



# Federal Grant and Loan Funding Opportunities for U.S. Ports

June 9 & 10, 2021

Office of Ports & Waterways

- **Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA)**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/infragrants>
- **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>
- **Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP)**
  - <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/PIDPgrants>
- **Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/tifia>
- **Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing (RRIF)**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/rrif/railroad-rehabilitation-improvement-financing-rrif>
- **Private Activity Bonds (PABs)**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/private-activity-bonds-pabs/private-activity-bonds>
- **Port Conveyance Program**
  - <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/ports/port-conveyance/port-conveyance>
- **America's Marine Highway (AMH)**
  - <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants/marine-highways/marine-highway>
- **Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD)**
  - <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/advtranscongmgtfs.cfm>

## Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grants

- NOFO out, applications due July 30
  - <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/office-port-infrastructure-development/port-and-terminal-infrastructure-development/2019-port-1>
- Access PIDP FY21 webinars: <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/office-port-infrastructure-development/port-and-terminal-infrastructure-development/2020-port>
- Questions to [PIDPgrants@dot.gov](mailto:PIDPgrants@dot.gov)

## Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants

- NOFO out, due July 12
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-nofo>
- Access RAISE FY21 webinars: <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/outreach>
- Questions to [RAISEgrants@dot.gov](mailto:RAISEgrants@dot.gov)

## America's Marine Highway Grants

- NOFO out, applications due June 25
  - <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants/marine-highways/notice-funding-opportunity-america%E2%80%99s-marine-highway-projects>
- Access AMH webinars: <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants-finances/marine-highways/grants>
- Questions to [MH@dot.gov](mailto:MH@dot.gov)

## INFRA Grants

- NOFO closed, applications under review

# The Port Infrastructure Development Grant Program

- Provides Federal grant funding assistance to support port and port related projects.
- \$230 million authorized for FY21.
- Generally, grants may fund up to 80% of eligible project costs (20% local match required)
  - Except in rural areas *and for some projects*, the Secretary may increase the Federal share above 80%.
- Minimum award size \$1 million. No maximum (except small projects).
- Notice of Funding Opportunity publication: **March 29, 2021**
- Application deadline: **July 30, 2021**

## ■ Eligible Applicants:

- A **port authority**, a commission or its subdivision or agent under existing authority;
- State or political subdivision of a State or local government;
- A Tribal government;
- A public agency or publicly chartered authority established by one or more States;
- A special purpose district with a transportation function;
- A multistate or multijurisdictional group of entities; or
- A lead entity described above jointly with a private entity or group of private entities (*including owners or operators of a facility, or collection of facilities, at a port*)

## Eligible Projects

- Improve safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods within the boundary of a seaport, or outside the boundary of a seaport
  - Includes port infrastructure, infrastructure for intermodal connectors, and digital infrastructure
- Equipment used for the loading and unloading of cargo at a seaport (excluding mobile equipment)
- Development phase activities (not more than 10% of awards)

## Assistance for Inland and Small Coastal Ports and Terminals

- New for FY21 pursuant to the Coastal and Inland Ports & Terminals Commerce Improvement Act
- Subsection of Port Infrastructure Development Grant Program (Title 46, Section 50302)
- Small Projects and Small Ports - reserves 18% (\$41.4 million) for ports handling less than 8 million short tons (preceding 3 years) – **Max award \$4.14 million per small port**

**Eligible Projects under this provision are *those that are inside a port, or outside a port and directly related to intermodal operations*, for:**

- Capital improvements
- Acquire, improve, repair, or maintain transportation or buildings/equipment;
- Development phase activities; or
- Otherwise fulfilling purposes for which such assistance is provided.

**Additional provisions for flexibility may be provided re: cost effectiveness and matching funds.**



# The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

- Provides Federal grant funding assistance to support the construction, or reconstruction, of infrastructure.
- \$1 billion available for FY21.
- Highway, transit, railroad, intermodal, and port projects are all eligible for assistance.
- Application deadline: **July 12, 2021**

## ■ Eligible Applicants

- State governments
- Local and Tribal governments
- U.S. territories
- Transit agencies
- Port authorities
- MPOs
- Other public subdivisions of State or local governments

## ■ Eligible Projects

- Highway, bridge, or other road projects
- Public transportation projects
- Passenger and freight rail projects
- ***Port infrastructure investments***
- Intermodal projects
- Transportation facilities on tribal land
- Planning and pre-construction activities for any of the above



