Thank you for joining FRA’s Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program Webinar. The Webinar will begin shortly.

Please mute your device.
FY 2019-2020 Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program Webinar
Agenda

• Welcome
• Introductions
• Overview of the FRA
• Review of Incidents
• Goals of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
• How to Apply for FRA Grants
FRA’s Mission:

• To enable the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of people and goods for a strong America, now and in the future.

We accomplish our mission of grade crossing safety and trespass prevention by:

• Issuing and enforcing safety regulations
• Investing in rail corridors
• Conducting research and developing technology

Image credit: https://www.aar.org/railroad-101
On average, every 3 hours in the United States, someone is either struck by a train due to trespassing or while in a motor vehicle.
Rail-Related Fatalities 2019

1,102 TOTAL FATALITIES

- 591 Trespass
- 293 Hwy-Rail
- 26 Suicide
- 192 Other

Office of Railroad Safety
June 25, 2020
Rail-Related Suicide Fatalities 2015-2019

1,351 Fatalities

Year
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019

Fatalities
328
274
277
280
192
FRA Rail Suicide Prevention Resources

• National Strategy to Prevent Trespassing on Railroad Property
  • [https://railroads.dot.gov/national-strategy-prevent-trespassing](https://railroads.dot.gov/national-strategy-prevent-trespassing)

• Trespass Prevention Resource Webpages

• Rail Suicide Prevention Resource Page

• FRA Suicide Prevention Research:
  • Data quality improvement
  • Countermeasure development
  • Outreach
FRA Rail Suicide Prevention Resources
The purpose of the Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program is to implement a targeted outreach campaign to reduce the number of rail-related suicides that involve or result from railroad trespassing.

- FRA intends to award funds competitively to projects that achieve the maximum benefits possible, thereby meeting, in part, several milestones in its National Strategy to Prevent Trespassing on Railroad Property Report to Congress.

- The grant recipients will implement or expand existing efforts to prevent trespass suicide events and report performance data that may be used by FRA to measure success.
Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) solicits grant applications from eligible organizations that focus on suicide prevention or mental health assistance to implement activities that reduce railroad-related suicides.

- Availability of $293,000 to fund competitive grants
- Maximum of $100,000 for each grant
- To develop and implement a targeted Outreach Campaign
- No cost-sharing or minimum match required
Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program

Eligible Applicants

- Organizations in the United States skilled in suicide prevention and/or mental health assistance
  - Must be able to implement an Outreach Campaign for reducing suicide involving railroad trespassing
- Railroad carriers interested in starting or expanding efforts to prevent trespass suicide
Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program

Eligible Projects

- Implementation of a proposed Outreach Campaign for reducing suicides that involve railroad trespassing
- May involve training staff to identify individuals at risk and intervene, raising awareness of services via signage or public awareness campaigns, or implementing other strategies
- Projects must be intended to directly reduce railroad suicide incidents
- At least 1 mile of FRA-regulated railroad track must be within the boundaries of the planned outreach activities
Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program

Expected Outcomes

• FRA intends to increase partnerships among diverse stakeholders to address rail-related suicides, including railroad carriers, communities, law enforcement, educators, and mental health organizations.

• We hope to solicit innovative, collaborative approaches that align with FRA’s National Strategy to Prevent Trespassing on Railroad Property.

• Applications are due August 10, 2020.
Understanding the NOFO and FRA’s Grant Application Process
What Information Is in a NOFO?

A NOFO announces the grant opportunity and contains details about the application requirements and procedures to request Federal funding for eligible projects.

- Program Summary
- Key Dates
- Addresses
- FRA Contact Information
- Table of Contents
  - Program Description
  - Federal Award Information
  - Eligibility Information
  - Application and Submission Information
  - Application Review Information
  - Federal Award Administration Information
  - Federal Awarding Agency Contacts
Where Is the Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program NOFO?

FRA’s Competitive Grants Program Webpage

Federal Register link to Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program NOFO

- FRA’s Competitive Discretionary Grant Programs webpage
- Federal Register link to Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program NOFO
Where Do I Find “How to Apply” Information?

SEARCH GRANTS tab on Grants.gov:

Click the Opportunity Number to see the Synopsis
What Is the “Synopsis”?

Summary information about the grant opportunity in Grants.gov:
How Do I Apply?

Key Steps

• Obtain a Dun and Bradstreet number (DUNS)

• **Register early** in the Federal government's System for Award Management (SAM)
  - NOTE: SAM registration can take up to 4 to 6 weeks

• For Grants.gov, complete an **Authorized Organization Representative profile** and create a username and password

• Submit an application addressing all requirements outlined in the NOFO

**Applicants must have a SAM account and a DUNS number in order to submit a grant application**
Required Documents

- Project Narrative
- Statement of Work

Required Forms

- SF424 (Application for Federal Assistance)
  - SF 424A – Budget info for Non-Construction
  - SF 424B – Assurances for Non-Construction
- FRA’s Additional Assurances and Certifications
- SF LLL: Disclosure of Lobbying Activities or Grants.gov Lobbying Form
Find additional information about the grant opportunity in Grants.gov at the bottom of the synopsis page:

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**Agency Name:** DOT - Federal Railroad Administration

**Description:** The purpose of the Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Program is to assist in funding targeted outreach campaigns to reduce the number of railroad-related suicides that involve railroad trespassing.

**Link to Additional Information:** FY20 Railroad Trespassing Suicide Prevention Grant Program

**Grantee Contact Information:** If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact:

Grants.gov Contact Center:
Phone Number: 1-800-518-4726

Hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The contact center is closed on federal holidays.

support@grants.gov

Grants.gov Customer Support
Application Review and Selection Process

1. Intake and Eligibility
Each application is reviewed for completeness and eligibility to determine which applications move to the evaluation stage.

2. Evaluation
Each complete and eligible application is evaluated by a panel of DOT subject matter experts using criteria outlined in the NOFO.

3. Selection
Final funding decisions are made by taking into account the evaluation and selection criteria outlined in the NOFO.

4. Announcement
FRA announces selections approximately 4 to 6 months following application due date.
Best Practices – Helpful Hints

• Read the NOFO completely and carefully to understand the criteria for eligibility and selection, and what information each application must include.

• FRA has identified two primary areas where applications not selected for funding typically demonstrate deficiencies:
  • Project Narrative
  • Statement of Work (SOW)
Best Practices – Project Narrative

Project Narrative Outline

I. Cover Page
II. Project Summary
III. Project Funding
IV. Applicant Eligibility
V. Project Eligibility
VI. Detailed Project Description
VII. Project Location
VIII. Evaluation & Selection Criteria
IX. Project Implementation & Management

☑ Structure your project narrative in accordance with the outline specified in the NOFO
☑ Include all elements identified in the outline
☑ Follow the instructions for each element
☑ Adhere to 25-page limit
Best Practices – Statement of Work (SOW)

- Organize the scope of work into discrete and logically sequenced tasks
- Provide appropriate timing for tasks
- Identify the deliverables required to communicate progress and completion of tasks to FRA
- Check the budget to ensure numbers are consistent with cost information submitted in forms and other areas of the application
Recap & Reminders

• Always read the NOFO carefully and apply early
• Determine what a "successful" project will look like
• Use the checklist with the application requirements in the NOFO as you complete your application
• Address all of the evaluation and selection criteria on which you will be rated
  • By clearly and directly responding to the criteria, your application will be easier to read and evaluate
  • Don’t bury key points!
Additional Resources:
FRA’s Competitive Grants Application Process Webpage

- Competitive Grants Application Process webpage
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