

Submission Requirements

Only State transportation departments may submit applications for funding under this program. Although there is not a prescribed format for a project submission, the following information must be included to properly evaluate the candidate projects. With the exception of the project area map, all of the following must be included to consider the application complete. Those applications that do not include these items are considered incomplete and returned.

1. State in which the project is located.
2. County in which the project is located.
3. U.S. Congressional District No. (s) in which the project is located.
4. U.S. Congressional District Member's Name(s).
5. Project Location—Describe the specific location of the project, including route number and mileposts, if applicable.
6. Public Lands Category—Specify what Federal public lands are being served by the project and whether the project is within, adjacent to, or provides access to the public lands.
7. Proposed Work—Describe the project work to be completed under this particular request, and whether this is a complete project or part of a larger project.
8. Project Purpose—The States' submission should show how the proposed project and/or the highway route of which it is a part meet the Federal land and resource management needs in the State. This should include status and adequacy of the existing route with regard to route continuity, capacity and safety and the benefits anticipated from completion of the proposed project.
9. Planning and Coordination—For the proposed project, describe the coordination with and input from the various Federal land management, State, and metropolitan planning agencies involved. Section 204(a) of Title 23, United States Code, as amended, requires all regionally significant Federal lands highways program projects to be developed in cooperation with States and metropolitan planning organizations, and included in appropriate Federal lands highways program, State, and metropolitan plans and transportation improvement programs.
10. Current and Future Traffic—For highway projects provide the current and design year average daily traffic. For other facilities, such as visitor centers, it may be desirable to describe the number of visitors accommodated by the facility.
11. Project Administration—Indicate whether the Federal funds for this project will be administered by the State transportation agency or a Federal Lands Highway Division (FLHD) of FHWA. If the FLHD or other Federal Agencies are involved, the type of involvement, whether it is preliminary engineering or contract administration, or other, should be specified. Also, the FLHD is available to assist with Federal Agency coordination and should provide any data and information requested.
12. Amount of Federal PLH Discretionary Funds Requested—Indicate the amount of Federal PLH funds being requested for that fiscal year. Candidates should only be

submitted from projects that are ready to advance in that fiscal year. If a State is willing to accept partial funding of the request, that should also be indicated. Sometimes partial funding of requests is utilized to provide funding to more projects, since the requests far exceed the funding available.

13. Commitment of Other Funds—Indicate the amounts and sources of any private or other public funding being provided as part of this project. Only indicate those amounts of funding that are firm and documented commitments. The submission must include written confirmation of these commitments from the entity controlling the committed funds.

14. Previous PLH Discretionary Funding—Indicate the amount and fiscal year of any previous PLH discretionary funds received for this project or route.

15. Future Funding Needs—Indicate the estimated future funding needs for the project, including anticipated requests for additional PLH discretionary funding, the items of work to be completed and projected scheduling.

16. Project Area Map—It is suggested that a readable map, clearly showing the proposed project and its relationship to the overall development of a highway route, as well as its relationship to the Federal public lands, be included. The map should also show any previously completed work on this highway route, if any, plus additional work being planned beyond the proposed project.

17. Talking Points Briefing—A one page talking points paper covering basic project information is also needed for use by the Office of the Secretary for the congressional notification process should a project be selected for funding. Each State's request for discretionary funds must include a talking points paper. A sample paper is included in these Guidelines.

State Transportation Agency Responsibilities

1. Coordinate with State, local, and Federal agencies within the State to develop viable candidate projects.
2. Ensure that the applications for candidate projects meet the submission requirements outlined above.
3. Establish priorities for their candidate projects if desired.
4. Submit the applications to the local FHWA division office on time so that the submission deadline can be met.

FHWA Division Office Responsibilities

1. Provide the solicitation memorandum and this program information to the State transportation agency.
2. Request candidate projects be submitted by the State to the FHWA division office to meet the submission deadline established in the solicitation.
3. Review all candidate applications submitted by the State prior to sending them to FHWA Headquarters to ensure that they are complete and meet the submission requirements.
4. Submit the candidate applications to FHWA Headquarters by the established submission deadline.

