# Fiscal Year 2009
## Freight Rail Security Grant Program
**Department of Homeland Security**

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will provide $15 million to freight railroad carriers and railroad car owners under the Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2009. The FRSGP was created under Public Law (P.L.) 110-53, "Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007".

DHS will fund security initiatives for freight rail carriers that transport Rail Security-Sensitive Materials (SSM) through designated high population-density areas and freight railroad car owners that transport poisonous by inhalation/toxic inhalation hazardous (TIH) materials. For the purposes of the FRSGP and this grant cycle:

- Rail SSM includes certain explosives, materials poisonous by inhalation, and Class 7 radioactive materials; and

- Rail TIH includes anhydrous ammonia but excludes residue quantities of these materials.

The FRSGP guidance provides specific definitions of Rail SSM, Rail TIH, and high population-density areas, specific to this grant program.

## FY 2009 FRSGP Highlights

Important highlights in the FY 2009 FRSGP are:

- **Eligibility Expanded –** Eligibility has expanded from FY 2008. Both railroad carriers and railroad car owners that meet specific eligibility requirements may apply for FY 2009 FRSGP funds.

- **Cost Share Requirement Eliminated–** In accordance with the Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2009 (P.L. 110-329), providing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security, there is no cost share requirement for applicants of the FRSGP for FY 2009.

- **Funding Priorities** – Funding Priorities have expanded to allow for the procurement of Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking on railroad cars that transport TIH.

## Freight Rail Priorities for FY 2009

DHS will fund certain types of projects, depending upon the identity of the applicant:

- **Railroad carriers**

  o **Class I carriers** may request funds to support security awareness and emergency response training for frontline employees provided that they have completed an acceptable vulnerability assessment and security plan.

  o **Class II and Class III carriers** may request funds to conduct a vulnerability assessment and develop a security plan. The carriers may also request funds to support security awareness and emergency response training for frontline employees provided that they have completed an acceptable vulnerability assessment and security plan.

- **Railroad car owners** may request funds to acquire and install satellite Global Positioning System (GPS) tracking on railroad cars that transport TIH.

As part of the application process, applicants are required to prepare an Investment Justification (IJ) that addresses each initiative being proposed for funding.

## Eligibility

**Freight railroad carriers** that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for FRSGP funding:

- Transport Rail SSM as defined for this cycle of this grant program.
- Operate in or through at least one designated high population-density area.
- Certify they have and adhere to a security plan that conforms to 49 CFR Part 172.

**Freight railroad car owners** that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for FRSGP funding:

- Transport Rail TIH as defined for this cycle of this grant program.
- Allow DHS/TSA access to GPS tracking information, as outlined in the grant guidance.

## How to Apply for Grant Funding

Freight rail carriers and owners interested in applying for FRSGP funding are encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible. Applicants should be aware that the process involves a number of steps, can take several weeks to complete, and can be fairly time-consuming. The basic registration steps (described in detail at www.grants.gov) include:

• **Obtaining a user password at www.grants.gov** – This is a one-time process. It could take three to five business days for the password to be confirmed.

• **Creating a user profile with the Central Contractor Registration at www.ccr.gov** – It can take five to seven business days for the profile to be validated.

• **Registering with Operational Research Consultants** – The Federal government uses this credential provider to help safeguard electronic information.

• **Registering with www.grants.gov** – This includes identification of individuals who are authorized to submit grant applications, which could also take several days to confirm.

Applicants can download and begin filling out the grant application at any time, though the applications can be submitted only after the steps above are completed.

## Important Application Dates

- **November 5, 2008** – DHS releases the grant guidance.

- **January 13, 2009** – Grant applications are due through the www.grants.gov portal 45 days after the guidance is issued.

- **April 10, 2009** – DHS announces grant awards within 60 days of the application submission deadline.

## For More Information

Below are sources of information to learn more about the FRSGP and other surface transportation grant programs:

**FRSGP Conference Calls** – TSA will provide an overview of the FRSGP and answer questions in a conference call with potential applicants on November 6, 2008 at 2:30 PM EST. Please join us at 1-877-988-9660 (Participant Code 6827433). Additional conference calls will be held every week on Thursdays at 1:00 PM EST starting November 13, 2008 through January 8, 2009 with the same dial-in number and participant code.

**FRSGP Workshop** – We will hold a workshop on November 12th in Chicago, IL to discuss in detail the FY09 FRSGP. Materials will be posted on the website after the workshop.

**TSA Grants Website** – www.tsa.gov/grants.

**Federal Government Grants Website** – www.grants.gov.

**DHS Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID)** - Call 1-800-368-6498 or e-mail ASKCsid@dhs.gov.