

**TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM AND
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM
APPLICATION WEBINAR Q & A
APRIL 16, 2020**

Question:

Please explain the walking school bus concept?

Answer:

A Walking School Bus is a group of children who walk to school together. The group has a volunteer adult that leads the children. The kids are picked up and dropped off at their homes. A project such as this would be eligible as a Transportation Alternatives Program – Non-Infrastructure project.

Question:

If our project does not apply to a specific question in one of the applications, do we leave that completely blank?

Answer:

If the question is not applicable to your proposed project, please put “N/A” in the answer box. If the question refers to checking all applicable options for your project, leaving all boxes unchecked is a valid answer.

Question:

Can design funding be used as the required match?

Answer:

For most projects, only construction funding will be awarded. ARDOT does not consider a Sponsor’s costs for phases of the project that are not eligible for TAP/RTP funding towards the required 20% match.

Question:

Is our entity eligible to apply under the TAP program for a streetscape/bicycling/pedestrian project?

Answer:

If you are unsure whether or not your agency or group is eligible to apply directly for funding, please contact our office to discuss at LFPA@ardot.gov.

Question:

Are we allowed to use other grants for the required match?

Answer:

This will depend on which program you are applying to and the funding source of the other grant. You can contact our office to discuss specific project details to determine match funding eligibility at LFPA@ardot.gov.

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Question:

Does allowing motorized bicycles make funding ineligible?

Answer:

Motorized bicycles can be allowed on trails funded by these programs. However, motorized bicycle trails do not qualify for motorized RTP funding. ARDOT does not dictate where electric bicycles are allowed to be used. Individual agencies and municipalities set their own guidelines.

Question:

While building the trail, we want to fix storm water runoff areas. Will this engineering/landscaping cost be included or separate of the RTP funding?

Answer:

RTP funding can be utilized to improve drainage near the trail. Only the construction costs for the work would be eligible.

Question:

Does the match need to be non-federal funds?

Answer:

Typically yes, but eligibility will depend on the funding program. You can contact our office to discuss specific project details to determine eligibility at LFPA@ardot.gov.

Question:

Covid-19 funding is now available. Can these funds be used as a match to increase the scope of the project?

Answer:

Because these funds are new to everyone at this time, we do not have a final answer to this question. The Federal Highway Administration is still looking into the legislation and determining how the funds could be used. Once a final answer is determined, this document will be updated.

Question:

Are design expenses eligible for reimbursement?

Answer:

Typically no. Most projects awarded TAP or RTP funds are only awarded funding for construction of the project. At ARDOT's sole discretion, non-construction phases of large, regionally-significant projects may be awarded federal funds.