

# Fiscal Year 2009

## Intercity Bus Security Grant Program

Department of Homeland Security

---



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will provide \$11,658,000 to private intercity bus operators under the Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. IBSGP funds support operators of fixed route intercity and charter bus services. Over half of the funds (55 percent) will be awarded to **Tier I** operators, which are the larger intercity bus systems in the country and operate at least 250 over-the-road buses. The remaining 45 percent will be awarded to **Tier II** operators, which comprise the remaining eligible bus company operators around the country.

### FY 2009 IBSGP Highlights

Important highlights in the FY 2009 IBSGP are:

- **Eligibility** – In accordance with Public Law (P.L.) 110-53, "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007", only operators of over-the-road buses are eligible for FY 2009 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. Note that intracity bus service is covered under the FY 2009 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP), not the IBSGP.
- **Cost Share Requirement** – 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 2009 IBSGP. For example, if the total project cost is \$100,000, the maximum the DHS grant award would be \$75,000 with the grantee required to provide the remaining 25% or \$25,000, of the project cost.
- **Backfill and Overtime** - For the FY 2009 IBSGP, overtime and backfill costs for private sector employees associated with training, drills, and exercises **are permissible**.
- **Security Plan and Vulnerability Assessment** – 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. Tier I IBSGP recipients using funds for this purpose must certify completion within one year of award. Tier II IBSGP recipients using funds for this purpose are highly encouraged to complete a security plan and vulnerability assessment within one year of award.
- **Corporate Security Review and Audit** – By accepting a FY 2009 IBSGP award, the grantee must allow DHS to perform a corporate security review (CSR) and audit upon request. Grantees are required to provide information concerning critical assets, threat assessments, vulnerability assessments, security plan management, personnel security, training, exercises, cyber security, and physical security countermeasures.

## FY 2009 IBSGP Funding Priorities

As in previous years, DHS will focus FY 2009 IBSGP funding on operators serving the Nation's highest risk metropolitan areas. In addition, DHS seeks to ensure that each IBSGP project reflects robust regional coordination and an integrated security strategy.

The following projects – listed in priority order – are eligible for funding in FY 2009:

- 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
- 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
- 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

Note that in FY 2009, DHS will continue to encourage video systems with the capability to stream live video to first responders as part of security systems that may include items such as GPS, panic buttons, and remote disabling. As in FY 2008, the procurement of closed-circuit television cameras (CCTV) for vehicles as a deterrent to terrorism *without* the ability for live streaming video will continue to be de-emphasized.

## How to Apply for Grant Funding

Private intercity bus operators interested in applying for IBSGP 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](http://www.grants.gov)) include:

- **Obtaining a user password at [www.grants.gov](http://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](http://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](http://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, though the applications can be submitted only after the steps above are completed.

### **Important Application Dates**

- **November 5, 2008** – DHS releases the grant guidance
- **January 13, 2009** – Grant applications are due through the [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) portal 45 days after the guidance is issued.
- **April 10, 2009** – 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 IBSGP and other surface transportation grant programs:

**IBSGP Conference Calls** – TSA will provide an overview of the IBSGP and answer questions in a conference call with potential applicants on November 6, 2008 at 11:00 AM EST. Please join us at 1-877-988-9660 (Participant Code 6827433). Additional conference calls will be held every week on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM EST starting November 18, 2008 through January 13, 2009 with the same dial-in number and participant code.

**IBSGP Workshop** - We will hold a workshop on November 13<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC to discuss in detail the FY09 FRSGP. Materials will be posted on the website after the workshop.

**TSA Grants Website** – [www.tsa.gov/grants](http://www.tsa.gov/grants).

**Federal Government Grants Website** – [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

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