



Fiscal Year 2010

Freight Rail Security Grant Program

Transportation Security Administration



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will provide \$15 million to freight railroad carriers and railroad car owners under the Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010. The FRSGP was authorized under Public Law (P.L.) 110-53, "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007" and appropriated through the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010* (Public Law 111-83). DHS will fund security initiatives for freight rail carriers that transport Rail Security-Sensitive Materials (RSSM) through designated high threat urban areas, freight railroad car owners and offerors that transport bulk poisonous by inhalation/toxic inhalation hazardous (TIH) materials and owners of rail bridges which span Western Rivers System and which are used for freight rail transportation may apply for infrastructure hardening capabilities. For the purposes of the FRSGP and this grant cycle:

- RSSM includes certain explosives, materials poisonous by inhalation, and Class 7 radioactive materials; and
- Rail TIH includes anhydrous ammonia but excludes residue quantities of these materials.

The FRSGP guidance provides specific definitions of RSSM, Rail TIH, and high threat urban areas, specific to this grant program.

FY 2010 FRSGP Highlights

Important highlights in the FY 2010 FRSGP are:

- **Expanded Eligibility** – Eligibility has expanded from FY 2009. For FY2010, owners of rail bridges which span the Western Rivers System and which are used for freight rail transportation may apply for infrastructure hardening capabilities for those bridges. Consistent with FY2009, both railroad carriers and railroad car owners that meet specific eligibility requirements may also apply for FY 2010 FRSGP funds for GPS tracking on rail cars.
- **Cost Share Requirement** – The maximum Federal share of any project supported through FRSGP is 75%, with the exception of vulnerability assessments and security plans which have no match requirement. Therefore, grantees are required to provide non-Federal funding (cash or in-kind) of at least 25% of approved project costs for the FY 2010 FRSGP.
- **Funding Priorities** – Funding Priorities have expanded from the FY 2009 FRSGP to allow for infrastructure hardening on rail bridges spanning the Western River System, and drills and exercises for railroad frontline employees. All other project types that were eligible in the FY 2009 FRSGP are eligible again in the FY 2010 FRSGP.

Freight Rail Priorities for FY 2010

DHS will fund certain types of projects, depending upon the type of the applicant:

- **Railroad carriers**
 - **Class I carriers** may request funds to support security awareness and emergency response training for frontline employees, and security related drills and exercises

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. The carriers may also request funds to support security awareness and emergency response training for frontline employees, and security related drills and exercises provided that they have completed an acceptable vulnerability assessment and security plan.

Freight Rail Class
Class I – Annual operating revenues more than \$319.2 million
Class II – Annual operating revenues between \$25.5 million and \$319.2 million
Class III – Annual operating revenues less than \$25.5 million
(Classifications designated by the Surface Transportation Board)

- **Railroad car owners and offerors** may request funds to acquire and install satellite GPS tracking on railroad cars that transport bulk TIH.
- **Owners of rail bridges which span the Western Rivers System** may request funds for infrastructure hardening capabilities.

As part of the application process, applicants are required to prepare an Investment Justification (IJ) and Detailed Budget that specifically addresses each initiative being proposed for funding.

Eligibility

Freight railroad carriers that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for FRSGP funding:

- Transport RSSM as defined for this cycle of this grant program.
- Operate in or through at least one designated high threat urban area.
- Certify they have and adhere to a security plan that conforms to 49 CFR Part 172.

Freight railroad car owners that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for FRSGP funding:

- Transport bulk Rail TIH as defined for this cycle of this grant program.
- Allow DHS/TSA access to GPS tracking information, as outlined in the grant guidance.

Owners of rail bridges which span the Western Rivers System that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for FRSGP funding:

- Own bridges that have a volume exceeding 4.9 million gross ton miles (MGTM) and span a waterway considered part of the Western River System.
- The Western Rivers System is defined as the Mississippi River and connecting waterways, including the Ohio and Missouri Rivers.

- Commit to and include a monitoring plan describing how security capabilities will be continuously monitored with a 24/7 commitment.

How to Apply for Grant Funding

Freight rail carriers and owners interested in applying for FRSGP funding are encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible. Applicants should be aware that the process involves a number of steps, can take several weeks to complete, and can be fairly time-consuming. The basic registration steps (described in detail at www.grants.gov) include:

- **Obtaining a user password at www.grants.gov** – This is a one-time process. It could take three to five business days for the password to be confirmed.
- **Creating a user profile with the Central Contractor Registration at www.ccr.gov** – It can take five to seven business days for the profile to be validated.
- **Registering with Operational Research Consultants** – The Federal government uses this credential provider to help safeguard electronic information.
- **Registering with www.grants.gov** – This includes identification of individuals who are authorized to submit grant applications, which could also take several days to confirm.

Applicants can download and begin filling out the grant application at any time after the grant application period opens, though the applications can be submitted only after the steps above are completed.

Important Application Dates

- **December 8, 2009** – DHS releases the grant guidance.
- **February 12, 2010** – Grant applications are due through the www.grants.gov
- **May 10, 2010** – DHS announces grant awards within 60 days of the application submission deadline.

For More Information

Below are sources of information to learn more about the FRSGP and other surface transportation grant programs:

FRSGP Conference Calls – TSA will provide an overview of the FRSGP and answer questions in a conference call with potential applicants on December 10, 2009 at 1:00 PM EST. Please join us at 1-877-988-9660 (Participant Code 6827433). Additional conference calls will be held every week on Thursdays at 1:00 PM EST starting December 17, 2009 through February 11, 2010 with the same dial-in number and participant code.

FRSGP Workshop – We will hold a workshop on December 16, 2009 in Chicago, IL to discuss in detail the FY2010 FRSGP. Materials will be posted on the website after the workshop.

TSA Grants Website – www.tsa.gov/grants.

TSA Grants Email Address – TSAGrants@tsa.dhs.gov

Federal Government Grants Website – www.grants.gov.

DHS Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) - Call 1-800-368-6498 or e-mail ASKCsid@dhs.gov.