



Fiscal Year 2011 Intercity Bus Security Grant Program

Transportation Security Administration



What is the purpose of the Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP)?

The Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) is one of five grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 focus on infrastructure protection activities. The funds provided by the IBSGP are intended to support the work of operators of fixed route intercity and charter bus services servicing high risk urban areas to strengthen critical infrastructure assets and protect the traveling public against risks associated with potential terrorist attacks.

How much funding will be awarded through the FY 2011 IBSGP?

In FY 2011, the total amount of funds distributed under the IBSGP will be \$4,990,000; less than 50% compared with last year's funding. Each applicant should limit their project requests to no more than two.

Will there be Tiers this year?

There will be no tiers this year, unlike the FY 2010 IBSGP; instead, bus companies that meet the minimum eligibility requirements will compete for FY 2011 IBSGP grants.

What is the period of performance?

All FY 2011 approved funded projects have 36 months from the date of award to be completed.

What are the IBSGP funding priorities?

As in previous years, DHS will focus FY 2011 IBSGP funding on operators serving the Nation's highest risk metropolitan areas. DHS seeks to ensure that each IBSGP project reflects robust regional coordination and an integrated security strategy. In addition, it may be advantageous for smaller companies to request funds for activities related to the first two items of the funding priority list (see below), to be prepared for pending rules regarding security plans and training requirements mandated by the 9/11 Act for larger companies.

The following project types – listed in priority order – are eligible for funding in FY 2011:

- Developing a vulnerability assessment and security plan
- Covering operating and capital costs associated with over-the-road bus security awareness, preparedness, and response training (must be DHS-approved courses)
- Conducting live or simulated exercises (must be DHS-approved exercises)
- Conducting public awareness campaigns (must be DHS-approved campaigns)
- Covering operational costs to hire, train and employ police and security officers, including canine units
- Establishing and improving emergency communications systems

- Implementing and operating passenger screening programs for weapons and explosives
- Protecting or isolating drivers of over-the-road buses
- Conducting chemical, biological, radiological, or explosive detection initiatives
- Acquiring, upgrading, installing, or operating equipment, software, or services for the collection, storage, or exchange of passenger and driver information
- Covering overtime reimbursement for security personnel during periods of high threat levels
- Modifying over-the-road buses
- Installing cameras and video surveillance equipment on over-the-road buses and at terminals, garages, and bus facilities
- Constructing and modifying terminals, garages, and facilities

Are applicants required to provide a cost share?

The maximum Federal share of any project supported through IBSGP is 75%. Therefore, grantees are required to provide non-Federal funding (cash or in-kind) of at least 25% of approved project costs for the FY 2011 IBSGP.

What entities are eligible to apply for the IBSGP?

Operators of over-the-road buses are eligible for FY 2011 IBSGP funding. These include 1) private operators of fixed route intercity bus companies serving a defined Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdiction, and/or 2) operators of charter bus services using over-the-road buses that provide a minimum of 50 trips annually to one or more UASI jurisdictions. The UASI jurisdictions are outlined in the FY 2011 IBSGP Grant Guidance. Note that the number of UASI jurisdictions is less this year than in FY 2010. Also note that intracity bus service is covered under the FY 2011 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP), not the IBSGP.

Are there any other eligibility requirements?

In order to be eligible for a security grant award, bus operators must have conducted a vulnerability assessment, and developed and/or updated a security plan within the last three years. Applicants that do not have a current security plan and vulnerability assessment can apply for IBSGP funding to meet that requirement, but are not eligible to apply for other project types.

When are grant applications due, and how do I apply?

This grant cycle is on a tighter schedule, with less than half the fiscal year remaining. Applications must be submitted utilizing both www.grants.gov and FEMA's ND Grants system (<https://portal.fema.gov>) and are due no later than 11:59 pm EST on June 20, 2011. Exceptions cannot be granted.

Where can I go if I have additional questions?

Additional information on the program is available on our website at: www.tsa.gov/grants. Questions may also be submitted to TSA through TSAGrants@tsa.dhs.gov with a carbon copy to FEMA at ASKcsid@dhs.gov. DHS will also host weekly conference calls every Tuesday beginning May 31, 2011 through June 14, 2011 (Dial-in: 877-988-9660; pass code: 6827433).