



Fiscal Year 2010 Transit Security Grant Program

Transportation Security Administration

What is the purpose of the Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP)?

The Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) is one of five grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 infrastructure protection activities. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures to help strengthen the nation's critical infrastructure against risks associated with potential terrorist attacks. The program provides funds to owners and operators of transit systems (which include intracity bus, commuter bus, certain ferry systems, and all forms of passenger rail) to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism.

What are the funding priorities for the FY 2010 TSGP?

DHS continues to prioritize projects based on their effectiveness in reducing risk. As such, the FY 2010 TSGP will continue to focus on prevent and protect operational activities, such as training, drills and exercises, public awareness campaigns, security planning, visible, unpredictable deterrence, and designs for critical infrastructure remediation. FY 2010 TSGP funding priorities also include protection of high-density stations (both multi-user and single-user), key operating asset protection, and other mitigation activities including interoperable communications, evacuation plans, and protection of low-density stations.

How much money will be available under TSGP, and how does that compare to FY 2009 funding?

DHS will provide \$288 million in funding under the TSGP in FY 2010; this is approximately \$100 million less than the amount of funding provided under the program in FY 2009. Also included in the \$288 million for FY 2010 is funding for the TSGP (\$253M), security funding to the National Passenger Rail Corporation (Amtrak) (\$20 million) and freight railroad industry (\$15 million).

Who may apply for funding under the TSGP?

Eligible applicants include owners and operators of public transit agencies (which include intracity bus, commuter bus, and all forms of passenger rail) and certain ferry systems. Per the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010* (Public Law 111-083) awards will be made directly to transit agencies; the State Administrative Agency (SAA) is no longer the grantee. As such, eligible transit agencies are responsible for submitting their own applications, including Investment Justifications and Detailed Budgets, through the *grants.gov* portal by the application submission deadline. The SAA is eligible as a sub-grantee to an eligible transit agency to facilitate regional planning and programs.

In addition, certain law enforcement agencies that act as the primary transit security provider for large transit systems are eligible for certain operational activities as sub-recipients of the transit systems. OPack funds may only be used for new capabilities/programs. Security service providers with unsworn law enforcement officers or guards are not eligible.

Please refer to the FY 2010 guidance for the full list of eligible transit agencies.

How does DHS determine the list of eligible applicants?

DHS uses a comprehensive, empirically-grounded risk analysis model. This risk methodology is consistent across modes and is linked to the risk methodology used to determine eligibility for the core DHS State and local grant programs. Basic eligibility for TSGP in FY 2010 is derived from the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) urban areas list and the National Transit Database based on unlinked passenger trips. A list of eligible applicants is available in the FY 2010 guidance.

Is the FY 2010 TSGP funding allocated by tier or region?

Yes. Tier I will continue to be comprised of the transit agencies in the eight highest-risk urban areas; Tier II will consist of all other eligible transit agencies as outlined in the guidance. TSGP funding allocations are targets. Funds may be moved among Tier I regions, and/or between Tiers as appropriate depending on funding requests and priorities.

Are eligible agencies required to provide a cost share?

Participants of the FY 2010 TSGP will not be required to provide a cost share for funding they receive. However, agencies that choose to include a cost share in their application will receive enhanced consideration during the scoring process.

How does DHS score the grant applications?

A National Review Panel (NRP), comprised of subject matter experts from the federal government, will score each project based on the evaluation criteria laid out in the guidance. Investment Justifications (IJ) will be evaluated based on the following criteria with the listed range of values:

- The agency's risk group score
- The project's effectiveness group score
- The project's potential for risk mitigation
 - cost effectiveness
 - feasibility
 - timelines
 - sustainability
- Regional collaboration (where appropriate)
- The agency's offering of a cost share (where applicable)

The NRP may make funding recommendations other than the request if ineligible expenses are listed as part of the budget. Final scores and funding recommendations are ranked and projects are funded in rank order until the funding allocation is exhausted.

Who will be responsible for scoring the grant applications?

DHS will draw upon the expertise of surface transportation experts from the federal government to review and score the projects, and pass their recommendations to the Executive Committee, consisting of senior federal security representatives. This Executive Committee determines the final grant awards based on the scores, comments, and funding recommendations. The National Review Panel and the Executive Committee will include representatives from TSA, FEMA and FTA.

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

Applications must be submitted through www.grants.gov. Tier II applicants must submit complete Investment Justifications and detailed budgets, and Tier I applicants must submit Investment Justification concepts and detailed budgets no later than 11:59 pm EST February 18, 2010. No exceptions can be made.

Where can I go if I have additional questions?

Additional information on the program is available on our website at www.tsa.gov/grants, and on FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/grants. Questions may also be submitted to TSA through TSAGrants@tsa.dhs.gov with a carbon copy to FEMA at ASKcsid@dhs.gov.