

Fiscal Year 2009

# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Transit Security Grant Program

Department of Homeland Security



The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will provide \$150 million to transit agency owners and operators to fund Operational Packages (OPacks) and capital security projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP).

The ARRA, which was recently signed by the President, is part of a national effort to jumpstart the economy, save and create millions of jobs, and invest in the future. In addition to creating jobs, ARRA TSGP allocations are designed to reduce security risks in the transit industry as quickly as possible.

This is a one-time competitive grant. Transit agencies are encouraged to review the ARRA TSGP Guidance and Application Kit, and application deadlines to take advantage of this funding opportunity.

## Funding Priorities

As summarized below, priority #1 (up to \$100 million) is to enhance visible, unpredictable deterrence efforts by funding Operational Packages (OPacks), including Canine Teams, Mobile Explosives Detection Screening Teams, and Anti-Terrorism Teams (ATT) (also known as VIPR Teams). Priority #2 will fund shovel ready capital projects for asset hardening and priority #3 will support non-shovel ready capital projects (at least \$50 million for priority #2 and #3 projects).

### ARRA TSGP Overview

Project Types	Eligibility	Application Deadlines
<b>Priority #1: Operational Packages (OPacks)</b> Salaries, support, training, and equipment for Canine Teams, Mobile Explosives Detection Screening Teams, and Anti-Terrorism Teams	Must employ at least 100 authorized positions dedicated to transit security, regardless of Tier  Requests limited to no more than 5% of the force's current authorized sworn positions	Applications due June 15, 2009, including budget, certifications, and standard forms
<b>Priority #2: Shovel Ready Capital Projects for Asset Hardening</b> Multi-User and Single-User High-Density Key Infrastructure Protection, Key Operating Asset Protection, and Other Mitigation Activities	Public transit agencies that were eligible for FY 2009 TSGP funding, regardless of Tier	Applications due June 29, 2009, including Investment Justification (IJ), budget, relevant Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) information, certifications, and standard forms
<b>Priority #3: Other Capital Security Projects</b> (same types of projects as Priority #2 but that are not yet Shovel Ready)	Public transit agencies that were eligible for FY 2009 TSGP funding, regardless of Tier	Applications due June 29, 2009, including IJ, budget, certifications, and standard forms

## Program Highlights

The ARRA TSGP application process is different than the FY 2009 TSGP. There are no tier designations and no target allocations by region or tier. Transit agencies and AMTRAK are eligible to submit applications as direct grantees. Certain law enforcement agencies (that have dedicated transit bureaus and are the primary security provider for an eligible transit agency) are eligible for OPacks as sub-recipients. In such cases, the transit agency is the grantee and must apply on behalf of the law enforcement agency.

Per the *Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance, and Continuing Appropriations Act of 2009* (P.L.110-329), ARRA TSGP applicants will not be required to provide a cost share. Applications must be submitted through the *grants.gov* website by the application deadlines. Awards will go directly to the transit agencies (not through the State Administrative Agency). Grant recipients will be responsible for submitting any financial and programmatic reports, and awarding funds to and monitoring activities of any sub-recipients. The period of performance of this grant is 36 months.

Key program requirements are:

- **All Applicants** – All ARRA TSGP applicants must have undergone a DHS security assessment, or developed or updated their security plan, within the last three years. Grant funds can only be used to address items in the security assessment or security plan.
- **Priority #1 Applicants** – To be eligible for OPack funding, transit police forces or law enforcement providers must employ at least 100 authorized positions dedicated to transit security, as of January 1, 2009. Applicants must certify to these levels. Funding requests are limited to no more than 5% of the force's current authorized sworn positions. Associated support and equipment requests are based on the number of officers requested.
- **Priority #2 Applicants** – Applicants for shovel ready capital security projects must certify that they can begin the project within 90 days and complete the project within 24 months (from the release of funds date). Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) information must be submitted with the application package in order to verify a project's shovel ready status.

## Important Dates

- May 28, 2009 – ARRA TSGP Guidance and Application Kit published
- June 15, 2009 – Operational Package (OPack) applications due
- June 29, 2009 – Capital Security Project applications due
- July 30, 2009 – Operational Package allocations announced
- August 31, 2009 – Capital Security Project allocations announced

Note: Transit agencies interested in applying for both OPack and capital security project funds are required to submit separate applications by the respective application deadlines.

## For More Information

Below are sources of information to learn more about the ARRA TSGP:

- **Conference Calls** – The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will provide an overview of the ARRA TSGP and answer questions in conference calls with potential applicants starting May 29, 2009. Calls will be held every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 1:00 PM EST through the application period, ending June 29, 2009. Please join us at 1-888-323-4702 (participant code: Wednesday).
- **TSA Grants Website** – [www.tsa.gov/grants](http://www.tsa.gov/grants)
- **FEMA Grants Website** – [www.fema.gov/grants](http://www.fema.gov/grants)
- **Federal Government Grants Website** – [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
- **DHS Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID)** – 1-800-368-6498 or e-mail [ASKCSid@dhs.gov](mailto:ASKCSid@dhs.gov) and carbon copy [TSAGrants@tsa.dhs.gov](mailto:TSAGrants@tsa.dhs.gov).