per mile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County accepts</td>
<td>$90,000 per mile</td>
<td>$150,000 per mile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Application deadline**
Letters of request accepted all year

**Special project requirements**
DOT will review plans and specifications

**Type of approval required**
DOT staff approval and selection

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
90 days

**More information/applications**
The appropriate DOT district engineer (see map and listing on page 71)
Traffic Engineering Assistance Program (TEAP)

Intent of program
TEAP provides traffic engineering expertise to local units of government. The purpose is to identify cost-effective traffic safety and operational improvements as well as potential funding sources to implement the recommendations. Typical studies include high-crash locations, unique lane configurations, obsolete traffic control devices, school pedestrians, truck routes, parking issues, and other traffic studies.

Who is eligible to request funding?
- Counties
- Cities without the resources for a staff traffic engineer - typically cities with population less than 35,000.

Roundabout feasibility or design reviews are available for any size city or county.

Qualifications for funding
No local match is required. However, the applicant will be required to assist the consultant with data collection if needed (as-built plans, traffic counts, street maps, crash reports, etc.).

Type of submittal required
Letter of request explaining the problem sent to the appropriate district engineer. If the request involves K-8th grade school pedestrians or a potential roundabout, those factors should be noted in the request.

Application amount – minimum/maximum
TEAP will fund up to 100 hours of consultant time.

Application deadline
Successful applications are funded in order of receipt until resources are exhausted.

Special project requirements
The subject of the study must address an existing traffic/safety problem (this program is not intended for planning purposes).

Type of approval required
DOT District staff recommendation with approval of the Traffic & Safety Bureau

Average length of time for acceptance decision
30 days to authorize request; 6 months to complete study

Program’s annual funding level
$125,000

More information/applications
The appropriate DOT district engineer (see map and listing on page 71)
https://iowadot.gov/traffic/traffic-and-safety-programs/traffic-engineering-assistance-program-teap
Traffic Safety and Engineering Programs

Traffic Safety Improvement Program (TSIP)

Intent of program
The Traffic Safety Improvement Program provides funding for traffic safety improvements or studies on any public roads under the jurisdiction of a public entity. This may include county roads, city streets, state highways, state park and institutional roads.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Public entities that are responsible for public roads

Qualifications for funding
Eligible projects will fall into one of three categories:
- **Site-specific improvements**: projects intended to increase traffic safety at a specific site
- **Traffic control devices**: purchase of materials for installation of new, or replacement of obsolete, traffic control devices such as signs or signals
- **Studies and outreach**: transportation safety research, studies or initiatives

Type of submittal required

Application amount minimum/maximum
Site-specific project funding cannot exceed $500,000 per project.

Application deadline
August 15 is the deadline for all types of projects.

Special project requirements
Refer to the Iowa Administrative Code, Sec. 761, Chapter 164.

Type of approval required
Applications are reviewed by an internal/external committee of representatives from cities, counties and the Iowa DOT. Recommendations are then made to the Iowa Transportation Commission, which then approves funding of specific projects.
- Site-specific projects are evaluated by the demonstrated relationship of the project to traffic safety, benefit/cost ratio analysis, the annual funding level, and other criteria.
- Funding for traffic control devices is awarded on the basis of safety benefits of eligible applications, the annual funding level, and other criteria.
- Funding for research, studies and public information initiatives is awarded on the basis of safety research needs, impact on safety, the annual funding level, and other criteria.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
Applications due: August 15
Iowa Transportation Commission decision: usually by December
Funding available: July 1 of the following year.

Program's annual funding level
The program's annual funding level is one-half percent of Iowa's Road Use Tax Fund (approximately $7 million per year). New funding for all traffic control device projects cannot exceed $500,000 annually. New funding for all research, studies, and public information initiatives cannot exceed $500,000 annually.

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Traffic and Safety Bureau
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1216
Urban-State Traffic Engineering Program (U-STEP)

Intent of Program
Solve traffic operation and safety problems on primary roads in Iowa cities

Who is eligible to request funding?
Any Iowa city

Qualifications for funding
- The city must engineer and administer the project.
- Improvements must involve a municipal extension of a primary road. The two types of projects eligible are spot improvements and linear improvements (spot improvements are those limited to single locations; linear improvements are those which span two or more intersections).
- City match is 45 percent of the construction cost (55 percent state-funded).
- An engineering analysis of the problem area is required.
- Iowa Traffic Engineering Assistance Program can be used for analysis.

Type of submittal required
Letters of request with a sketch and cost estimate submitted by interested parties

Application amount minimum/maximum
- maximum of $200,000 per project for spot improvements
- maximum of $400,000 per project for linear improvements

Application deadline
Letters of request accepted all year

Special project requirements
DOT review of plans and specifications

Type of approval required
DOT staff approval and selection

Average length of time for acceptance decision
90 days

Send application/request to:
The appropriate DOT district engineer (see map and listing on page 71)
Highway Safety Improvement Program - Secondary (HSIP-Secondary Program)

**Intent of program**
This program was established to fund low-cost, systemic safety improvements on rural roads that meet certain criteria regarding safety.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Iowa counties

**Qualifications for funding**
- Projects must be located on secondary roads with current crash history or at-risk characteristics.
- Target projects would be low-cost (approximately $10,000 per mile) and systemic (stretching along corridors).
- Participants must submit an HSIP-Secondary application indicating an interest in utilizing the funding.
- Certain safety improvements must be included on approved projects. (Refer to funding stipulations link on program webpage)

**Type of submittal required**
Application form is available at [https://iowadot.gov/traffic/sections/hsip](https://iowadot.gov/traffic/sections/hsip)

**Application deadline**
Applications due: November 15

**Special project requirements**
- Projects must be let by the DOT.
- Project development activities must comply with all state requirements.

**Project selection criteria**
The HSIP-Secondary Program committee will review potential projects. Funding recommendations are made based on the following criteria:
- Potential safety impact
- Risk addressed
- Cost per mile/intersection

Successful candidates are responsible for submitting projects to the appropriate Regional Planning Affiliation/Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Improvement Program for inclusion in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

**Program's annual funding level**
Level is subject to annual obligation limits. Estimated funding is approximately $2.0 million per year.

**Federal-Aid Swap**
The Iowa Transportation Commission is authorized to allocate moneys from the Primary Road Fund for city and county road and bridge projects in exchange for retaining all or a portion of federal-aid road funds that would otherwise be allocated to cities and counties. For more information concerning the Federal-Aid Swap Policy, please go to [https://iowadot.gov/local_systems/federal-aid-swap-information](https://iowadot.gov/local_systems/federal-aid-swap-information).

