



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: October 16, 2001

From: Manager, Airports Financial Assistance Division, APP-500

To: PGL Distribution List

Prepared by: Barry L. Molar

Subject: Program Guidance Letter 02-1

02-1.1 Applying for Block Grants - Mark Beisse (202) 267-8826.

This PGL provides information on acceptance of applications for the additional State block grant slot authorized by AIR-21. Due to the limited number of applications for the block grant program as a result of PGL 00-2.2 and withdrawal of qualified applications by some State aviation agencies we were unable to select a State for the open block grant slot.

We encourage each region to confer with the states on their potential selection for block grants. We may select a new State for Fiscal Year 2002 if the region believes the State is capable of undertaking the requirements of the program within a short amount of time. Involvement may be deferred if the State will need additional time to undertake their responsibilities.

The States also have the option of phasing in participation by having the region administer certain airport projects or types during the initial years. We intend to continue providing States with flexibility to tailor the number of airports included in the block grant depending upon their needs and capabilities. For instance, States could opt to have the FAA continue administering grants for some or all relievers, commercial service airports, and locations in the Military Airports Program. A block grant State might expand the scope of its program in a subsequent year. The strength or ranking of a State application would not necessarily depend on including all non-primary airports. Applicants may consult with FAA regions on how a potential State block grant might be appropriately tailored to the specific situation.

Regions should forward recommendations, Standard Form 424, and the State information specified within Attachments A and B to APP-500 by March 15, 2002. States should include the standard airport sponsor and noise compatibility program assurances with their application. This is similar to that required in the past. We anticipate selecting a State next year, but in the interest of flexibility, the deadline may need to be amended if an insufficient number of qualified candidates meet the deadline.

The states currently within the Block Grant Program will continue unless we receive notice from you to the contrary.

Original Signed by

Barry L. Molar