

## FY2027 TxDOT Traffic Safety BTS RFP - Frequently Asked Questions - General

### Terminology:

**Organization** - when using the term “organization” in this document it includes, but is not limited to, an organization, an agency and/or any other entity eligible for General Traffic Safety Grants.

**Grants** - the term “grant” in this document refers to General Traffic Safety Grants.

**Subgrantee(s)** - the term “subgrantee(s)” in this document refers to recipients of General Traffic Safety Grants.

| Q# | Question  | Answer   |
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| 1) | Is the proposal training going to be posted online?   | There is no live proposal training, but there is a training video posted on the eGrants RFP page:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a>   |
| 2) | Where can we find the General Score Sheet on eGrants?   | The General Score Sheet is posted on the RFP page:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a>  |
| 3) | Which proposal should be used to submit a law enforcement project or STEP?  | Additional information on the STEP proposals and any updates on the STEP RFP is located at the eGrants RFP page,<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a>  |
| 4) | <p>The RFP does not have the usual table breaking down the funding amounts and funding sources allocated to different program areas.</p> <p>Is there an available funding page so we know how much money will be available to apply for in each section?</p>  | <p>Award limits, minimum and/or maximum amounts are at the sole discretion of the Texas Department of Transportation.</p> <p>Please focus on building a proposal that is the right size for the problem you are addressing. Also, remember to build your budget using the S.M.A.R.T principles that are detailed in the RFP.</p> <p><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a></p>  |
| 5) | Is there a limit to the number of General grants a subgrantee can be awarded at a time?   | No, there is no limit on the number of General proposals an organization can submit or be awarded.   |
| 6) | <p>Are construction elements such as traffic lights/signals, traffic signs, and bicycle lanes eligible activities under a designated objective?</p> <p>Can funding be used for signage, technology, fencing, crosswalk painting, pavement markings, etc.?</p> <p>Is this program specifically for educational programming?</p> <p>Can funding be used to purchase cameras or radar systems?</p> | <p>No, these infrastructure activities are not eligible for funding under this RFP.</p> <p>No, funding is not provided for signage, technology, fencing, crosswalk painting, pavement markings, etc. Please contact the Local TxDOT district traffic engineer to discuss these types of funding opportunities.</p> <p>The Traffic Safety Program focuses on Enforcement and Education (which includes training).</p> <p>Yes, funding can be used to purchase cameras or radar systems provided it is part of a proposed traffic safety project; However, the purchase of the cameras or radar systems cannot itself be the proposed project.</p> |

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| 7)  | I am currently a subgrantee. I intend to significantly expand my grant to include new activities. The scope will be broader.<br><br>Do I need to indicate this in the proposal?  | Yes, you need to submit a complete and informative proposal.   |
| 8)  | Can I apply for a research project?  | No. Our funds are not eligible for research.   |
| 9)  | Are Transportation Authorities or a State Legislative Authorities eligible for funding, or must they partner with a city?  | Organizations eligible for General Traffic Safety Grants include state and local governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations.<br><br>If an organization does not meet the criteria to apply, they could possibly be approved as a subcontractor under an eligible organization.   |
| 10) | Can two organizations or multiple organizations submit a proposal together as a collaborative application?<br><br>Would TxDOT sign two separate grants?  | No, proposals in eGrants must be submitted by only one organization. An Organization may not submit one proposal under two or more organizations.<br><br>No. An organization may have sub-contractors or subcontracts under their proposal, but TxDOT will only sign the main grant with the proposing organization.<br><br>If multiple organizations want to collaborate on a single project, one organization must become the subgrantee, and then the subgrantee can subcontract work to the other organization.<br><br>TxDOT must approve all subcontracts.  |
| 11) | Regarding Contractual Services, when do we request permission to subcontract, Prior to submitting the application or if or when the grant awarded?<br><br>Do we include a copy of the proposed contractual agreement as part of an attachment during the application submission?<br><br>Does this get entered in Category (600) Contractual Services or Category (100) Salaries?<br><br>The subcontract will be in excess of \$25,000 and I know that requires written approval from TxDOT before it can be executed. Is that approval needed for the application itself, or just something that would be needed once we find out if our grant application is awarded? | Yes, a draft of the subcontract must be provided with the proposal.<br><br>All subcontract budgets must be included in the proposal budget, under Contractual Services in Category (600).<br><br>The approval of the subcontract is not required for the proposal submission, but the subcontract will need to be approved after the execution of the grant.<br><br>eGrantsHelp has a Subcontract template which includes all the requirements for approved subcontractors.<br><br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html</a> |