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Traffic & Safety Bureau
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1216
[https://iowadot.gov/traffic/sections/hsip](https://iowadot.gov/traffic/sections/hsip)
Pedestrian Curb Ramp Construction

Intent of program
Assist cities in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on primary roads in Iowa cities

Who is eligible to request funding?
Any Iowa city

Qualifications for funding
• The city must engineer and administer the project.
• Improvements must involve a municipal extension of a primary road.
• Curb ramps must meet ADA standards.

Type of submittal required
Letters of request which include the following:
• city’s name;
• location description of primary road(s) and the boundaries of the project;
• number of curb ramps to be constructed;
• estimated total construction costs of the curb ramps;
• completion work schedule, with dates (the project must be let within two years of the agreement approval; and
• name and title of the city’s contact person.

Application amount minimum/maximum
Maximum of $250,000 per city, per year
• DOT may pay up to 100% of eligible costs

Application deadline
Letters of request accepted all year

Special project requirements
DOT review of all plans and specifications

Type of approval required
DOT staff approval and selection

Average length of time for acceptance decision
90 days

More information/applications
The appropriate DOT district engineer (see map and listing on page 71)
DOT/DNR Fund

Intent of program
Roadside beautification of primary system corridors with plant materials

Who is eligible to request funding?
Any tax-levying body

Qualifications for funding
The site must be on primary highway right-of-way, including primary highway extensions. Participation is limited to the cost of materials and installation of seed or live plants.

Type of submittal required
Submit letters of request with listing of plant material, site plan and detailed cost estimates. A permit to sponsor highway plantings must also be approved (see special project requirements below).

Application amount – minimum/maximum
Maximum of $100,000 per application per year

Application deadline
Letters of request are accepted all year and, if selected, are funded in the order in which they are received.

Special project requirements
- DOT will review plans and specifications.
- Applications for DOT Sponsorship of Highway Plantings permits must be submitted to, and approved by, the district staff.

Type of approval required
DOT roadside development staff evaluates applications

Average length of time for acceptance decision
90 days

Program’s annual funding level
$300,000 (subject to funding availability)

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Design
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1424
Living Roadway Trust Fund

Intent of program
Implement Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management programs (IRVM) on city, county or state rights-of-way or publicly owned areas adjacent to traveled roadways. Categories of eligible projects are as follows:

- roadside inventories;
- gateway enhancement plantings for city, county and state locations;
- education/training;
- research/demonstration;
- roadside enhancement; and
- special equipment.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Individuals, cities, counties or the state may apply. Individual applicants must have written support from the agency responsible for maintaining the right-of-way in which the project is proposed. County projects must be sponsored by either the county engineer or the county conservation board.

Qualifications for funding
- An approved IRVM plan for the city or county involved must be on file with the DOT’s Roadside Coordinator office. Exceptions made for demonstration and educational plantings.
- The proposed project must be located on city, county or state right-of-way OR on public land immediately adjacent to the right-of-way.
- The following are examples of items typically funded:
  - plant materials
  - planting and establishment materials
  - burn equipment, spraying equipment, brush control equipment, GPS/GIS equipment
  - seeding equipment
  - harvesting equipment
  - educational/informational materials regarding IRVM

Types of submittal required
Formal application found on the www.iowalivingroadway.com website.

Note: An approved IRVM plan must be on file with the DOT’s Roadside Coordinator Office. This plan must outline integrated management procedures providing for motor vehicle safety and treatment of specific roadside problems according to best solution techniques.

Application deadline
June 1

Special project requirements
- Before any planting can be done on state right-of-way, the applicant must have an approved permit from the DOT district staff.
- Before any reimbursement can be made by the Living Roadway Trust Fund, there must be a signed agreement and original invoices showing goods or services rendered in accordance with that agreement.

(continued on next page)
**Type of approval required**
The IRVM Technical Advisory Committee and Roadside Coordinator for the DOT recommends approval of qualified applicants. The director of the DOT authorizes funding based on this committee’s and Coordinator’s recommendations.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Design
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010
515-239-1768
www.iowalivingroadway.com
Recreational Trails Program (Federal)

**Intent of program**
Provide and maintain motorized and non-motorized recreational trails and trail-related projects.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Public agencies, and non-profit or private organizations are eligible to sponsor – non-profit and private sponsorship will require a public agency co-sponsor.

**Qualifications for funding**
- A minimum 20 percent match is required.
- Trails resulting from successful applications must be maintained as a public facility for a minimum of 20 years.

**Types of submittal required**
Program information is available at [www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm). Application forms are available from the DOT, and at [www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm).

**Type of approval required**
- DOT staff recommendation and Iowa Transportation Commission approval
- FHWA environmental concurrence
- conformance with federal funding requirements

**Program’s annual funding level**
$1.3 million

**Application deadline**
October 1

Inquiries should be directed to:
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1252
[www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm)
Recreational Trails Program (State)

Intent of program
Established to fund public recreational trails.

Who is eligible to request funding?
State agencies, counties, cities and non-profit organizations may sponsor applications.

Qualifications for funding
- Minimum 25 percent local match is required. Matching funds may include grants from other state agencies and donated labor, materials, equipment and services from a third party (in-kind). Proposed projects must be part of a local, area-wide, regional, or statewide trail plan.
- Trails resulting from successful applications must be maintained as a public facility for a minimum of 20 years.

Type of submittal required
Program information is available at [www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm).
Application forms are available from the DOT and at [www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm).

Application deadline
July 1 when funds have been allocated by the state legislature.

Special project requirements
- The design must be approved by the DOT.
- The applicant must have an approved permit from the DOT maintenance engineer to perform any work within the state right-of-way.

Type of approval required
- DOT staff recommendations with Iowa Transportation Commission approval
- environmental concurrence

Program’s annual funding level
$2.5 million (funding varies by year depending on allocation by the state legislature)

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1252
[www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/systems_planning/fedstate_rectrails.htm)
**Iowa Byways™**

**Intent of program**
This program was established to identify, protect and enhance roadways in Iowa that exemplify the state’s scenic and historic resources. This effort is carried out through volunteer work and cooperation among interested citizens, organizations, local governments, and the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT). **This is not a funding program.** The Iowa DOT designates a route as an Iowa Byways route on the basis of scenic and historic qualities, using established criteria. Applicants are then responsible for funding tourism and promotional plans. Federal grant opportunities may be available for scenic byways for certain infrastructure projects (see Federal Transportation Alternatives Program).