FHWA Headquarters Program Office Responsibilities

1. Solicit candidates from the States through annual solicitation memorandum.
2. Review candidate project submissions and compile program and project information for preparation of allocation plan.
3. Submit allocation plan to the Office of the Federal Highway Administrator for use in making final project selections.
4. Allocate funds for the selected projects.

FHWA Headquarters Program Office Contact

Larry Beidel, Highway Engineer, Office of Program Administration, Phone: (202) 366-1564, Fax: (202) 366-3988, E-mail: larry.beidel@fhwa.dot.gov

Sample Talking Points Briefing for Secretary

Note: These talking points will be used by the Office of the Secretary in making congressional notification contacts. Since some of the recipients of the calls may not be closely familiar with the highway program, layman's language should be used to the extent possible. Information contained in the talking points may be used by a member of Congress in issuing a press release announcing the discretionary allocation.

Public Lands Highways (PLH) Discretionary Funds

Grantee: <List full name of State

Transportation Agency>

Project: <short name/description of project>

This project provides for reconstructing ___ miles of US 1 in _____ County extending from State Route 2 intersection in Hometown to the County Road 3 in the vicinity of Smallville. Widening 2 feet on either side with improvements on horizontal alignment and installation of 1000 feet of guard rail are included in the project.

FHWA FUNDS: \$xx,xxx,xxx. <requested funds>

Specify other source of funds (for ex: State, local, Forest highways, etc, if any, to supplement Federal funds.

- This project will improve access to the Navajo Indian Reservation and improve the local economy.
- This project is part of the second phase of a 5-year program to reconstruct a 30-mile section of Forest Road 11 (State Route 201) between Town A and Town B.
- The project will be advertised for construction in <month/year> and is scheduled for completion in <month/year>.

[FR Doc. 99-11924 Filed 5-11-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463 that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation (VACOR), authorized by Pub. L. 96-466, section 1521, will be held on May 18 through

20, 1999. The meeting will be held at the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, Room 430, 810 Vermont Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20420. On May 18 and 19, the meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. On May 20, the meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 12:00 noon. The purpose of the meeting is to review the new case management system (WINRS) which has been introduced into Vocational Rehabilitation field office operations. In addition, the Committee will learn about the "One Step Career Center" concept currently in development at the National Center on Education and the Economy.

On May 18, the meeting will begin with opening remarks and an overview by Mr. Ronald W. Drach, Chairman. A presentation will follow which will examine the computer-based Vocational Rehabilitation Case Management System

(WINRS), both at the field and Central Office reporting levels. The afternoon session will consist of a review of veteran rehabilitation issues.

On May 19, Mr. Jeffrey Green, VA Deputy Ethics Attorney, will brief the VACOR membership on the annual ethics requirements associated with membership and financial disclosure forms. Also, Mr. John Dorrer and Mr. Neil Ridley, of the National Center on Education and the Economy, along with Mr. James Hartman, of the Vets Employment Training Administration, will present information on the "One-Stop Career Center" concept being developed by the Department of Labor. The afternoon session will feature Ms. Violet Parker, Director, Foreign Countries Operations, Veterans Affairs—Canada. She will report on the status of rehabilitation services provided to American military veterans residing in Canada. Finally, Mr. Julius

M. Williams, Jr., Director of the VA's Vocational Rehabilitation Service, will present an update on the vocational rehabilitation program, as well as future program goals and casework projects.

On May 20, the meeting will consist of a review of past unfinished business, recommendations for program changes, and a discussion of future meeting sites and potential agenda topics.

All meetings will be open to the general public. Oral statements will be heard at the May 20 morning meeting. If additional information is needed, please contact Frank J. Donlan, Counseling Psychologist, Department of Veterans Affairs, at (202) 273-7436.

Dated: May 5, 1999.

By Direction of the Secretary:

Heyward Bannister,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-11923 Filed 5-11-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M