

2019-2021 WSDOT PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION GRANT PROGRAM TIMELINES

This chart outlines the timelines for the following grant programs:

- Regional Mobility Grant Program (RMG)
- Consolidated Grant Program
- Puget Sound Transit Coordination (PSTC)
- Rural Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP)
- Vanpool Investment Grant Program (VIP)
- Commute Trip Innovation Grant Program (CTIG)

The following items are denoted:

- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- Application due dates
- Revised application due dates, if applicable
- Internal Review periods
- External Review periods

	Grant Activity	Start	End	Duration	Q4 17		Q1 18			Q2 18			Q3 18			Q4 18			Q1 19			Q2 19		Q3 19
					Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
1	RMG concept letters	2/1/2018	3/1/2018	29d																				
2	RMG NOFO – Application due date	6/1/2018	7/13/2018	43d																				
3	RMG Internal Review applications/request changes as needed	7/18/2018	8/10/2018	24d																				
4	RMG revised applications due	8/10/2018	8/10/2018	1d																				
5	RMG External Evaluation Panel ranks projects	8/15/2018	9/7/2018	24d																				
6	Consolidated NOFO – Application due date	7/9/2018	9/14/2018	68d																				
7	Consolidated Internal Review applications/request changes as needed	10/1/2018	12/7/2018	68d																				
8	Consolidated revised applications due	12/7/2018	12/7/2018	1d																				
9	Consolidated External Evaluation Panel ranks projects	1/7/2019	2/8/2019	33d																				
10	PSTC NOFO – Application due date	1/7/2019	2/1/2019	26d																				
11	RTAP NOFO – Application due date	12/5/2018	2/4/2019	62d																				
12	RTAP Evaluation	2/4/2019	2/28/2019	25d																				
13	VIP NOFO – Application due date	3/13/2019	4/26/2019	45d																				
14	CTIG NOFO – Application due date	4/8/2019	5/6/2019	29d																				



2019-2021 REGIONAL MOBILITY GRANT PROGRAM TIMELINE AND PROCESS

The state-funded Regional Mobility Grant (RMG) program supports local efforts to improve transit mobility and reduce congestion on our most heavily traveled roadways by providing connectivity and efficiency of the transportation system. This competitive grant program funds cost-effective public transportation projects that reduce delay for people and goods, and improve connectivity between counties and regional population centers. Supported in statute by RCW 47.66.030, this program funds new transit services that connect urban centers, park and ride lots, new buses, and rush-hour transit service along congested corridors. This grant program also funds capital projects that improve the connectivity and efficiency of the transportation system. Cities, counties, ports, and transit agencies in Washington state are eligible to apply for RMG funds.

CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE

February 1, 2018	Concept Letter form released (required in order to apply for 2019-2021 funding)
March 1, 2018	Due date for Concept Letters
June 1, 2018	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – application available
June 2018	Application training and technical assistance opportunities
July 13, 2018	Due date for applications
July–August 2018	WSDOT internal review
August 10, 2018	Due date for revised applications – as applicable
August–September 2018	External evaluation panel ranks projects
October 18, 2018	Prioritized list of projects sent to WSDOT Government Relations
March 2019	Legislature releases the Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program (LEAP) List (approximate date)
March–June 2019	Award letters sent after budget passes; grantees work with WSDOT to complete Performance Measurement Plan (PMP) and execute contract
July 1, 2019	Biennium begins

EVALUATION PROCESS

Eligible applications are reviewed by an independent evaluation panel comprised of subject matter experts in the fields of construction, capital investment and operations. The panel scores each application based on the program evaluation criteria as specified in the NOFO, and recommends a prioritized project list to WSDOT. WSDOT reviews the recommendations of the evaluation panel and submits a prioritized list to the Legislature and the Governor’s office. The Legislature takes action during the development to the 2019-2021 transportation budget and releases the LEAP list of funded projects.

For ongoing notices and more information regarding this grant program, check the Public Transportation Division’s website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/transit/grants.



2019-2021 CONSOLIDATED GRANT PROGRAM TIMELINE AND PROCESS

The Consolidated Grant Program funds capital investments; projects that improve public transportation within and between rural communities as well as between cities; and provides transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities. Eligible applicants include public transit agencies, nonprofit organizations, tribal governments, and other general or local governments.

WSDOT uses a single process – one application – to distribute both state and federal funds from several funding sources:

- State Special Needs
- State Rural Mobility
- Federal Transit Administration 5311 (Rural transit)
- Federal Transit Administration 5310 (Transit for seniors and people with disabilities)
- Federal Transit Administration 5339 statewide apportionment (Capital funding for bus and bus facilities)

CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE

July 9, 2018	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – application available
July-August 2018	Application training and technical assistance opportunities
August 18-22, 2018	Training sessions at Public Transportation Conference in Tri-Cities
September 14, 2018	Due date for applications
October-December 2018	WSDOT internal review
December 7, 2018	Due date for revised applications – as applicable
January-February 2019	External evaluation panel ranks projects
March 2019	Ranked list of projects announced
April-June 2019	Funding assignments made based on Legislative budget and award letters sent

EVALUATION PROCESS

Regional transportation/metropolitan planning organizations (RTPO/MPO) have a significant impact on the ranking of applicants. Each RTPO/MPO provides WSDOT with a list of applicants and associated projects in their region ranked by local priority which translates into evaluation points. The evaluation panel, comprised of industry experts representing tribal transit, special needs transportation, rural transit, planning, and asset management, evaluates the applications based on the program criteria specified in the NOFO. Using a ranked list, WSDOT matches the highest ranking projects with the appropriate available source(s) of funding. The goal is to award as many projects as possible.