**Who is eligible to request designation?**
Although no grant funds are distributed through the state program, designation as an Iowa Byways route may be applied for by any group or individual having the support and concurrence of their local government entity (i.e. a County Board of Supervisors, City Council, or County Conservation Board).

**Type of submittal required**
Applications are available from the Iowa DOT. See also: [https://iowadot.gov/iowasbyways/iowa-byways-designation](https://iowadot.gov/iowasbyways/iowa-byways-designation).

**Application process/deadline**
Applications for designation as a new Iowa Byways route and for changes/extensions to existing designated byways are accepted on a four-year cycle with the next application deadline being October 1, 2020. Following an initial review of the applications by the Iowa Byways Advisory Council, field inventories are conducted, data evaluated, and ratings are calculated for each proposed new route or route change/extension. The Iowa DOT will consider the recommendations of the Iowa Byways Advisory Council in determining whether a new route or route change/extension is approved for designation. The designation process may take up to four years and is complete with the installation of Iowa Byways signs.

**Iowa Byways brand and program participation**
Once designated, the local application sponsors are required to assist Iowa DOT in the development of an Iowa Byways brand graphic for signs and other uses. The Iowa DOT will work with the jurisdictions along the designated byway to confirm the route and the plans for signage installation. Local sponsors of designated byways are also expected to participate in byway development activities, and to collaborate with other byways in the Iowa Byways program.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1369

*Iowa Byways is the official word mark designation identifying the Iowa Department of Transportation’s scenic byway program. The word mark Iowa Byways, and the Iowa Byways design mark, are registered trademarks of the Iowa Department of Transportation.*
Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)

Intent of program
This program funds highway/street, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, or freight projects or programs which help maintain Iowa’s clean air quality by reducing transportation-related emissions. Eligible highway/street projects must be on the federal-aid system, which includes all federal functional class routes except local and rural minor collectors.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Applications for ICAAP funding may be submitted by public entities such as cities, counties, public transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), regional planning affiliations (RPAs) and state and federal agencies. Private non-profit organizations, individuals, and private for-profit entities may also apply with the co-sponsor of a public entity. For the purposes of this program, the public entity will assume fiscal responsibility for the project.

Qualifications for funding
• A local match of at least 20 percent is required.
• Eligible projects will fall into one of the following categories:
  - those which reduce emissions via traffic flow improvements and provide a direct benefit to air quality by addressing ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter PM-2.5 or PM-10 (all of these pollutant emissions must be addressed, and a reduction calculation must be provided by the applicant for all types of projects listed);
  - those which reduce vehicle miles of travel;
  - those which reduce single-occupant vehicle trips; or
  - other transportation improvement projects to improve air quality or reduce congestion.

Net operating costs of new transit services are eligible for up to three years (at 80 percent federal/20 percent local participation); however, an application must be submitted for each year funding is requested.

Type of submittal required
Application forms must be submitted with emission reduction calculations and supporting documentation of congestion reduction and/or travel reduction assumptions. Applications are available from the DOT at www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm or at https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap

Requested amount – minimum/maximum
Minimum $20,000 total project cost

Application deadline
October 1, statewide competitive application

Special project requirements
Highway projects
• Projects must be let by the DOT.
• Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) environmental concurrence is required.
• Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
• Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
• If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
• DOT design criteria should be used for the appropriate road classification.
• Approval by the DOT of plans and specifications is required.
• Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
  - federal equal employment opportunity;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
  - federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates.

(continued on next page)
For those projects on federal-aid routes, refer to FHWA form 1273, “Required Contract Provisions, Federal-Aid Construction Contracts,” for more information. Materials testing, construction inspection and final project acceptance must be done according to DOT procedures.

**Transit projects**
- Capital improvements require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures and equipment specifications.
- Project candidates must be part of an approved five-year Capital Improvement Program.
- Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
  - civil rights protections;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - competitive procurement;
  - bus testing;
  - pre- and post-procurement audits; and
  - drug and alcohol testing.

**Type of approval required**
- project evaluation committee/DOT staff recommendation, with Iowa Transportation Commission approval
- inclusion of selected projects in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- Regional Planning Affiliations and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (RPA/MPO) must also include selected projects in their respective Transportation Improvement Programs
- FHWA and FTA final approval of the STIP
- authorization by FHWA of projects prior to proceeding with work or with advertisement of the project for receipt of bids

Transit projects must be approved by FTA as part of either a direct or a statewide grant.

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
Four months

**Program’s annual funding level**
Approximately $4.0 million

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1713
[https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap)
Iowa’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

Intent of program
Iowa’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including:

- on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, and environmental mitigation;
- recreational trail projects;
- safe routes to school projects; and
- projects for planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of former divided highways.

Iowa’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a new iteration of the former Transportation Enhancements (later Transportation Alternatives) program that has been in existence since 1991. The Statewide TAP program is available to projects with a statewide or multi-regional focus while the Local Projects TAP programs administered by TMA’s, MPO’s, and RPA’s target projects with a local focus.

Who is eligible to request funding?
Iowa’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) allows the following entities to sponsor an eligible project; however, TMA’s, MPO’s, and RPA’s may choose to further restrict eligible project sponsors for the Local Projects TAP programs they administer individually:

- Local governments.
- Regional Transportation Authorities.
- Transit Agencies.
- Natural Resource or public lands agencies.
- Tribal governments.
- Any other local or regional governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails (other than a metropolitan planning organization or a State agency that the State determines to be eligible).

A non-eligible project sponsor (such as a non-profit) may partner with an eligible co-sponsor in applying for funds.

Qualifications for funding
- A local match of 20 percent or more is required.
- Projects must have a direct relationship to existing or planned surface transportation facilities.
- Projects must fit into one or more of the following categories:
  - Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized forms of transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, lighting and other safety-related infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.
  - Construction, planning, and design of infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers, including children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities to access daily needs.
  - Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users.
  - Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas.
  - Community improvement activities, which include but are not limited to:
    - Inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising.
    - Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities.
    - Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control.
    - Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project eligible under this title.

(continued on next page)
- Streetscaping and corridor landscaping.
- Any environmental mitigation activity, including pollution prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to:
  - Address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention or abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff, including activities described in sections 133(b)(1), 328(a), and 329; or
  - Reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats.

