



Fiscal Year 2009 Freight Rail Security Grant Program

Transportation Security Administration



What is the purpose of the FRSGP?

The purpose of the FY 2008 FRSGP is to raise the security baseline in freight rail by funding vulnerability assessments and security plans, providing security training to frontline personnel, and developing Global Positioning Systems (GPS) tracking on railroad cars within the Freight Rail Industry. In FY 2009, \$15 million is available for those purposes.

What entities are eligible to apply for the FRSGP?

Eligible applicants for the FY 2009 FRSGP are determined by DHS as Class I, II, and III freight railroad carriers that transport Security-Sensitive Materials (SSM) and also operate in or through a high threat urban area as defined by the Fiscal Year 2009 Grant Guidance, and certify that they have developed and adhere to a vulnerability assessment and security plan that conforms to 49 CFR 172.802. Owners of railroad cars that transport TIH materials, as well as offerors/shippers of TIH materials are also eligible.

What are the FRSGP funding priorities?

Class I carriers may only request funds to support security awareness and emergency response training for frontline employees provided that they have completed an acceptable vulnerability assessment and security plan. **Class II and Class III** carriers may request funds to conduct a vulnerability assessment and develop a security plan. When an acceptable vulnerability assessment and security plan has been approved, they may also request funds to support security awareness and emergency response training for frontline employees. **Eligible owners of railroad cars and offerors/shippers of TIH materials** may use grant funds received under this program to acquire and install satellite GPS tracking on cars that transport TIH. Satellite tracking equipment must be able to meet specific communication protocol standards that are outlined in the FY 2009 Grant Guidance.

Are eligible entities required to provide a cost share?

Pursuant to the *Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009* (Public Law 110-329), participants of the FY 2009 FRSGP will not be required to provide a cost share for funding they receive.

What determines whether an applicant is in Class I, II, or III?

As designated by the Surface Transportation Board, a Class I railroad carrier is defined as a railroad with annual operating revenues for 2005 over \$319.2 million; a Class II railroad carrier is defined as a railroad with annual operating revenues between \$25.5 million and \$319.2 million; and a Class III railroad carrier is defined as a railroad with annual operating revenues of less than \$25.5 million.

What is a Rail Security-Sensitive Material (SSM)?

For the purpose of this grant program, a Rail SSM is defined as: more than 2,268 kg in a single carload of a Division 1.1, 1.2, or 1.3 explosive; a tank car containing a material poisonous by inhalation, as defined in 49 CFR 171.8, including anhydrous ammonia but excluding residue quantities of these

materials; and a highway route-controlled quantity of a Class 7 (radioactive) material, as defined in 49 CFR 173.403.

What is an obligation?

Obligations are a legal liability to pay, under a grant, sub-grant, and/or contract, determinable sums for services or goods incurred during the period of performance (POP). This includes, but is not limited to, amounts of orders placed, contracts and grants awarded, services received and similar transactions that require payment by the recipient.

What is the period of performance (POP)?

The period of performance (POP) is defined as the period of time when Federal funding is available for obligation by the recipient; the start and end dates of the POP are included in the award document. The recipient may charge allowable costs resulting from obligations incurred during the POP and any pre-award costs authorized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preparedness Directorate Office of Grant Operations.* For the FY 2009 FRS GP, the period of performance is 36 months from the date of award.

How does DHS score the applications?

Training Evaluation Criteria:

1. **Compliance.** Projects will be evaluated by completeness of Investment Justifications and certification documents.
2. **Feasibility.** Projects will be evaluated on the feasibility of the plan for completing the training requested within the period of performance.

Security Plans and Vulnerability Assessment Evaluation Criteria:

1. **Compliance.** Projects will be evaluated by completeness of Investment Justifications and certification documents.
2. **Cost Appropriateness.** Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on the cost appropriateness of the request to conduct the assessment and develop the plan, which will be determined by the carrier's characteristics such as assets, location, infrastructure, and size.
3. **Timelines.** Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on the ability of the applicant to complete the proposed project within the proposed timeframes.

Global Positioning System (GPS) Tracking Criteria:

1. **Feasibility.** Projects will be evaluated on the feasibility of the plan for completing the training requested within the period of performance.
2. **Cost Appropriateness.** Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on the cost appropriateness of the request to conduct the assessment and develop the plan, which will be determined by the carrier's characteristics such as assets, location, infrastructure, and size.
3. **Timelines.** Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on the ability of the applicant to complete the proposed project within the proposed timeframes.
4. **Sustainability.** Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on the ability of the applicant to sustain the investment after Federal grant funding has been expended.

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

Applications must be submitted through grants.gov and are due no later than 11:59 pm EST on January 13, 2009. 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.

- ❖ Definitions for key terms come from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Financial Management Guide. For more information, please see http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/Financial_Management_Guide.pdf.