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| 12) | Can I work with other researchers (as Co-PIs) from other states (e.g., Universities, Colleges) on the grants? | No, our funds are not eligible for research. |
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| Q#  | Question  | Answer  |
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| 13) | Is it ok if one proposal covers more than one of the program areas?<br><br>Example: (bikes and driver education) or (distracted driving and pedestrians).   | It is essential for proposals to align with the chosen goals and strategies. When multiple goals and strategies are identified, it can become unclear as to what the project is trying to achieve. Please refrain from selecting multiple goals and strategies and ensure that only those that the proposal intends to achieve are chosen.  |
| 14) | I am interested in examining the effects of THC on impaired driving/fatality on the highways in the State of Texas. I wonder whether TX FARS data or other crash data includes drug test results such as specified THC results (delta-9 THC versus carboxy-THC) and other drug test results?  | Yes, TxDOT's Crash Records Information System (CRIS) database does include drug test results.   |
| 15) | Please address the special needs population, specifically drivers with autism. We believe we align and qualify under Table Driver Education and Behavior.<br><br>Our organization provides training to law enforcement on the characteristics of autism and engagement strategies.  | We encourage you to submit your proposal by selecting the appropriate goals and strategies.<br><br>It will be processed in accordance with our RFP and if approved for funding during negotiations, the PM will discuss any modifications needed.<br><br>Please refer to the eGrants RFP<br><br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a>                   |
| 16) | The Problem Identification states that "Sufficient data must be provided to prove that the problem is significant and should be addressed (Supporting data must include CRIS data and/or FARS data...." The FARS and CRIS systems do not provide statistics regarding drivers with a disability such as autism. How should I proceed? | All proposals considered for funding must have sourced data to show overrepresentation of the problem identified.<br><br>If there is none available, the project will not be able to be funded under the Traffic Safety Program.  |
| 17) | In the project list there are a number of 'No Refusal' programs. We were told that we could not use funds for a No Refusal program.<br><br>Would you please clarify how the three organizations that received funds for a No Refusal program were able to do so?  | A No Refusal Program can be funded as a stand-alone program. It cannot include enforcement, as that would fall under a STEP grant.<br><br>For more information on types of No Refusal projects please refer to Texas Traffic Safety Triennial Highway Safety Plan (FY 2024-2026)<br><br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/Reports/FY24_3HSP.pdf">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/Reports/FY24_3HSP.pdf</a> |