- Infrastructure-Related Safe Routes to School Projects
  - The planning, design, and construction of infrastructure-related projects that will substantially improve the ability of students to walk and bicycle to school, including:
    - Sidewalk improvements,
    - Traffic calming and speed reduction improvements,
    - Pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements,
    - On-street bicycle facilities,
    - Off-street bicycle and pedestrian facilities,
    - Secure bicycle parking facilities, and
    - Traffic diversion improvements in the vicinity of schools. (section 1404(f)(1)(a))

- Non-Infrastructure Related Safe Routes to School Projects
  - Activities to encourage walking and bicycling to school, including:
    - Public awareness campaigns and outreach to media and community leaders,
    - Traffic education and enforcement in the vicinity of K-8 schools,
    - Student sessions on bicycle and pedestrian safety, health, and environment, and
    - Funding for training, volunteers, and managers of safe routes to school programs. (section 1404(f)(2)(a))

- Recreational Trails Program Projects
  - Eligible Recreational Trails Program projects include:
    - Maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails;
    - Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages;
    - Purchase and lease of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment;
    - Construction of new recreational trails (with some restrictions for new trails on Federal lands);
    - Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors;
    - Assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance;
    - Development and dissemination of publications and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection, (as those objectives relate to one or more of the use of recreational trails, supporting non-law enforcement trail safety and trail use monitoring patrol programs, and providing trail-related training), but in an amount not to exceed 5 percent of the apportionment made to the State for the fiscal year; and
    - Payment of costs to the State incurred in administering the program, but in an amount not to exceed 7 percent of the apportionment made to the State for the fiscal year.

Note: this list is all-inclusive; a project must fit into one or more of the above categories to be eligible for funding.

Type of submittal required
Depending on the impact of the project, applications are submitted to either the DOT or the appropriate TMA, MPO, or RPA.

- Projects considered Statewide TAP projects are only those with a truly statewide or multi-regional significance. Applications for projects that are primarily local impact projects (such as trails) will not be scored favorably. Statewide TAP projects require filing an application on a form provided by the DOT. Applications are available from the DOT and at https://forms.iowadot.gov/Default.aspx; and program information is available at iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/transportation-alternatives.

- For application requirements regarding Local Projects TAP projects – contact the appropriate TMA, MPO, or RPA. A listing of these agencies and their application deadlines is available on the Iowa’s Transportation Alternatives Program website. (see iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/transportation-alternatives)

(continued on next page)
Application deadline
October 1 for Statewide TAP project applications. TMAs, MPOs, and RPAs determine their own deadlines for Local Projects TAP applications.

Special project requirements
- Federal Highway Administration environmental concurrence is required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer/architect/landscape architect.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer/architect/landscape architect, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
- Approval by DOT for plans and specifications is required.
- Davis-Bacon wage requirements must be met.
- Competitive bids or quotes are required.

Type of approval required
TMAs, MPOs, and RPAs select Local Projects TAP projects for funding. DOT staff makes recommendations to the Iowa Transportation Commission for funding of Statewide TAP projects with the Commission making the final selection of projects for funding.

Program’s annual funding level
- approximately $1.0 million for Statewide TAP projects
- approximately $7.5 million for Local Projects TAP projects

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1810
iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/transportation-alternatives
Urban Youth Corps Program

**Intent of program**
This program is intended to provide transportation-related employment and training opportunities to youth between the ages of 16 and 25 and to accomplish meaningful and productive improvements to transportation facilities. Priority will be given to projects that focus on youth who face barriers to employment.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Any private, nonprofit, and public organizations/agencies

**Qualifications for funding**
Each participating agency is required to provide 20 percent of the total project cost as a local match. This can be in the form of local cash and/or in-kind contributions.

**Project period**
Projects will be funded for all or part of a five-month period beginning each year on May 1 and ending September 30.

**Type of submittal required**
Application forms are available from the DOT Bureau of Systems Planning and at https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/urban-youth-corps.

**Type of approval required**
Three persons designated by the Iowa Department of Transportation’s director will independently score each application using a 100-point system. The scores are averaged and the applications receiving the highest scores are recommended for funding.

**Program’s annual funding level**
$80,000 (anticipated)

**Application deadline**
The application form must be submitted by the close of business on March 1.

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1686
https://iowadot.gov/systems_planning/grant-programs/urban-youth-corps
State Transit Assistance

Intent of Program
Provide state funding assistance to support and improve locally sponsored public transit programs.

Who is eligible for funding?
Urban or regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa. (Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as private not-for-profit corporations.)

Qualifications for funding
- Projects must be in an approved Transportation Improvement Program.
- Approximately 97 percent of funding is distributed among eligible transit systems using a performance-based distribution formula calculated on prior year statistics for rides, miles, operating cost, and local support. There is no local match requirement for formula funds.
- At least $300,000 is reserved for special projects each year. These can include individual special projects for new services needed to support human services coordination, statewide transit training needs (including transit training fellowships), and emergency projects. Coordination projects will normally have an 80/20 match ratio for the first year and a 50/50 match ratio for the second year. By the third year the project should be self-sustaining. Fellowships require a local match of 20 percent. Emergency project match requirements vary with the nature of the project.

Type of submittal required
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

Application amount – minimum/maximum
Each transit system receives annual formula allocations. Application must be made to receive this entitlement.

Application deadline
May 1 for formula funds; variable for coordination projects, training fellowships and emergency funds

Special project requirements
Capital improvements and training projects other than fellowships require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures and equipment specifications.

Type of approval required
DOT staff recommendations with Iowa Transportation Commission approval

Average length of time for acceptance decision
45 days to staff recommendation, 90 days to Iowa Transportation Commission action

Program’s annual funding level
State funding varies, depending on total use tax paid (FY 2019 - $14.5 million)

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transit
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-233-7870
Fax: 515-233-7983
www.iowadot.gov/transit
Public Transit Infrastructure Grant (PTIG) Program

Intent of Program
Provide state funding assistance to support vertical infrastructure needs of Iowa’s public transit systems.

Who is eligible for funding?
Urban or regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa. (Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as private not-for-profit corporations.)

Qualifications for funding
- Projects can involve new construction, reconstruction, or remodeling, but must include a vertical component.
- Projects are evaluated based on anticipated benefits to transit, as well as the ability to have projects completed quickly (generally within 18 months).
- A minimum 20 percent local match is required, even when state and federal funds are combined to fund the project.

Type of submittal required
Applications are available on the Bureau of Public Transit’s website, www.iowadot.gov/transit.

