



**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**



*William Cass, P.E.
Assistant Commissioner*

NOTICE OF AVAILABLE CAPITAL FUNDS
FTA 5339(b) BUS & BUS FACILITIES PROGRAM

From: Fred Butler
Public Transportation Administrator
Bureau of Rail & Transit

Date: April 19, 2016

Subject: FTA 5339(b) Bus & Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant Opportunity – SFY 2017

To: Public Transportation Providers in NH

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Bureau of Rail & Transit, announces the availability of funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339(b) Bus & Bus Facilities (Bus) Program. This discretionary program provides funding for transit agencies to finance capital projects to replace, rehabilitate, purchase, or lease buses and related equipment and to rehabilitate, purchase, construct or lease bus-related facilities, including programs of bus and bus-related projects. Program highlights include:

Eligible Applicants:

- Eligible recipients in NH include the State as well as direct recipients of Section 5307 funding. Eligible sub-recipients include public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and private providers engaged in public transportation. Section 5307 direct recipients may directly apply. NHDOT will submit a consolidated request on behalf of all 5311 agencies as well as those Section 5307 that choose not to apply directly.
- Nationwide, a minimum of 10 percent of the amount awarded under the Bus Program will be awarded to States for projects located in rural areas.

Funding availability:

- \$211 million nationwide
 - Projects selected under this opportunity are eligible for a maximum 80% Federal share, with a 20% non-Federal match.
 - Clean Air Act (CAA) and ADA eligible vehicles are eligible for a maximum 85% Federal/15% local match; and CAA and ADA eligible cost related to vehicle equipment or facilities are eligible for a 90% Federal/10% local match.
 - Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the [Notice](#).

Eligible Activities:

1. Purchase, replacement, or rehabilitation of buses and vans, bus related equipment;
2. Replacement, construction, expansion or rehabilitation of bus-related facilities;
3. Intermodal facilities [must have adjacent connectivity with bus service]; or,

4. Costs incidental to the acquisition of buses or construction of a facility.

FTA Policy Priorities:

- FTA will prioritize projects that demonstrate how they will address significant repair and maintenance needs, improve the safety of transit systems, deploy connective projects that include advanced technologies to connect bus systems with other networks, and create of ladders of opportunity.
- FTA is also interested in projects that use up to 0.5 percent of the award for workforce development activities.

FTA Evaluation Criteria:

1. Demonstration of Need
2. Demonstration of Benefits
3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization
4. Local Financial Commitment
5. Project Implementation Strategy
6. Technical, Legal & Financial Capacity

Application Information and Deadline

Interested applicants must send a letter of intent via email, including a summary of the proposed project and estimated cost, to the Bureau of Rail & Transit at fbutler@dot.state.nh.us by **May 2, 2016**. NHDOT will then work with the agency/agencies to complete a statewide application through www.grants.gov. (Section 5307 direct recipients that intend to apply directly should plan on doing so no later than May 9th. Direct applicants must register on www.grants.gov at least 2-4 weeks prior to applying.) Additional application information can be found in the Bus Program opportunity announcement, here: [FFY16 5339\(b\) Bus Program Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Sincerely,



Fred Butler
Public Transportation Administrator