

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

The US Department of Transportation is soliciting applications for Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grants. Funds are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micromobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators

The purpose of SS4A grants is to improve roadway safety by significantly reducing or eliminating roadway fatalities and serious injuries through safety action plan development and implementation focused on all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation users, motorists, personal conveyance and micromobility users, and commercial vehicle operators. The program provides funding to develop the tools to help strengthen a community's approach to roadway safety and save lives and is designed to meet the needs of diverse local, Tribal, and regional communities that differ dramatically in size, location, and experience administering Federal funding

The SS4A program provides funding for two types of grants: **Action Plan Grants** (for comprehensive safety action plans) and **Implementation Grants**. Action Plan Grants are used to develop, complete, or supplement a comprehensive safety action plan. To apply for an Implementation Grant, an eligible applicant must have a qualifying Action Plan. Implementation Grants are available to implement strategies or projects that are consistent with an existing Action Plan. Applicants for Implementation Grants can self-certify that they have in place one or more plans that together are substantially similar to and meet the eligibility requirements for an Action Plan.

Notice of Funding Opportunity Posted: May 16, 2022

Closing Date for Applications: September 15, 2022 (5:00 p.m. EDT)

Award Ceiling: \$50,000,000

Award Floor: \$200,000

Expected Number of Awards: 300

Cost Sharing or Match Required: Yes

Implementation Grant Eligibility Requirements

To apply for an Implementation Grant, the applicant must certify that they have an existing plan which is substantially similar to an Action Plan. The plan or plans should be uploaded as an attachment to your application. Use Table 2, Self-Certification Eligibility Worksheet, from the previous section to determine eligibility. The existing plan must be focused, at least in part, on the roadway network within the applicant's jurisdiction. The components required for an existing plan to be substantially similar to an Action Plan may be found in multiple plans. State-level action plans (e.g., a Strategic Highway Safety Plan required in 23 U.S.C. § 148, State Highway Safety Plans required in 23 U.S.C. § 402, Commercial Vehicle Safety Plans required in 49 U.S.C. § 31102, etc.) as well as Public Transportation Agency Safety Plans in 49 U.S.C. § 5329 cannot be used as an established plan to apply for an Implementation Grant.

Eligible Activities and Costs

i. Eligible Activities

Broadly, eligible activity costs must comply with the cost principles set forth in with 2 CFR, Subpart E (i.e., 2 CFR § 200.403 and § 200.405). DOT reserves the right to make cost eligibility determinations on a case-by-case basis. Eligible activities for grant funding include the following three elements:

- (A) developing a comprehensive safety action plan or Action Plan (i.e., the activities outlined in Section A.2.i in Table 1 and the list of supplemental Action Plan activities);
- (B) conducting planning, design, and development activities for projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan; and
- (C) carrying out projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan.

For Action Plan Grants, eligible activities and costs only include those that directly assist in the development of the Action Plan, element (A), and/or supplemental action plan activities in support of an existing Action Plan or plans.

For Implementation Grants, activities *must* include element (C) “carrying out projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan,” and *may* include element (B) “conducting planning, design, and development activities for projects and strategies identified in an Action Plan” and/or element (A) “supplemental action plan activities in support of an existing Action Plan.” Projects and strategies identified in element (C) must be either infrastructure, behavioral, or operational activities identified in the Action Plan, and must be directly related to addressing the safety problem(s) identified in the application and Action Plan. Examples of eligible Implementation Grant activities are listed on the SS4A website located at www.transportation.gov/SS4A. The following activities are **not** eligible for element (C) “projects and strategies” funding:

- Projects and strategies whose primary purpose is not roadway safety.
- Projects and strategies exclusively focused on non-roadway modes of transportation, including air, rail, marine, and pipeline. Roadway intersections with other modes of transportation (e.g., at-grade highway rail crossings, etc.) are eligible activities.
- Capital projects to construct new roadways used for motor vehicles. New roadways exclusively for non-motorists is an eligible activity if the primary purpose is safety-related.
- Infrastructure projects primarily intended to expand capacity to improve Levels of Service for motorists on an existing roadway, such as the creation of additional lanes.
- Maintenance activities for an existing roadway primarily to maintain a state of good repair. However, roadway modifications on an existing roadway in support of specific safety-related projects identified in an Action Plan are eligible activities.
- Development or implementation of a public transportation agency safety plan (PTASP) required by 49 U.S.C. § 5329. However, a PTASP that identifies and addresses risks to pedestrians, bicyclists, personal conveyance and micromobility users, transit riders, and others may inform Action Plan development.

All projects and strategies must have equity—the consistent, fair, just, and impartial treatment of all people—at their foundation. This includes traffic enforcement strategies. As part of the Safe System Approach adopted in the USDOT’s National Roadway Safety Strategy, any activities related to compliance or enforcement efforts to make our roads safer should affirmatively improve equity outcomes as part of a comprehensive approach to achieve zero roadway fatalities and serious injuries. The SS4A program can be used to support safety projects and strategies that address serious safety violations of drivers (e.g., speeding, alcohol and drug-impaired driving, etc.), so long as the proposed

strategies are data-driven and demonstrate a process in alignment with goals around community policing and in accordance with Federal civil rights laws and regulations.