Application amount – minimum/maximum
No system may receive more than 40 percent of the total available infrastructure grant funding in a given year.

Application deadline
First business day in May.

Special project requirements
Capital improvements require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures.

Type of approval required
DOT staff recommendation with Iowa Transportation Commission approval.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
45 days to staff recommendation, 90 days to Iowa Transportation Commission action.

Program’s annual funding level
State funding varies, depending on annual legislative action (FY2019 - $1.5 million)

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transit
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-233-7870
Fax: 515-233-7983
www.iowadot.gov/transit
Urbanized Area Formula Program (Section 5307)

Intent of program
This program was established to provide federal funding for support of transit activities in urbanized areas over 50,000 in population. Those activities may include capital, planning, job access and reverse commute projects, as well as operating expenses in certain circumstances.

Who is eligible for funding?
Urban transit systems from urbanized areas

Qualifications for funding
- Recipients must be designated by the Metropolitan Planning Organization and governor(s).
- Projects must be in an approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.
- Federal formula allocates funds directly to urbanized areas over 200,000 in population (may be used for preventive maintenance, capital, job access and reverse commute projects, planning and in some cases operating).
- Single allocation to states for urbanized areas of 50,000 to 199,999 in population (may be used for operating support, preventive maintenance, capital, job access and reverse commute projects or planning).
- 100 percent of statewide allocation distributed among urbanized areas by federal formula.

Non-federal matching funds required:
- 50 percent of operating deficit for operating support
- 20 percent of net project cost for preventive maintenance or capital for vehicles other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAAA)
- 15 percent of net project cost for vehicles that are compliant with ADA/CAAA

Type of submittal required
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

Application deadline
None

Special project requirements
Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
- civil rights projections;
- use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
- bus inspections;
- pre- and post-procurement audits;
- labor protection; and
- drug and alcohol testing.

Type of approval required
Funding allocations for areas under 200,000 in population require DOT staff recommendations with Iowa Transportation Commission approval. All grant applications must be approved by the Federal Transit Administration.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
- Allocations within two months of appropriation
- Grants within three months of official submission of application as long as funds are available

(continued on next page)
Program's annual funding level
FY 2019 funding appropriations for Urbanized Areas of 200,000 or more in population:
  • IL/IA: $4,372,337 (combined)
  • Des Moines: $6,500,000
  • IA/NE: $8,390,637 (combined)

FY 2019 funding appropriations for Urbanized Areas of 50,000-199,000 in population:
  • Iowa: $12,349,386
    o Ames $2,406,365
    o Cedar Rapids $2,810,429
    o Dubuque, IA/IL $1,255,632
    o Iowa City $2,856,872
    o Sioux City (IA/NE/SD) $1,311,655
    o Waterloo $1,708,433

More information/applications
Grant applications are sent to:
Federal Transit Administration, Region 7
901 Locust St., Suite 404
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: 816-329-3920
Fax: 816-329-3921
Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Program (Section 5309)
(Bus and bus facilities projects are no longer funded under this section).

Intent of program
Federal assistance for transit capital improvements including new and expanded rail, bus rapid transit, and ferry system projects that will expand the core capacity of existing fixed guideway corridors. The program also includes provision for streamlining aspects of the New Starts process.

Who is eligible for funding?
“Direct recipients” within the meaning of FTA’s Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program, plus States may apply directly to Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Qualifications for funding
• Projects must be in an approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.
• Capital projects must be included in an Asset Management Plan.

Non-federal matching funds required:
• 20 percent of net project cost other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAA)

Type of submittal required
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

Special project requirements
Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
• civil rights protections;
• use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
• bus inspections;
• pre- and post-procurement audits;
• drug and alcohol testing; and
• labor protection.

Program’s annual funding level
Competitive – currently no Iowa transit systems have projects that qualify for funding.

More information: Federal Transit Administration, Region 7
901 Locust St.
Suite 404
Kansas City, MO  64106
Phone: 816-329-3920; Fax: 816-329-3921.
Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310)

Intent of program
This program was established to provide federal funding for support of transit activities in rural areas and in urban areas, to serve the special needs of transit-dependent populations beyond traditional public transit services and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) complementary paratransit services.

Who is eligible for funding?
Urban and regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa. (Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as not-for-profit corporations.)

Qualifications for funding
- Only designated recipients and states may apply for funding.
- Funds are distributed among all eligible transit systems using a performance-based distribution formula based on prior year statistics (may be used for operating, preventive maintenance or capital). Projects must be in an approved Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) and the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).
- At least 55% of the program funds must be used on capital projects planned, designed and carried out to meet the special needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities when public transportation is insufficient, inappropriate or unavailable.

Non-federal matching funds required:
- 50 percent of net project cost for operating
- 20 percent of net project cost for cost of contract services
- 20 percent of net project cost for preventive maintenance or capital projects other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAA)
- 15 percent of net project cost for vehicles that are compliant with ADA/CAA

Type of submittal required
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

Application amount – minimum/maximum
Not applicable

Application deadline
May 1

Special project requirements
Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
- civil rights protections;
- use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
- bus inspections;
- pre- and post-procurement audits;
- drug and alcohol testing; and
- labor protection.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
75 days

(continued on next page)
Program’s annual funding level
FFY 2019 funding appropriations for Urbanized Areas of 200,000 or more in population:

- IL/IA: $261,497 (combined)
- Des Moines: $371,232
- IA/NE: $575,081 (combined)

For Urbanized Areas of 50,000-199,000 in population:
- Iowa: $897,785

Non-urbanized areas less than 50,000 in population
- Iowa: $1,065,102

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transit
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-233-7870
Fax: 515-233-7983
www.iowadot.gov/transit
Formula Grants for Rural Areas (Section 5311)

**Intent of program**
This program provides federal funding for support of transit activities in rural areas and in urban areas of less than 50,000 in population (operating, capital, planning, and job access and reverse commute assistance).

**Who is eligible for funding?**
Urban transit systems less than 50,000 in population and regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa are eligible to apply for funding. (Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as private, not-for-profit corporations.)