### ■ Eligible Cost Share / Match

- Federal cost share up to 80% in urban areas
- Federal cost share up to 100% in
  - Rural areas
  - Planning grants in Areas of Persistent Poverty

### ■ Minimum Awards

- \$5 million for projects in urban areas
- \$1 million for projects in rural areas
- No minimum for planning grants

### ■ Maximum Award

- \$25 million per project
- \$100 million per State

- Not more than 50% of funding will be awarded to projects located in urban and rural areas, respectively

# The INFRA Grant Program

- Provides Federal grant funding assistance to support highway and freight projects of regional or national significance.
- \$889 million available for FY21.
- Application cycle for FY21 is closed.
- Highway, bridge, rail, intermodal, and port projects are eligible for assistance.

## ■ Eligible Applicants

- State(s)
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations serving 200,000+ population
- Political subdivisions of State or local governments
- Public authorities (including port authorities) with a transportation function
- Federal land management agencies applying jointly with a State(s)
- Tribal governments
- Multi-State or multi-jurisdictional group of public entities

## ■ Eligible Projects

- Highway or freight project on the National Highway Freight Network
- Highway or Bridge on the National Highway System
- Highway railway grade crossings or separations
- ***Intermodal rail or freight***
- ***Projects that facilitate intermodal interchange, transfer or access into or out of an intermodal facility***

## Planning Grants and Development Phase Activities

### ■ RAISE Planning Grants

- Description of planning grants on the RAISE presentation at the program webinar page;
- \$30 million for planning grants, \$10 million allocated for Areas of Persistent Poverty;
- APP = 20% or greater population living in poverty, or any territory or possession of the U.S.;
- <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants/raise-areas-persistent-poverty> ;
- Fund pre-construction activities that do NOT directly lead to construction;
- Design, engineering, local or regional plans, statewide studies, etc.;
- Evaluated against the merit criteria.

### ■ PIDP Development Phase Activities

- Development phase activities (including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, permitting, and preliminary engineering and design work) that support capital projects are also eligible;
- EPA's EJSCREEN tool is referenced as a tool to support the climate change and environmental justice elements for planning and/or project development;
- 10% of \$41.4 million reserved for small projects at small ports may be used to make grants for development phase activities that DO ultimately result in a construction project;
- 10% (\$18.4 million) of non-reserved funds may be awarded for development phase activities that DO NOT result in construction.

- **Port Infrastructure Development Program Grants**

- <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/PIDPgrants>

- **USDOT RAISE Grants**

- <https://www.transportation.gov/RAISEgrants>

- **USDOT INFRA Grants**

- <https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/infra-grants/infrastructure-rebuilding-america>

## America's Marine Highway Program

- Goal is to expand the use of America's navigable waters
- Three components:
  - Route Designation
  - Project Designation
  - Grants
- \$10.8 million available for FY21
- Projects the Secretary has designated as Marine Highway Projects are eligible. Projects support the development and expansion of documented vessels or port and landside infrastructure.
- Application deadline: **June 25, 2021**
- America's Marine Highway Program website
  - <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants/marine-highways/marine-highway>

## Port Conveyance Program

- Transfers the use and management of excess Federal property to States and local governments for the purposes of port development, port expansion, and operation of port facilities.
- Since the program's inception, the Maritime Administration has conveyed nearly three thousand acres of property to State and local governments in support of port facilities.
- Conveyance involves no monetary consideration, provided the property is used and maintained in perpetuity as a port facility.
- Website:  
<https://www.maritime.dot.gov/ports/port-conveyance/port-conveyance>



## The Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) Grant Program

- Provides Federal grant funding assistance to support intelligent transportation system (ITS) development
- Up to 50% Federal funding match
- Program eligibility may change from year to year to reflect Federal Highway Administration priorities