Funds may not be used, either directly or indirectly, to support or oppose union organizing.

ii. Project and Strategy Location

For Implementation Grants, applications must identify the problems to be addressed, the relevant geographic locations, and the projects and strategies they plan to implement, based on their Action Plan or established plan. This should include specific intervention types to the extent practicable. To provide flexibility in the implementation of projects and strategies that involve systemic safety strategies or bundling of similar countermeasures, an applicant may wait to specify specific site locations and designs for the projects and strategies as part of executing the grant agreement, if necessary, upon approval of the Department and so long as the identified site locations and designs remain consistent with the intent of the award.

Implementation Grant example activities

Below are illustrative examples of activities that could be conducted as part of an Implementation Grant. This list is not intended to be exhaustive in nature and could include infrastructure, behavioral, and operational safety activities identified in an Action Plan:

- **Applying low-cost roadway safety treatments** system-wide, such as left- and right-turn lanes at intersections, centerline and shoulder rumble strips, wider edge lines, high-friction surface treatments, road diets, and better signage along high-crash urban and rural corridors.
- **Identifying and correcting common risks** across a network, such as improving pedestrian crosswalks by adding high-visibility pavement markings, lighting, and signage at transit stops, in a designated neighborhood, or along a busy public transportation route.
- **Transforming a roadway corridor** on a High-Injury Network into a Complete Street with safety improvements to control speed, separate users, and improve visibility, along with other measures that improve safety for all users.
- **Installing pedestrian safety enhancements and closing network gaps** with sidewalks, rectangular rapid-flashing beacons, signal improvements, and audible pedestrian signals for people walking, rolling, or using mobility assisted devices.
- **Working with community members in an identified problem area** to carry out quick-build street design changes informed by outreach and user input.
- **Supporting the development of bikeway networks** with bicycle lanes for different roadway volumes and speeds that are safe for people of all ages and abilities.
- **Carrying out speed management strategies** such as implementing traffic calming road design changes, addressing speed along key corridors through infrastructure, conducting education and outreach, setting appropriate speed limits, and making strategic use of speed safety cameras.
- **Creating safe routes to school and public transit services** through multiple activities that lead to people safely walking, biking, and rolling in underserved communities.
- **Promoting the adoption of innovative technologies or strategies to promote safety** and protect vulnerable road users in high-traffic areas where commercial motor vehicles (CMVs), pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, etc. interact.
- **Conducting education campaigns to accompany new or innovative infrastructure**, such as roundabouts, pedestrian hybrid beacons, or pedestrian-only zones.

- **Implementing standard and novel data collection and analysis technologies and strategies** to better understand vulnerable road user (pedestrian/bicycle/transit rider) network gaps and to collect exposure data.
- **Deploying advanced transportation technologies**, such as the installation of connected intersection-based safety solutions and vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) advisory speed limit systems (e.g., Intelligent Speed Assistance [ISA]).
- **Combating roadway departure crashes** through enhanced delineation, shoulder widening, rumble strips, and roadside safety improvements.
- **Evaluating and improving the safety of intersections** by considering innovative design changes, improved delineation, and advanced warning.
- **Improving first responder services** with improved crash data collection, formalizing street names and addressing, and enhancing emergency vehicle warning systems.
- **Unifying and integrating safety data across jurisdictions** where local agencies share their crash, roadway inventory, and traffic volume data to create an analytic data resource.

Self-Certification Work Sheet

(Determine if existing plan(s) is substantially similar to an Action Plan)

APC documents reviewed:

- Bike Walk Greater Lafayette Safety Plan,*
- Pedestrian Crash Analysis, 2013-2017,*
- Bicycle Crash Analysis, 2013-2017,*
- Fatal Crash Summary, 2012-2017*

Eligible Implementation Projects:

From Bike Walk Greater Lafayette Safety Plan:

- Develop and implement a multimedia education and outreach campaign,*
- Develop and expand Safe Routes to (SRTS) programs,*
- Provide community-based safety education and training,*
- Create walking and biking street teams,*
- Promote active transportation to and from community events, festivals, street fairs, etc.*
- Host walks, rides, events and on-trail programming,*
- Engage the business community in safe walking and biking,*
- Encourage placemaking activities that promote active transportation,*
- Partner with law enforcement agencies and officers to improve safe biking and walking,*
- Ensure law enforcement officer (LEO) participation on Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee(s),*
- Train law enforcement officers on bicycle and pedestrian traffic law and related topics,*
- Establish a multidisciplinary crash review team,*
- Evaluate all programs, outreach activities, campaigns, projects, etc.*
- Establish bike and pedestrian count locations and systems,*
- Repeat community social indicator survey in 2019 to gauge changes in knowledge and attitudes,*
- Review and monitor crash, injury, and fatality data annually,*
- Establish an ongoing system for collecting public input related to walking and biking,*
- Review and update zoning ordinances and planning documents, including the thoroughfare plan, to support walking and biking,*
- Adopt a Vulnerable Road User (VRU) law in each jurisdiction,*
- Adopt and/or implement a Complete Streets policy in each jurisdiction,*

- u) Establish dedicated funding for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects and non-infrastructure activities,*
- v) Establish a Bicycle-Pedestrian Coordination position within both cities,*
- w) Establish a county-wide Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee,*
- x) Complete and submit Bicycle and Walk Friendly community, business, and university application and renewals, and*
- y) Support statewide efforts to incorporate bicycle and pedestrian safety information and education into Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles manuals, guides and trainings,*