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| 18) | Do all project deliverables need to be completed within the 12 months, or is there room to extend longer?   | Yes, all project activities and deliverables must be completed within the grant year.  |
| 19) | Alcohol and other Drug Countermeasure Training is not a strategy to select in the current RFP.<br><br>Can you please advise on how to include this countermeasure in an application to be considered? | “Alcohol and other Drug Countermeasure Training” is not a strategy in the list, nor is it included in the 3HSP. There are several strategies under the Alcohol and Other Drug Countermeasures Program Area that refer to training, but none of them is specifically for Alcohol and other Drug Countermeasure Training.<br><br>You must choose one or more strategies provided in the RFP for your proposal. |
| 20) | Does the objective's end date need to match the last activity's end date?   | Yes, the objective's end date needs to be the same as the last activity's end date.  |
| 21) | It was mentioned that organizations need to have documented operating policies and procedures.<br><br>Are there examples of this that you can point us to?  | No, there are no examples to share but we do have documents posted on eGrants Help that may assist in creating policies and procedures compliant with 2 CFR Part 200.  |
| 22) | Can activities planned in the Proposal include a virtual option?  | If this is an option for your agency, you may include it in your proposal.   |
| 23) | If you are making budget adjustments, can they be made on the Budget Summary page, or do they need to be made on each individual budget page, and then saved to the Budget Summary page?              | All adjustments need to be made on each individual budget page and saved. Then go to the Budget Summary page and re-save the Budget Summary page.  |
| 24) | Would educational items for the public be listed under “equipment?” Or would they be listed under “supplies?” Would categorization depend on the unit cost?   | Educational items are to be listed under budget category 700 - Other Miscellaneous.  |
| 25) | Can shirts for volunteers to identify them as part of the project at events be purchased as PI&E?   | No, shirts cannot be purchased as uniforms for volunteers or staff.  |
| 26) | Can funds from this grant be used to pay for portions of staff salaries?  | Yes, portions of staff salaries can be paid with this funding.   |
| 27) | I created an Objective page and a Budget Category page and need to delete; how can I do this?   | You can delete most pages during the proposal process. Click the “Delete” button at the top of the page.<br><br>Note: If you do not have any items for a particular Budget Category, you should leave that category blank. Do not enter zeros or save the budget category page.  |
| 28) | Are subgrantees subject to GSA travel guidelines for hotel costs?   | Yes, TxDOT reimbursement follows the hotel and per diem rates established by GSA.  |

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| 29) | Is tuition an allowable expense under the Traffic Safety Program?  | No, tuition is not an allowable expense.   |
| 30) | Are Delivery and Service fees for meals considered allowable expenditures?   | No. Although delivery and service fees are becoming more common, they would be considered along the same lines as tips and gratuities and are unallowable.   |
| 31) | Can grant funds be used for social media buys to increase views of grant-funded projects? For instance, grant funds paid to Facebook to promote the availability of a training program supported by grant funds.   | No, this RFP is neither for media vendors nor for any paid media-related projects or activities.   |
| 32) | Can more than one person attend a conference?<br><br>Is it only one conference per year (i.e., Lifesavers vs. Statewide Traffic Safety Conference)?  | Yes. A proposal may budget for more than one person to attend a conference. Conference attendance should clearly benefit the project, and the number of people attending should be reasonable and appropriate.<br><br>Proposers are not limited to one conference; however, proposal scoring teams will evaluate travel budgets, and TRF-BTS may request that modifications be made to the number of conferences or the number of project staff attending.   |
| 33) | Has the Traffic Safety Conference location been set for the current RFP year?  | No.  |
| 34) | Should we submit the travel budget in eGrants for each trip?<br><br>For example:<br><br>Statewide Traffic Safety Conference - Total Travel Costs \$2,000<br><br>Life Savers Conference - Out of State Travel Costs \$4,000   | Yes. Potential subgrantees must identify the number of trips planned, the destination for each trip, the number of travelers, and the estimated cost of each trip.<br><br>All travel-related expenses must be reasonable, necessary, and directly related to the grant project.<br><br>For out-of-state travel expenses to be reimbursable, if the grant is awarded, the subgrantee must have obtained the written approval of TxDOT, through the eGrants system, prior to the beginning of the trip. Grant approval does not satisfy this requirement.  |
| 35) | Is there a maximum cost per unit when purchasing child safety seats?<br><br>Does this max include storage, shipping, and distribution method(s)?<br><br>Do all seats need to be budgeted using the \$90 flat rate or can we use lower rates i.e. \$30 for booster seats? | Budgets must be reasonable. There is a range of cost per seat depending on the type of seat purchased. The RFP includes an average estimate to be used for budgeting purposes of <b>\$95</b> per seat. If you will be purchasing seats at a lower cost, you may use that estimated cost.<br><br>Proposals should budget separately for shipping, distribution, and climate-controlled storage:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a><br><br>If your organization plans to only purchase boosters, a lower price could be used for budgeting based on your estimated procurement cost. |