**\$60 million authorized each year (FY16 - FY20)**

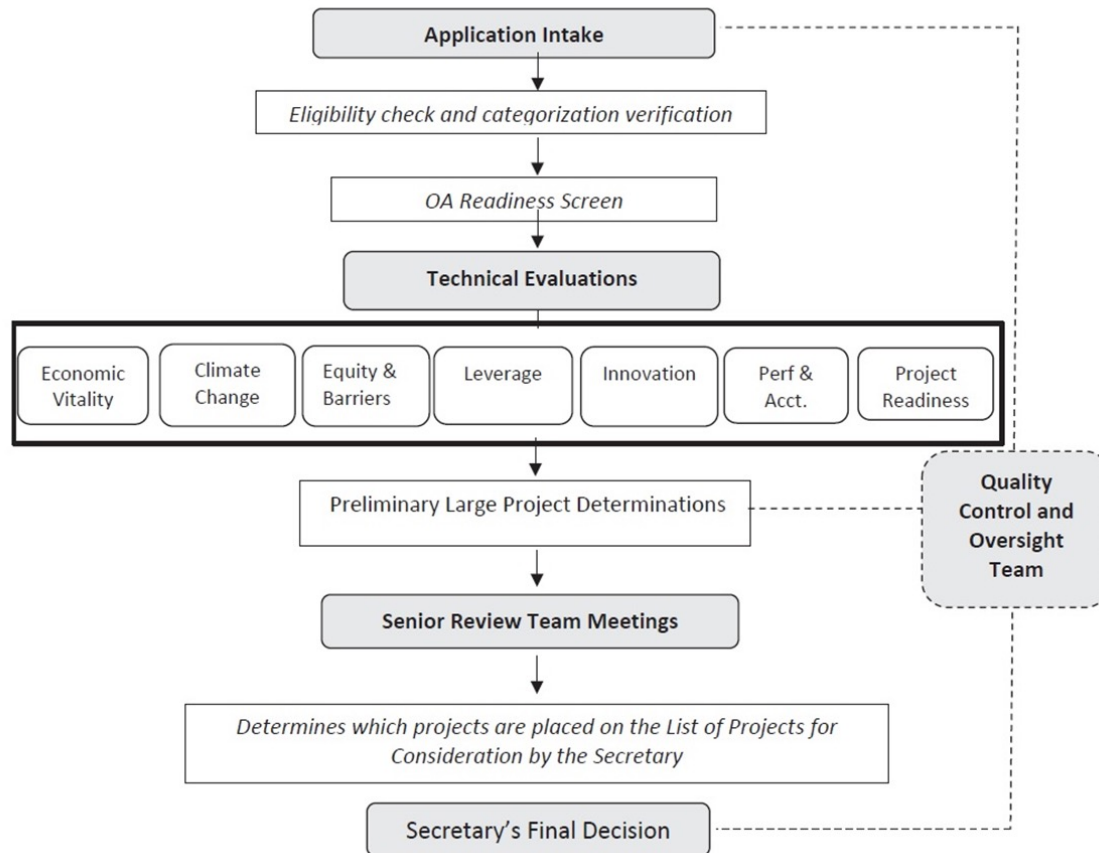
### Eligible Applicants

- State or local governments (including ports);
- Transit agencies;
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) representing a population of more than 200,000;
- Multijurisdictional groups made up of the above eligible applicants: and
- Consortiums of research or academic institutions.

### Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Program:

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fastact/factsheets/advtranscongmgmtfs.cfm>

## Typical USDOT Infrastructure Grant Evaluation Process



- The FAST Act Provides Port Eligible Funding (5 years)
  - Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (\$58B)
  - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program (\$12B)
  - National Highway Freight Program (\$6.3B)
  - INFRA Competitive Grant Program (\$4.5B)
  - Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Grants (\$300M)



## Transportation Infrastructure Finance & Innovation Act (TIFIA)

Strategic goal - to leverage limited Federal resources and stimulate capital market investment in transportation infrastructure by providing credit assistance in the form of direct loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit (rather than grants) to projects of national or regional significance.

TIFIA loans offer:

- Flexible repayment terms including a maximum term of 35 years from substantial project completion
- Repayments starting up to five years after substantial project completion
- Interest rates equivalent to Treasury rates
- No pre-payment penalty
- Finance up to 33% of eligible project costs
- Draw funds as needed; only pay interest on drawn funds

Eligibility and application information is provided on the TIFIA website:

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/tifia>

- Rural: Outside a Census-defined urbanized area of population greater than 150,000
- Project costs between \$10 million and \$100 million
- TIFIA can finance up to **49%** of eligible project costs
- Fixed rate at ½ **Treasury** rate
- DOT can cover borrower fees

Additional information is provided on the Build America Bureau website:

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/tifia/tifia-rural-project-initiative-rpi>

## Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing (RRIF)

The RRIF program provides direct loans and loan guarantees to finance development of railroad infrastructure. Rail projects within the boundaries of a port are eligible to apply for assistance.

