

FERRY PROGRAMS: FERRY SERVICE FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

Program Summary

The Ferry Service for Rural Communities Program (Rural Ferry Program) provides funding for capital, operating, and planning expenses to States and territories for ferry service to rural areas.

Note: This program is part of a joint NOFO with the Passenger Ferry Grant Program and Electric or Low-Emitting Ferry Pilot Program. An applicant may submit to multiple programs or may choose to submit to only one of the programs. See NOFO for further details.

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

States and Territories in which eligible service is operated.

Eligible Projects

- Capital Projects—purchase, construction, replacement, or rehabilitation of ferries, terminals, related infrastructure, and related equipment (including electric or low-emitting ferry vessels and related infrastructure).
- Planning Projects—for rural ferry service only.
- Operating Projects—for rural ferry service only.

Eligible projects are not required to be implemented on the same route segments that resulted in applicant eligibility. See NOFO for the full list of eligible projects.

Want to Apply? Here are some important Details

- Register early on grants.gov and sam.gov to obtain a unique entity identifier.
- Applicants are encouraged to identify scaled funding options in case insufficient funding is available to fund a project at the full requested amount.
- FTA encourages applicants to demonstrate State or local support by including letters of support. Applications that include letters of support will be viewed more favorably than those that do not.
- In FY 2023, FTA received six eligible applications from four States and the territory of American Samoa requesting \$210 million in Federal Rural Ferry Program funds. All six projects were funded at a total of \$170 million.

Funding Details

Cost Sharing:

- Max. Federal share for capital projects is 80% of the net project cost.
- Max. Federal share for planning projects is 80%.
- No max. Federal share for operating projects, however, it is required the State or locality to provide, at a min., 75% of the three-year average prior to the pandemic on an annual basis to support ferry service for the period supported by the grant.

Funding Available:
\$216 Million

Important Dates

FY24 Deadline:
June 17th, 2024 at 11:59pm EST

Partnerships

- Must demonstrate coordination/support (such as through letters of support) if the project requires formal coordination with other agencies/partners.
- Applicants should submit evidence of the non-Federal funds source, by including, for example, a board resolution or letter of support from the State. See NOFO for more examples.

Resources

- [Website](#)
- [NOFO](#)



Contact Information:

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