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| 36) | Will proposals be scored negatively if climate-controlled storage is not used, The RFP states it is “strongly encouraged”?  | No. proposals will not be scored negatively if climate-controlled storage is not used; however, we strongly encourage your organization to take the necessary steps to protect the seats from hot and cold temperature conditions.  |
| 37) | Will materials purchased with grant funds be required to meet Buy America standards?<br><br>What does Buy America mean?   | Yes. Materials purchased with grant funds are required to meet Buy America standards.<br><br>The Buy America Act, 23 U.S.C. § 313, prohibits states from using highway grant funds under 23 U.S.C. Chapter 4 to purchase products unless they are purchased in the United States. This prohibition applies to steel, iron, and all manufactured products, unless the Secretary of Transportation has determined that it is appropriate to waive the Buy America Act requirement. For compliance purposes, “American-made” covers any product that is manufactured or assembled in the United States.<br><br>Please refer to the Buy America documentation located on eGrantsHelp under the Manual and Report section titled “NHTSA - Highway Safety Grants Management Resources” and “NHTSA Buy America Act Guidance”:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html</a> |
| 38) | What are the volunteer rates we can use for the proposal?<br><br><br>Can you clarify “TxDOT Grant Staff” as it relates to eligible match. Is this any TxDOT employee or only Behavioral Traffic Safety Employees?<br><br>Is a Law Enforcement Officer teaching or assisting “off duty” considered as volunteer? | The approved Volunteer Match Rates for Texas per hour to be used in traffic safety proposals is listed in the current RFP<br><br>Volunteers include those assisting traffic safety programs for bike, occupant protection, safe communities, alcohol and other drugs, CPS technicians and instructors and other general traffic safety activities.<br><br>TxDOT Grant Staff would be any TxDOT employee while on duty and would not be eligible match if they were working during their normal duty hours. If they were volunteering after hours, then it can be counted as Match.<br><br>Yes, they are considered “other volunteers”. If performing the work in the capacity of their occupation, you can use their actual pay rate, the National Wage Data by Occupation Rate-Bureau of Labor Statistics or can use the “volunteer rate” from the Independence sector website.  |
| 39) | What type of facility match is allowable?<br><br><br>What about schools?  | In order to be utilized for cost-sharing, the locations must not be government-owned/operated facilities. No other written documentation is required. The room rental is valued at \$62.50 per hour not to exceed \$500 per day and audio/visual rental is valued at \$62.50 per hour not to exceed \$500 per day. No other rates are authorized.<br><br>Since a school is a government-owned building, they are not eligible for reimbursement or match.   |

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| 40) | Does TxDOT have Match guidelines?  | Yes. Please refer to the most current Match Guidelines document located on the eGrants Help page:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html</a>   |
| 41) | What is the minimum amount of match required for proposal submission?  | All proposals must include a minimum of 20% local cost share (match).  |
| 42) | Do I have to list existing employees on match?<br><br>Do all employees working on the project need to be listed with title and salary/fringe?  | Yes, all employee positions working the grant need to be included for reimbursement or to be used as match.<br><br>Yes, all employee positions working on the project need to be listed with title and salary/fringe as well as a brief description of the position's responsibilities.  |
| 43) | If we already have an established approved indirect cost rate that is less than 15%, do we still have to provide supporting documentation?<br><br>If we have never had an approved indirect cost rate and choose the 15% indirect cost rate, do we have to provide any supporting documentation? | Yes, if your agency has a current indirect cost rate that is approved annually by your cognizant agency, then you must use this rate and attach the supporting documentation to the proposal. The rate must be auditable.<br><br>If an agency has never had a federally approved indirect cost rate, no supporting documentation is required to claim the flat de minimus rate of up to 15% indirect cost. The up to 15% has to be calculated only on the TxDOT portion of your direct costs. The Match portion of your direct costs must be put as exemption when using the de minimus. |
| 44) | Can we choose to just use a portion of our approved indirect cost rate (i.e. 20% of a 30% rate) in our proposal and use the difference (i.e. the remaining 10%) as match?  | Yes, the difference can be claimed as match in the proposal.   |
| 45) | Can data be presented in charts/graphics and uploaded as an attachment?<br><br>Will this data be considered in the scoring?  | Yes, this can be added as an attachment and will be scored if it is charts and graphs only. Uploaded narratives will not be scored.<br><br>Please refer to RFP for full explanation:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a>  |
| Q#  | Question   | Answer   |
| 46) | If we are interested in developing pre-and post-surveys for our educational efforts, would these surveys require prior TxDOT approval?<br><br>If so, would we wait until the project period to route those surveys for approval by TxDOT?  | These actions should be included in the grant objectives. The objective's activities should clearly provide sufficient explanation to support the project objective.<br><br>The surveys would need to be approved by TxDOT.<br><br>The survey would need to be submitted for approval after grant execution. Survey costs cannot be incurred prior to grant execution.   |