For ongoing notices and more information regarding this grant program, check the Public Transportation Division's website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/transit/grants.



2019-2021 PUGET SOUND TRANSIT COORDINATION GRANT – TIMELINE AND PROCESS

This state-funded grant program, using approximately \$5 million from 2016-2021, provides financial assistance for coordinated transit-related projects in the central Puget Sound region. The program encourages joint planning and coordination by the central Puget Sound transit systems to improve the user experience and increase ridership while making the most effective use of tax dollars.

Applications must be jointly proposed by at least two eligible transit agencies in the central Puget Sound region and the roles and responsibilities of each partnering agency need to be clearly defined. Eligible transit agencies are King County Metro, Everett Transit, Sound Transit, Community Transit, Pierce Transit, and City of Seattle.

CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE

January 7, 2019	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – application available
February 1, 2019	Due date for applications
March 2019	Send award letters
July 1, 2019	Biennium begins

EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluation criteria includes the extent to which a proposed project aligns fare structures, integrates service planning, coordinates long-range planning, integrates administrative functions and internal business processes, integrates customer-focused tools and initiatives, and promotes innovation.

For ongoing notices and more information regarding this grant program, check the Public Transportation Division's website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/transit/grants.



2019-2021 RURAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – TIMELINE AND PROCESS

The Rural Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP) is funded by the Federal Transit Administration §5311(b)(2) and provides financial assistance to agencies to develop and execute (or contract out) trainings and technical assistance projects and other support services tailored to meet public transportation operators in non-urbanized areas. Public and private organizations, associations, and agencies are eligible to apply. The solicitation will likely result in multiple contracts for a variety of deliverables.

CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE

December 5, 2018	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – application available
February 4, 2019	Due date for applications
February 4-28, 2019	Evaluation and allocation
March 1, 2019	Award notice
July 1, 2019	Biennium begins

EVALUATION PROCESS

An evaluation team consisting of WSDOT staff and representatives of the ultimate beneficiaries—the transportation providers—will review applications and score the contents based on criteria specified in the NOFO. WSDOT reserves the right to tailor an application or a program to meet available funding and to award individual programs to the most qualified provider.

For ongoing notices and more information regarding this grant program, check the Public Transportation Division’s website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/transit/grants.



2019-2021 VANPOOL INVESTMENT PROGRAM GRANT – TIMELINE AND PROCESS

The state-funded Vanpool Investment Program (VIP) funds new vanpool vehicles for expansion, replacement of aging fleets, and incentives for employers to increase employee vanpool use. Transit agencies worked with WSDOT to develop a long-range plan for a statewide vanpool program. The Legislature responded with funding for a substantial expansion of the state's vanpool fleet, with a goal to double the number of vans. As a result, Washington State now has the largest public vanpool fleet in the nation. All Washington state transit agencies are eligible to apply for VIP funding.

CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE

March 13, 2019	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – application available
April 26, 2019	Due date for applications
May 2019	Award letters sent after passage of 2019-21 transportation budget
July 1, 2019	Biennium begins
October 21, 2020*	Notice of Funding Opportunity – application available for second solicitation for expansion vehicles (should remaining grant funding be available)
November 20, 2020	Due date for second solicitation
December 2020	Second solicitation award letters sent

EVALUATION PROCESS

Agencies who have submitted their investment plan to WSDOT (Transit Development Plan or Transit Asset Management Plan) are eligible to receive VIP grant funding for replacement vans. Federal Transit Administration's minimum useful life standard of four years and/or 100,000 miles will be used to determine awards for replacement vans.

*If there are remaining or returned funds available, a second NOFO will occur for expansion van requests only.

For ongoing notices and more information regarding this grant program, check the Public Transportation Division's website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/transit/grants.



2019-2021 COMMUTE TRIP INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM – TIMELINE AND PROCESS

The state's traditional Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program focuses on employees traveling to large employers during peak commute hours in the most congested areas of the state. The state-funded Commute Trip Innovation grant program provides an opportunity to work with new trip markets, such as employees traveling to smaller employers or during off-peak hours, or people driving to school or concerts. The purpose of the grant program is to increase the use of alternative travel modes in non-CTR travel markets by expanding public-private partnerships, and making measurable reductions on the Interstate-90, I-5 and/or I-405 corridors. All types of organizations are eligible to apply.

CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE*

April 8, 2019	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – application available
May 6, 2019	Due date for applications
July 1, 2019	Biennium begins
July 31, 2019	Award notices sent

EVALUATION PROCESS

Applications are reviewed by a WSDOT internal review team followed by an evaluation panel comprised of transportation experts and WSDOT staff. The evaluation criteria include the extent to which a proposed project reduces vehicle trips, vehicle miles traveled, costs per vehicle trip reduced, and cost per vehicle miles traveled reduced.

For ongoing notices and more information regarding this grant program, check the Public Transportation Division's website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/transit/grants.

*Dependent upon funding contained in the 2019-2021 Transportation budget.