**Qualifications for funding**
- Only designated recipients and states may apply for funding.
- RPA planning and intercity bus assistance funding is off-the-top. Remaining funds are distributed among all eligible transit systems using a performance-based distribution formula based on prior year statistics (may be used for operating support, preventive maintenance, capital, job access and reverse commute projects or planning).
- Projects must be in an approved State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

**Non-federal matching funds required:**
- 50 percent of operating deficit for operating support
- 20 percent of net project cost for preventive maintenance or capital projects other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAA)
- 15 percent of net project cost for vehicles that are compliant with ADA/CAA (funding is allocated by formula)

**Type of submittal required**
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

**Application amount – minimum/maximum**
Not applicable

**Application deadline**
May 1

**Special project requirements**
Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
- civil rights protections;
- use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
- bus inspections;
- pre- and post-procurement audits;
- drug and alcohol testing; and
- labor protection.

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
75 days

**Program’s annual funding level**
FFY 2019 funding appropriation for the rural program was $14,332,893

(continued on next page)
More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transit
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-233-7870
Fax: 515-233-7983
www.iowadot.gov/transit
Intercity Bus Assistance (Section 5311(f))

Intent of program
This program provides funds for: existing intercity bus routes that tie Iowa to the rest of the country; new feeder routes which will give smaller communities access to existing intercity routes; marketing for new or existing routes; and providers’ efforts to upgrade equipment and facilities to become compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). States must expend at least 15 percent of Sec. 5311 funds each fiscal year to develop and support intercity bus transportation.

Who is eligible for funding?
Private intercity bus companies, public transit agencies and local communities are eligible. Joint private/public applications are encouraged.

Qualifications for funding
To preserve the existing intrastate system -
- 20 cents per revenue mile for preventive maintenance and insurance costs
- allocated based on existing miles of Iowa intercity service
- quarterly report of the number of Iowa passengers by origins, destinations, locations of ticket sales, miles of revenue service, and total cost per revenue mile
- must connect to the Iowa intercity bus system that is connected to the nationwide intercity bus network
- new intercity bus service must be ADA accessible

Development of new connector/feeder service -
- up to 50 cents per mile primarily for preventive maintenance and insurance costs
- new routes that duplicate existing routes: 20 cents per mile
- eligible for funding for two years
- quarterly report of the number of Iowa passengers by origin, destination, location of ticket sales, miles of revenue service, and total cost per revenue mile
- must connect to the Iowa intercity bus system which is connected to the nationwide intercity bus network
- new intercity bus service must be ADA accessible

Marketing of new or existing routes:
- 80 percent federal and 20 percent non-federal
- for projects developed jointly by cities and carriers
- limited to external, non-labor costs only

Vehicle and bus terminal improvements:
- 80 percent federal and 20 percent of net project cost for vehicles other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAAAA)
- 85 percent federal and 15 percent of net project cost for vehicles that are compliant with ADA/CAAAA
- require commitments to continue service for a period of years
- improvements must meet ADA standards

Type of submittal required
Proposals must include a detailed description of the applicant’s project, including break-out of costs with rationale for inclusion of each cost. For projects other than existing service, the project’s justification, based on the needs and benefits to Iowa citizens, must be included.

(continued on next page)
Application amount – minimum/maximum

- maximum for each marketing of new programs: $12,000 federal funds
- maximum for each marketing of existing service: $7,500 federal funds

Application deadline
Prior to October 1 of each year

Special project requirements
Providers of intercity bus service must hold proper interstate operating authority. Recipients must also comply with the following requirements for receiving federal funds:
- FTA drug and alcohol testing;
- FTA transit procurement standards (for project-related procurement);
- independent audit requirements;
- equal employment opportunity and disadvantaged business enterprise regulations;
- labor protection certification;
- environmental protection regulations;
- federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates (for construction projects); and
- Buy America certificates for rolling stock and other capital projects

Type of approval required
Project proposals will be reviewed by DOT staff and submitted to the Iowa Transportation Commission for approval.

Average length of time for acceptance decision
45 days to staff recommendation, 90 days to Iowa Transportation Commission action

Program’s annual funding level
For FY 2019, $1.5 million was available.

More information/applications
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transit
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
Phone: 515-239-1530
Fax: 515-233-7983
www.iowadot.gov/transit
Bus and Bus Facilities (Section 5339)

Intent of program
Federal assistance to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities

Who is eligible for funding?
Urban and regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa are eligible to apply for funding. (Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as private, not-for-profit corporations.)

Qualifications for funding
- Projects must be in an approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.
- Projects must be included in an Asset Management Plan.

Non-federal matching funds required:
- 20 percent of net project cost other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAAA)
  (15 percent of net project cost for vehicles that are compliant with ADA/CAAA (funding is allocated by formula))

Type of submittal required
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

Special project requirements
Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
- civil rights protections;
- use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
- bus inspections;
- pre- and post-procurement audits;
- drug and alcohol testing; and
- labor protection.

Program’s annual funding level
FFY 2018 funding appropriations:
- IL/IA: $580,929 (combined)
- Des Moines: $883,393
- IA/NE: $1,096,504 (combined)
- Urbanized areas of 50,000-199,000 in population: $1,274,165
- Non-urban areas < 50,000 in population and rural areas: $3,500,000

More information: Federal Transit Administration, Region 7
901 Locust St.
Suite 404
Kansas City, MO 64106
Phone: 816-329-3920; Fax: 816-329-3921
Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (CMAQ)

**Intent of program**
This program funds vehicle replacement projects.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Urban and regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa are eligible to apply for funding. (Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as private, not-for-profit corporations.)

**Qualifications for funding**
- Projects must be in an approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.
- Projects must be included in an Asset Management Plan.

**Non-federal matching funds required:**
- 20 percent of net project cost other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAAA)
  (15 percent of net project cost for vehicles that are compliant with ADA/CAAA)

**Type of submittal required**
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

**Application deadline**
May 1

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
Four months

**Program’s annual funding level**
Approximately $3.0 million

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transit
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-233-7870
www.iowadot.gov/transit
State of Good Repair (Section 5337)

Intent of program
Federal assistance dedicated to repairing and upgrading rail transit systems along with high-intensity bus systems that use high-occupancy vehicle lanes, including bus rapid transit (BRT). (Replaced the Fixed Guideway Modernization Formula program).

Who is eligible for funding?
“Direct recipients” within the meaning of FTA’s Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program, plus States may apply directly to Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Must have operated fixed guideway public transportation facilities for at least seven years.

Qualifications for funding
- Projects must be in an approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.
- Projects must be included in a Transit Asset Management Plan.
- Projects are limited to replacement and rehabilitation or capital projects required to maintain public transportation systems in a state of good repair.

Non-federal matching funds required
- Twenty percent of net project cost for projects other than those that are compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and the Clean Air Act Amendment (CAAA).