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| 47)       | <p>We use the Occupant Protection (OP) Survey results as a resource for our Problem ID.</p> <p>Is there a link where we can find the OP Survey results?</p>   | <p>The Texas Transportation Institute's Safety Center website provides the latest OP Survey results at:</p> <p><a href="https://cts.tti.tamu.edu/project/2024-occupant-protection-survey-results/">https://cts.tti.tamu.edu/project/2024-occupant-protection-survey-results/</a></p>  |
| 48)       | <p>What is the step regarding organization compliance with Texas Administrative Code Title 43.</p> <p>Was there an online link associated with that?</p>  | <p>Organizations must demonstrate compliance with <a href="#">Title 43 Texas Administrative Code §25.906(b)</a> by certifying adoption of an internal ethics and compliance program that satisfies the requirements of <a href="#">Title 43 Texas Administrative Code §10.51</a> (relating to Internal Ethics and Compliance Program) prior to any grant execution.</p> <p>Documents have been posted on eGrantsHelp in the Audit and Compliance Section to assist organizations to meet the compliance requirements.</p> <p><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html</a></p> <p>Please refer to the section titled "Eligibility" of the RFP for full explanation: <a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a></p> |
| 49)       | <p>What is considered reportable on the Single Audit Requirement noted on the Compliance Requirements page section, C.F.R. Part 200 Compliance?</p> <p>Other departments within our facility (which are totally separate) receive WIC type grants. Do they count as reportable?</p> | <p>All federal funds received by the organization must be included when evaluating for the single audit requirement.</p> <p>Yes, all federal funds received by the organization count as reportable.</p>  |
| 50)       | <p>Risk Assessment: Question 1 &amp; 2. Is the number of Projects just BTS Traffic Safety Projects or any TxDOT Project?</p>  | <p>It is only Behavioral Traffic Safety Funded Projects.</p>  |
| 51)       | <p>Risk Assessment: Question 6 asks the number of personnel to be hired to work on this project.</p> <p>Is this people hired or allocated? Is it just new staff? Does this include student workers?"</p>  | <p>It is the number of personnel that are hired regardless of if they are staff, students, etc., new or previously hired. It is the total number of people hired that are working on the grant. It would not include volunteers or non-paid staff.</p>  |
| 52)       | <p>Risk Assessment: Question 5. If a project was terminated per the request of the Traffic Safety Project Manager, should the Subgrantee check "Yes"?</p>   | <p>They should check "Yes" since it doesn't matter who initiated the termination, just that it was terminated.</p>  |
| <b>Q#</b> | <b>Question</b>   | <b>Answer</b>   |
| 53)       | <p>Do reviewers look at the Notes section on Form pages?</p> <p>In years past, it seems when we get review questions the explanation was already in the note section.</p>   | <p>No. Reviewers do not look at the Notes section in the scoring process. Do not use the Notes button in the original proposal submission to include information about your proposal.</p> <p>Any information that needs to be considered, needs to be in the proposal.</p>  |

