





Grants Management



Grantee Manual Training

Chapter 4







Objective

- By the end of this module, you should be able to successfully:
 - Identify the key components in the FMCSA application review process, to include:
 - FMCSA Application Review Process Overview
 - Business Management Review
 - Technical Review Panel



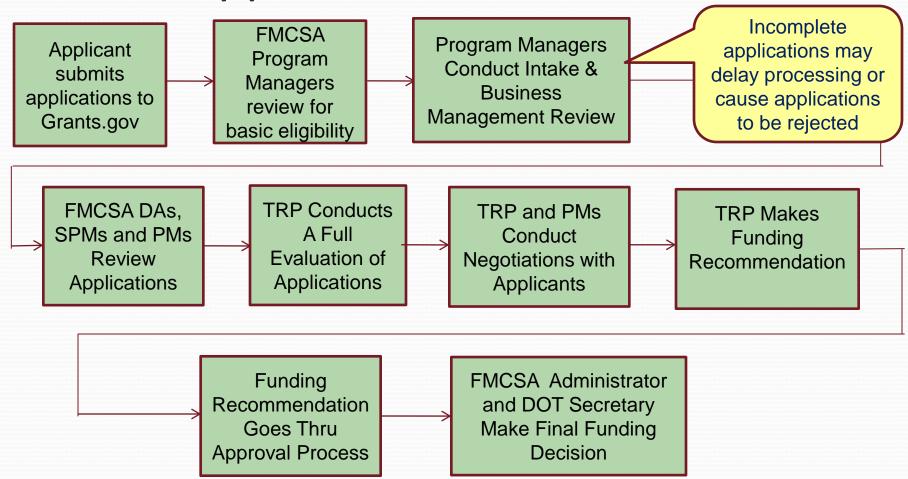


Application Review Process Overview





Overall Application Review Process







Business Management Review

 A process used to determine whether an applicant has the management, organization, personnel and systems in place to manage FMCSA grant funds properly

The BMR is comprised of:

- Conflict of Interest/Hatch Act/Lobbying
 Restrictions/Debarment and Suspension Review
- Delinquent Federal Debt Analysis
- Review of Previous FMCSA Grant Performance
- Review of Previous Audits
- Administrative Capabilities Questionnaire Review
- Additional Resources Review (as needed)





Technical Review Panel

National Training Center

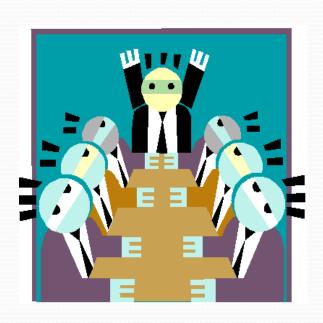






Technical Review Panel

 A Technical Review Panel (TRP) is a thorough, consistent, and independent examination of an application based on pre-established criteria by persons with subject matter expertise.



 All FMCSA grant programs are required to use a Technical Review Panel (TRPs)





Technical Review Panel

- Perform budget and cost analysis review
- Evaluate cost data includes determining if costs are appropriate for grantee type and in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- Costs must be:

Allowable

Necessary

Reasonable

Allocable

- All TRP discussions, application scores and associated score comments are captured electronically
- Score applications based on published evaluation criteria





Mandatory/Formula TRP Process

TRP Panelists independently review applications

TRP meets/discusses individual applications and panelists evaluation TRP recommends adjustments and additions to application Division Office works with applicant to finalize application

Additional documentation is reviewed by FMCSA Application is finalized and submitted for approval

- TRPs are hosted regionally
- FMCSA provides the TRP feedback to grantee for final adjustments to the application/CVSP, missing documentation, etc.





Discretionary TRP Process

TRP Panelists independently review and score each application

TRP discusses individual applications and panelists evaluation

TRP finalize and rank order applications FMCSA prepares final award recommendation package based on TRP

- Scores are based on the evaluation criteria and weights in the Grants.gov announcement
- FMCSA may request additional information, clarification or budget rework from applicants, as needed
- Panel may meet a second time depending on the level of clarification needed from the applicants







What Is the TRP Looking For?

- All requested documents completed fully and accurately
 - SF-424, 424a, 424b, SF-LLL, Administrative Capability Questionnaire, Contact Form
 - Program specific documents such as a complete CVSP, project plan, etc.



- An application that clearly addresses the program priorities and evaluation criteria listed in the Grants.gov announcement
- Meets the statutory and regulatory requirements of the program and grant administration





What Is the TRP Looking For?

- Has programmatic technical merit
- Contains a quality and reasonable project plan
- Complete budget that correlates to the project activities and meets all of the cost principles
- Grantees that have performed well in the past and/or have the management, financial and organizational capability to administer the grant funds properly
- Accurate calculation of match and MOE, where applicable
- Approved Indirect Cost (IDC) Rate letter (if budget includes IDC), where applicable







Wrap-up and Knowledge Check







Summary

- Now that you have completed this module, you should:
 - Understand the key components in the FMCSA application review process, to include:
 - FMCSA Application Review Process Overview
 - Business Management Review
 - Technical Review Panel Process





Check Your Knowledge

- Module 4 Knowledge Check
- Module 4 Knowledge Check Answers