Type of submittal required
Submittal requirements are listed in the table following this section which outlines the federal and state requirements.

Special project requirements
Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
- civil rights protections;
- use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
- bus inspections;
- pre- and post-procurement audits;
- drug and alcohol testing; and
- labor protection.

Program’s annual funding level
Competitive – currently no Iowa transit systems qualify for funding.
Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program (ICAAP)

**Intent of program**
This program funds highway/street, transit, bicycle/pedestrian, or freight projects or programs that help maintain Iowa’s clean air quality by reducing transportation-related emissions. Eligible highway/street projects must be on the federal-aid system, which includes all federal functional class routes except local and rural minor collectors.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Applications for ICAAP funding may be submitted by public entities such as cities, counties, public transit agencies, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), regional planning affiliations (RPAs) and state and federal agencies. Private non-profit organizations, individuals, and private for-profit entities may also apply with the co-sponsor of a public entity. For the purposes of this program, the public entity will assume fiscal responsibility for the project.

**Qualifications for funding**
- A local match of at least 20 percent is required.
- Eligible projects will fall into one of the following categories:
  - those which reduce emissions via traffic flow improvements and provide a direct benefit to air quality by addressing ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter PM-2.5 or PM-10 (all of these pollutant emissions must be addressed, and a reduction calculation must be provided by the applicant for all types of projects listed);
  - those which reduce vehicle miles of travel;
  - those which reduce single-occupant vehicle trips; or
  - other transportation improvement projects to improve air quality or reduce congestion.

Net operating costs of new transit services are eligible for up to three years (at 80 percent federal/20 percent local participation); however, an application must be submitted for each year funding is requested.

**Type of submittal required**
Application forms must be submitted with emission reduction calculations and supporting documentation of congestion reduction and/or travel reduction assumptions. Applications are available from the DOT at [www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm](http://www.iowadot.gov/forms/index.htm) or at [https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap)

**Requested amount – minimum/maximum**
Minimum $20,000 total project cost

**Application deadline**
October 1, statewide competitive application

**Special project requirements**

**Highway projects**
- Projects must be let by the DOT.
- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) environmental concurrence is required.
- Right-of-way activities must comply with applicable federal and state laws.
- Plans and specifications must be prepared by an Iowa licensed professional engineer.
- If federal-aid dollars are used for a consulting engineer, the Federal-Aid Consultant Selection Process must be used.
- DOT design criteria should be used for the appropriate road classification.
- Approval by the DOT of plans and specifications is required.
- Compliance with regulations regarding the following is required:
  - federal equal employment opportunity;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - Occupational Safety and Health Administration provisions; and
  - federal (Davis-Bacon) wage rates.

(continued on next page)
For those projects on federal-aid routes, refer to FHWA form 1273, “Required Contract Provisions, Federal-Aid Construction Contracts,” for more information. Materials testing, construction inspection and final project acceptance must be done according to DOT procedures.

**Transit projects**
- Capital improvements require adherence to approved transit procurement procedures and equipment specifications.
- Project candidates must be part of an approved five-year Capital Improvement Program.
- Federally funded projects must comply with requirements regarding:
  - civil rights protections;
  - use of disadvantaged business enterprises;
  - competitive procurement;
  - bus testing;
  - pre- and post-procurement audits; and
  - drug and alcohol testing.

**Type of approval required**
- Project Evaluation Committee/DOT staff recommendation, with Iowa Transportation Commission approval
- Inclusion of selected projects in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) (also, RPAs and MPOs must include selected projects in their respective Transportation Improvement Programs)
- FHWA and FTA final approval of the STIP
- Authorization by FHWA of projects prior to proceeding with work or with advertisement of the project for receipt of bids

Transit projects must be approved by FTA as part of either a direct or a statewide grant.

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
Four months

**Program’s annual funding level**
Approximately $4.0 million

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Systems Planning
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1713
[https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap](https://iowadot.gov/iowarail/Financial-Assistance/icaap)
Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program - transit

**Intent of program**
This Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) program provides flexible funding that may be used for transit projects.

**Who is eligible to request funding?**
Urban and regional transit systems as designated by local officials under Chapter 324A of the Code of Iowa. Transit systems may be organized as public bodies or as not-for-profit corporations.

**Qualifications for funding**
Approval by Regional Planning Affiliation or Metropolitan Planning Organization (RPA/MPO)

**Requested amount – minimum/maximum**
Varies by RPA/MPO

**Application deadline**
Varies by RPA/MPO

**Special project requirements**
- Projects must be in approved Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
- Transfer of funding from Federal Highway Administration to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) must be requested from the RPA/MPO.
- Funding takes on the characteristics of the federal transit program to which it is transferred.

**Type of approval required**
- inclusion of projects in RPA/MPO Transportation Improvement Program
- FHWA and FTA final approval of the STIP

