



Regionally Coordinated Transportation Planning Application for Funding, FY 2013

Questions and Answers

Question Number	Applicable Section of Application Packet	Question	Answer
1.	General Information & Instructions I. C. Template Form D, 1.1	Can you give a description of what is considered to be <i>planning</i> activities?	A planning activity may include preparing, conducting, and analyzing a study or survey; preparing and conducting meetings for planning purposes; preparing a planning report; conducting stakeholder-engagement activities and/or developing materials as part of a planning process; and other activities
2.	General Information & Instructions I. C. Template Form D, 1.1	Our stakeholders want to continue regular planning meetings. Can we request these planning funds to continue holding these regularly scheduled meetings (usually held as part of a quarterly cycle)?	Yes
3.	General Information & Instructions I. C. Template Form D, 1.1	Can planning activities include implementation of projects listed in the Regional Coordination Plan?	No. Regional planning funds cannot be used to implement a project.
4.	General Information & Instructions I. C. Template Form D, 1.1	Can planning activities include a “pilot” or “demonstration” project to address a need or activity identified in the Regional Coordination?	Yes, planning funds may be used to reimburse for certain approved pilot or demonstration projects. The pilot projects must concern the regional coordination of transportation services and must be specifically structured as a pilot project. A pilot project by definition must be evaluated (including pre- and post-assessment of conditions impacted by the proposed project) to determine whether the project was a success and if and how it might be replicated elsewhere or on a larger scale. Pilot projects may provide funding for limited operational expenses to test the viability of carrying out an activity on a larger scale
5.	General Information & Instructions Introduction I. C. 5. I. C. 6. III. C.	Will these grant applications be truly competitive (meaning will they be ranked among each other and then funded accordingly), or will applications merely be “approved” or “denied”?	These funding applications are competitive and will be scored and ranked.

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6.	General Information & Instructions I. C. 5.	May our agency still apply for JARC or New Freedom grants if we opt to not apply for regional planning funds in FY 2013?	Yes. Your agency may apply for JARC or New Freedom funds regardless of whether you have a regional planning grant in FY 2013 (however, the JARC or New Freedom proposal must be aligned with your region's current regionally coordinated transportation plan).
7.	General Information & Instructions I. C. 5.	If an agency does not apply for funds this year, will it be eligible to apply in a future year?	Yes. There is no penalty for not applying for Section 5304 funds in FY 2013. All lead agencies will be eligible to apply for FY 2014 funds when they become available.
8.	General Information & Instructions III. D. Template Forms L & M	Should we budget to attend a statewide conference in 2013 (similar to the upcoming April 2012 conference)?	Prepare a budget designating funds for lead agency staff (who are involved with this grant) to attend a one-day, TxDOT-sponsored meeting in a Texas city to be determined. The number of lead agency staff budgeted to attend is up to each lead agency. Budget for one night's lodging per person.
9.	Template Form G, 4.4	If we serve older adults or people with low incomes through a JARC or New Freedom grant, can we count that as serving older adults or people with low incomes for <i>this</i> grant request?	Your application for <i>this</i> grant should reflect how your proposal to use <i>this</i> grant will improve transportation services for older adults and / or people with low incomes.
10.	Miscellaneous	If we have multiple projects, should we combine them into one application or submit two applications?	Submit one funding application. This single application may propose one or more projects.

March 20, 2013