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| 54) | It was mentioned that a strategic plan objective will need to be added in the proposals. Is this required objective included in the maximum 10 objectives?   | Yes, this would be one of the 10 maximum objectives allowed. Please refer to the section titled "Proposal Development" for further details regarding the strategic plan.  |
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| 55) | What is the preferred way to source references? Do you want citation numbers that correspond to a reference document that would be in the attachment section?  | There is no preferred way to source references. As long as the sources are referenced it doesn't matter if it is at the bottom of the page or in attachments.   |
| 56) | Can you please provide a list of approved projects, proposals, and budgets from previous years?  | TxDOT posts the current years approved project list and current Highway Safety Plan on eGrantsHelp.<br><br>Previous year approved projects are reported in the Annual Report also located on eGrantsHelp webpage:<br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html</a>  |
| 57) | I am looking for documents that outline a pre-award audit and other compliance items that may occur if awarded a grant for the first time.   | Documents have been posted on eGrantsHelp in the Audit and Compliance Section to assist organizations to meet the compliance requirements.<br><br><a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/index.html</a>   |
| 58) | Does the Authorized Agent (i.e. County Judge, Mayor, etc.) need to have an eGrants account or submit the Proposal?   | No. The Authorized Agent (i.e. County Judge, Mayor, etc.) does not need to be an eGrants user or sign or submit the Proposal.   |
| 59) | Do proposals need to follow the strategies outlined in the RFP?  | Yes. Proposals must comply with the targets and strategies as stated in the section titled "Performance Measures and Countermeasure Strategies" of the RFP.   |
| 60) | The RFP for the EMS section requires four hours of USDOT FHWA Traffic Incident Management Training. Does that mean we must conduct one 4-hour training of that class sometime during the entire grant cycle?<br><br>Is there a specific course number found on the <a href="http://www.FHWA.dot.gov">www.FHWA.dot.gov</a> Website for the course that is required to ensure the correct course is offered? | No. Any proposal submitted to train, certify, and retain Emergency Medical Technicians in Rural/Frontier areas of the state must include 4 hours of USDOT FHWA Traffic Incident Management Training in each EMS Initial Certification Course.<br><br>The FHWA web-based training course number is FHWA-NHI-133126A Traffic Incident Management Responder Training. However, this would only be used in the event of in-person restrictions like a pandemic or social distancing.<br><br>The expectation and best practice would be in-person training of the National Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder Training Program. |
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| 61) | <p>What is the requirement for the total number of words for the entire proposal and for each section (if any), are references counted? Also, are graphs, tables counted in word limits?</p>   | <p>There is no word requirement for the proposals, however; there are character counts for specific sections. These are noted by character counters within those sections and error messages of a user goes over the count when the page is saved. Any characters including references as text are counted as a character. Graphs, tables etc. cannot be added to text fields but can be added as an attachment and will be scored if it is charts and graphs only. Uploaded narratives will not be scored.</p> <p>Please refer to RFP for full explanation:<br/> <a href="https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html">https://egrants.bts.txdot.gov/eGrantsHelp/rfp.html</a></p> |
| 62) | <p>When submitting a proposal for a NHSTA Safety Program Assessment, would the objective To Develop 1 Strategic Operational Plan be considered for exemption?</p>  | <p>If the safety assessment is a standalone proposal in which only the assessment will be conducted, then no strategic plan is necessary.</p> <p>If the safety assessment is an added objective of a proposal that aims to address elements along with the assessment and covers more than one county/TxDOT district, then a strategic plan would be required.</p>  |
| 63) | <p>What type of documentation, if any, is required for eligibility to claim match on a location if using the provided rate of \$62.50?</p>   | <p>In order to be utilized for cost-sharing, the locations must not be government-owned/operated facilities. No other written documentation is required. The room rental is valued at \$62.50 per hour not to exceed \$500 per day and audio/visual rental is valued at \$62.50 per hour not to exceed \$500 per day. No other rates are authorized.</p>  |
| 64) | <p>Are there any limitations to the allowable F&amp;A rate? (Our current federal NICRA is 65% over MTDC. Are we allowed to use our full rate?)</p> <p>Can we choose to use a portion of our Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) (i.e. 25% of a 65% rate) in our proposal, and use the unrecovered F&amp;A (i.e. the remaining 40%) as match?</p> | <p>The approved rate letter must be provided. Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) typically have several rates listed on the letter. Your finance department would need to determine which rate is to be used for this proposal.</p> <p>Yes, this is allowable.</p>  |
| 65) | <p>I have been advised that software is considered 'equipment' in other states and that prior approval may be required from NHTSA to purchase equipment &gt;\$5000. Is it possible to submit a grant proposal to purchase LIMS software in Texas? If so, is prior approval also required?</p>  | <p>Yes, you may submit your proposal to purchase LIMS software in Texas. Prior approval is not required to include it in the proposal. If your proposal is approved for funding prior approval from NHTSA will be required for any purchase exceeding \$5,000.</p>  |