**Average length of time for acceptance decision**
Varies by RPA/MPO

**More information/applications**
Iowa Department of Transportation
Bureau of Program Management
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010
515-239-1288
## Submittal Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>State Funds</th>
<th>State-Administered Federal Funds</th>
<th>Federal Funds*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion in the RPA/MPO TIP (and resulting STIP)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consolidated transit funding application form</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution from applicant’s policy board</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification of compliance with federal transit requirements</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documentation of a public hearing</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listing of other surface transportation providers in the service area</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signed agreement to abide by federally established labor protection provisions</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes, unless employees are non-union</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Most assistance for areas over 50,000 in population is administered directly by the federal government*
Transit Programs
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>AAR</td>
<td>Association of American Railroads (members: largest rail companies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AASHTO</td>
<td>American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (national transportation organization)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADA</td>
<td>Americans with Disabilities Act (federal law)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADT</td>
<td>Average daily traffic (number of vehicles per day)</td>
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<td>AFSCME</td>
<td>American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (one union that represents eligible public employees)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Attorney General</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGC</td>
<td>Associated General Contractors (members: road and bridge builders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AIP</td>
<td>Airport Improvement Program (state and federal programs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALAS</td>
<td>Accident Location and Analysis System (computerized information available to engineering and law enforcement agencies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APWA</td>
<td>American Public Works Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATV</td>
<td>All-terrain vehicle (vehicle designed for off-road use)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AWOS</td>
<td>Automated Weather Observation System (statewide information for pilots)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAAA</td>
<td>Clean Air Act Amendment (federal law)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CADD</td>
<td>Computer-Aided Drafting and Design (computerized design of roads, bridge, structures, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDL</td>
<td>Commercial Driver’s License (special license for commercial motor vehicle operators)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFR</td>
<td>Code of Federal Regulations (federal equivalent to Iowa Administrative Law)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CIN</td>
<td>Commercial &amp; Industrial Highway Network (key state roads, not interstate)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJPC</td>
<td>Contractors Joint Policy Committee (members: road construction associations)</td>
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<td>CMAQ</td>
<td>Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>COG</td>
<td>Council of Governments (affiliation of local governments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-STEP</td>
<td>County-State Traffic Engineering Program (safety improvements funded 45 percent by the county and 55 percent by the state on the rural portion of the primary road system)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DBE</td>
<td>Disadvantaged business enterprise (minority/women-owned companies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNR</td>
<td>Iowa Department of Natural Resources</td>
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<td>DOE</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Energy</td>
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<td>DOT</td>
<td>Iowa Department of Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Form</td>
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<td>DPS</td>
<td>Iowa Department of Public Safety</td>
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<td>DRF</td>
<td>Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance</td>
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<td>EA</td>
<td>Environmental assessment (federally required evaluation)</td>
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<td>EIS</td>
<td>Environmental impact statement (federally required evaluation)</td>
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<td>EPA</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency (federal agency)</td>
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<td>FAA</td>
<td>Federal Aviation Administration</td>
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<td>FAST Act</td>
<td>Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (federal surface transportation law signed 12/4/2015)</td>
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<td>FBO</td>
<td>Fixed base operator (manager of an airport's operations)</td>
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<td>FEMA</td>
<td>Federal Emergency Management Agency</td>
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<td>FHWA</td>
<td>Federal Highway Administration (part of U.S. DOT)</td>
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<td>F-M</td>
<td>Farm-to-market (network of rural secondary roads)</td>
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<td>FMCSA</td>
<td>Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (part of U.S. DOT)</td>
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<td>FONSI</td>
<td>Finding of no significant impact (possible response to an environmental assessment)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRA</td>
<td>Federal Railroad Association (part of U.S. DOT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTA</td>
<td>Federal Transit Administration (part of U.S. DOT)</td>
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<td>GA</td>
<td>General Assembly (state legislature)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GAO</td>
<td>General Accountability Office (conducts analysis of federal programs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS</td>
<td>Geographic Information System (computerized mapping and planning tool)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPS</td>
<td>Global Positioning System (location identification tool using satellites)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GVWR</td>
<td>Gross vehicle weight rating (manufacturer's design weight rating for commercial vehicles)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOV</td>
<td>High-occupancy vehicle (autos occupied by more than the driver)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICEA</td>
<td>Iowa County Engineers Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IEDA</td>
<td>Iowa Economic Development Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFTA</td>
<td>International Fuel Tax Agreement (cooperative fuel tax collection system)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IGRA</td>
<td>Iowa Good Roads Association (industry group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ILEA</td>
<td>Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (peace officer training center)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMTA</td>
<td>Iowa Motor Truck Association (industry group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPTA</td>
<td>Iowa Public Transit Association (industry group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRFA</td>
<td>Iowa Railway Finance Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRP</td>
<td>International Registration Plan (cooperative vehicle registration system for motor carriers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISAC</td>
<td>Iowa State Association of Counties (county officials’ group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITS</td>
<td>Intelligent transportation system (using technology to improve the efficiency of highway operations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCV</td>
<td>Longer combination vehicles (commercial motor vehicles with two or more trailers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP-21</td>
<td>Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (federal surface transportation law signed 7/7/2012)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAGLEV</td>
<td>Magnetic levitation (national high-speed ground transportation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCSAP</td>
<td>Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (federal program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPO</td>
<td>Metropolitan Planning Organization (transportation planning agency for urban areas of more than 50,000 in population)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUTCD</td>
<td>Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCHRP</td>
<td>National Cooperative Highway Research Program (part of TRB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGA</td>
<td>National Governors Association (organization for all 50 governors)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHS</td>
<td>National Highway System (network identified by Congress; Iowa’s system includes CIN and interstate) and also a federal-aid highway program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NHTSA</td>
<td>National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (part of U.S. DOT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTSB</td>
<td>National Transportation Safety Board (federal agency)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSHA</td>
<td>Occupational Safety and Health Administration (federal agency)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OWI</td>
<td>Operating while intoxicated (driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRF</td>
<td>Primary Road Fund (DOT share of state RUTF plus federal and miscellaneous funds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSA</td>
<td>Public service announcement (free television/radio messages)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAC</td>
<td>Rail Advisory Committee (state industry group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFP</td>
<td>Request for proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISE</td>
<td>Revitalize Iowa’s Sound Economy (city and county program using dedicated fuel tax to finance road projects intended to support economic development)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROW</td>
<td>Right-of-way (property owned by highway authorities for highway purposes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RPA</td>
<td>Regional planning affiliation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTP</td>
<td>Regional transportation plan (part of planning process)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUTF</td>
<td>Road Use Tax Fund (state revenue from fuel and other taxes earmarked for roads)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFETEA-LU</td>
<td>Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (2005 reauthorization legislation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHPO</td>
<td>State Historic Preservation Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SME</td>
<td>Special mobile equipment (off-highway equipment incidentally operated on highways)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STA</td>
<td>State transit assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STB</td>
<td>Surface Transportation Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STIP</td>
<td>Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (list of highway and transit project scheduled for implementation over the next three years using federal funds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STBG</td>
<td>Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (federal program established as part of ISTEA and continued in successive reauthorizations). The FAST Act added the words “Block Grant” to the name - no changes to administration of the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEAP</td>
<td>Traffic Engineering Assistance Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIP</td>
<td>Transportation Improvement Program (RPA/MPO/DOT listing of highway and transit projects showing project schedule, cost and funding source)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TJ</td>
<td>Transfer of jurisdiction (of highway authority)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TMA</td>
<td>Transportation management area (urban area with more than 200,000 population)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TODS</td>
<td>Tourist-oriented directional sign (special signing program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRB</td>
<td>Transportation Research Board (national group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC</td>
<td>United States Code (federal laws)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UST</td>
<td>Underground storage tank for fuel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U-STEP</td>
<td>Urban-State Traffic Engineering Program (safety improvements funded 45 percent by a municipality and 55 percent by the state on municipal extensions of the primary road system)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIN</td>
<td>Vehicle identification number (unique serial number for vehicles, assigned by the manufacturer)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VMT</td>
<td>Vehicle miles of travel (number of miles traveled over a given highway)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>