- Very similar to TIFIA (long-term, fixed interest, flexible amortization, no pre-payment penalty, etc.)
- Can finance **up to 100%** of eligible project cost
- The credit risk premium is offset using
  - Upfront payment by the borrower
  - Collateral
  - Adjustment to the interest rate

Additional information is provided on the RRIF website:

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/financing/rrif/railroad-rehabilitation-improvement-financing-rrif>

## **Intended to reduce the time and costs for loans to modernize aging freight rail infrastructure**

- Reserved for Class II and Class III railroads (short line and regional), and commuter railroads
- Very similar to RRIF (long-term, fixed interest, flexible amortization, no pre-payment penalty, etc.)
- Can finance up to 100% of eligible project costs up to \$150 million
- **RRIF Express advantages**
  - Waives the credit risk premium (up to 10% of loan amount, \$5 million max)
  - Advisory fee assistance (up to \$100,000 per application)
  - Expedited loan processing
- **Letters of Interest accepted on a rolling basis until available funding expended**

Additional eligibility information, application instructions, and a sample term sheet are provided on the Build America Bureau website:

<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/buildamerica/financing/rrif/rrif-express>



## Private Activity Bonds (PABs)

PABs allow for privately developed infrastructure to access tax-exempt financing issued through a public conduit, given the public purpose of the private project.

Ports can use PABs for the purposes of constructing “Docks and Wharves” which are not subject to volume caps.

The USDOT is responsible for allocating up to \$15 billion in PAB authority for Qualified Highway or Surface Freight Transfer Facilities, which may be used to support other types of port infrastructure.

- Additional information is provided on the Build America Bureau website:  
<https://www.transportation.gov/buildamerica/buildamerica/financing/private-activity-bonds-pabs/private-activity-bonds>

## Other Potential Federal Funding or Loan Programs

### GRANTS/FORMULA FUNDS

- Small Shipyard Grants
- Port Security Grants
- EDA Grants
- USEPA Grants
- SBA Assistance
- NOAA Assistance
- STPBG Funding
- NHFP Funding

### LOANS/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- USDA Loans
- EDA Loans
- Small Business Administration



RURAL OPPORTUNITIES TO  
USE TRANSPORTATION FOR  
ECONOMIC SUCCESS

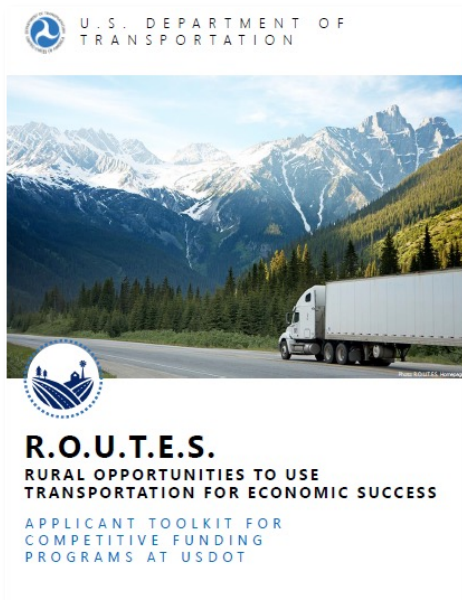
**R.O.U.T.E.S.**

[www.transportation.gov/rural](http://www.transportation.gov/rural)



# Applicant Toolkit for Competitive Funding Programs at USDOT

The Toolkit is designed for all levels of grant applicant experience, aiming to enhance access to USDOT resources for rural transportation projects. Specifically, this Toolkit illustrates key applicant activities when participating in the USDOT discretionary grants process, catalogues USDOT discretionary grant programs by applicant type and eligible project activities in a USDOT Discretionary Grant Funding Matrix, and provides resources for applicants to maximize the potential for award success.



## TRAINING MODULES

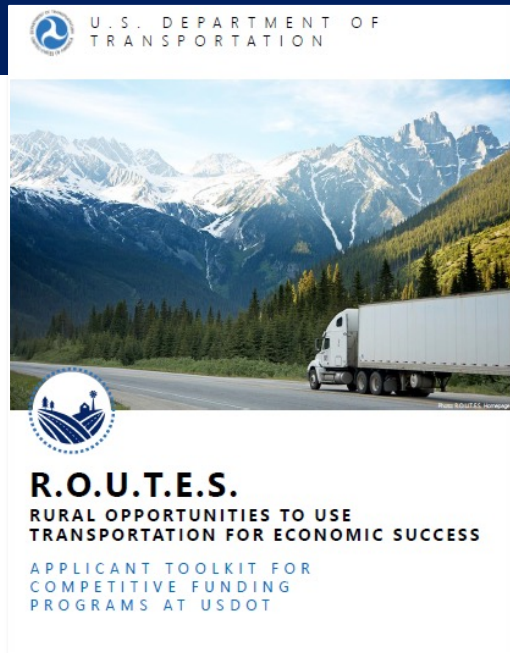
### **USDOT Discretionary Grant Process & Applicant Roadmap:**