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| 66) | Is there an official process to request a match exemption to allow an increase to social media match?  | No exemptions are allowed.   |
| 67) | What documentation is required for a consultant to claim their official rate if it exceeds the sector average?   | The rate for consultants/volunteers is \$33.59.  |
| 68) | Although, the match guidelines state that office space can be included as match, can that also include “home offices” since our staff are remote?  | No.  |
| 69) | What documentation does TxDOT require when claiming “in-kind or volunteer” match?  | Timesheets must be included when reporting volunteer hours which includes the hours volunteered, dates, and activities performed.                        |
| 70) | If a vendor offers an agency a discount for their non-profit status or to support the project, can the discount amount be claimed as match?  | No, this does not comply with 2 CFR 200.406. Discounts such as this are considered an applicable credit.   |
| 71) | May the \$33.53 hourly volunteer rate apply to volunteer drinkers for the alcohol workshop modules in the 24-hour Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) Practitioner course and the 50-hour SFST Instructor course? | Yes, since these individuals are an essential resource for the core curriculum, a volunteer’s participation may be claimed at the \$33.53 per hour rate. |

## FY2027 TxDOT Traffic Safety BTS RFP - Frequently Asked Questions - General

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| 72) | <p>Are churches, restaurants, hotels, libraries, NPOs, FOP association buildings, VFW Halls, etc. permitted and allowable facilities?</p> <p>Conducting law enforcement training outside an agency setting may present safety concerns.</p>   | <p>Yes, as long as they are not government-owned/operated facilities.</p> <p>Training may be conducted at any appropriate location; however, the room rental and audio-visual match rates are only applicable to non-government owned/operated facilities.</p> |
| 73) | <p>What documentation is required to show proof of the facilities?</p>  | <p>None- they just may not be government owned/operated.</p>   |
| 74) | <p>If per diem is \$135 per night but the staff gets a discounted rate of \$98 per night, can the savings difference of \$37.00 be used as Match?</p> <p>If per diem is \$135 per night but the staff stays with a friend or family in the area, can the savings of \$135 per night be used as Match?</p> | <p>No, this does not comply with 2 CFR 200.406. Discounts such as this would be considered an applicable credit.</p> <p>No.</p>  |
| 75) | <p>Will we still be permitted to claim match May match be claimed for published articles in the printed <i>In Service</i> magazine, as well as the media blasts the magazine does, using the advertising rate for all?</p>  | <p>Yes, this is allowed provided the content complies with 2 CFR 200.421(d)(2).</p>  |
| 76) | <p>May the \$62.50 per hour audio-visual rate be claimed for a participant attending remote training from their own computer to take an online course?</p>  | <p>No.</p>   |