Illustrates applicant and USDOT activities during each stage of the funding lifecycle (p.14)

**USDOT Discretionary Grant Funding Matrix:** Organizes grant programs by eligible applicant and project type for easy reference (p.17)

**Maximizing Award Success:** Outlines how to navigate program Notices of Funding Opportunity and key application components such as a benefit-cost analysis (p.73)

# [www.transportation.gov/rural](http://www.transportation.gov/rural)



VIEW THE TOOLKIT: [www.transportation.gov/rural/toolkit](http://www.transportation.gov/rural/toolkit)

EMAIL US: [rural@dot.gov](mailto:rural@dot.gov)

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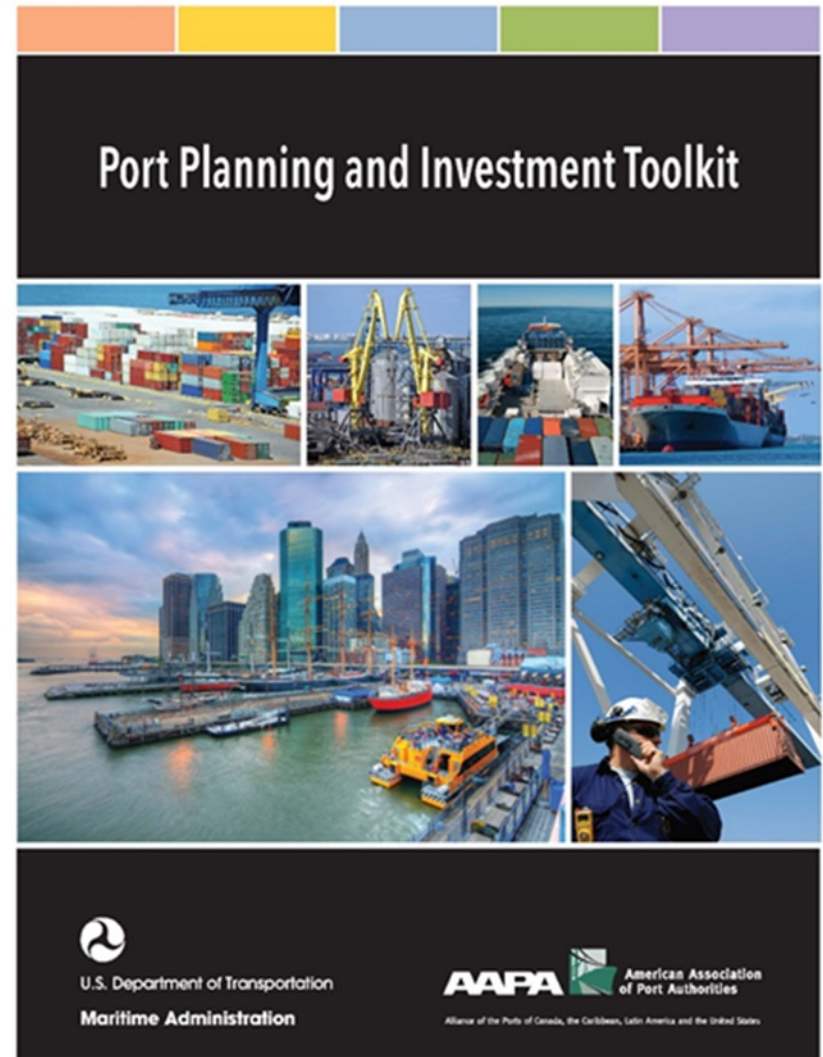
The toolkit can help ports:

- Evaluate conditions
- Define problems
- Prepare plans
- Communicate needs
- Engage partners
- Access funding
- Complete projects

Modules include:

- Planning
- Feasibility
- Financing
- ITS
- Marine Highway Program

Toolkit helps **ports obtain funding.**



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# Thank you!



U.S. Department of Transportation

