



Grant Technical Assistance Webinar 3: CDLPI and CMVOST Grant Programs Overview

The following questions were submitted to FMCSA by attendees during session 3 of the Discretionary Grant Program Technical Assistance Webinar Series on December 13, 2023.

Topic 1: Review NOFO Structure

1. How long are funds good for use within the grant?

The period of performance for a grant award is listed in the NOFO under Section B Federal Award Information.

2. What date is referenced by "the end of the fiscal year"? The end of funding award period is referred to as the end of the fiscal year, is that Sept. 30 each year?

The end of an awarded grant or cooperative agreement usually falls at the end of a fiscal year (September 30), unless extensions have been granted. Reference Section B Federal Award Information in the NOFO for information on what the period of performance is for any award.

3. Are any of these grants available for for-profit schools?

For profit schools should refer to the eligibility in Section C of each NOFO to determine eligibility.

Topic 2: How to Find Previous NOFOs on Grants.gov

1. When will the FY 24 Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) be posted?

The FMCSA strives to post NOFOs to www.grants.gov within the first quarter of the fiscal year or early in the second quarter. Please ensure you are signed up to receive notifications on when the NOFOs are posted.

Information on how to subscribe to receive notifications from grants.gov can be found in the first technical assistance webinar on How to Apply and Title VI requirements.



2. Is it possible to list the grant expiration date on Grants.gov?

On grants.gov the date that is listed is the close date. The close date represents the date that the NOFO closes and we no longer accept notifications. For information on the period of performance of a grant program, you have to look in the NOFO under Section B Federal Award Information.

Topic 3: Commercial Driver's License Program Implementation (CDLPI)

1. Were there any awards to county or city government? If so, is it possible to see what projects were awarded?

To find out information on what entities have previously been awarded a CDLPI grant or cooperative agreement, please access the CDLPI Grant Annual Report FY 2022 and the CDLPI Grant Annual Report FY 2023. Both reports can be found here. The CMVOST Grant Awardees list can be found here. A list of entities who have received FMCSA grant funding in the past can be found here, <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ResourceCenter/Results?topics=3>.

2. Does the grant help CDL training?

We recommend attending the Funding Conference once the NOFOs are posted. In the past, CDLPI grant program has not been used to train drivers or help training schools.

The CMVOST grant program does provide financial assistance to organizations that provide CMV operator training to current and former members of the U.S. Armed Forces, including National Guard members and Reservists, as well as certain military family members. Special consideration will be given to students from underserved communities and refugees from Ukraine and Afghanistan

3. Will funding for maintenance and support for an existing program be available?

Please refer to previously posted NOFOs; operation and maintenance for CDL programs has been an eligible type project under CDLPI. Each year the priorities may change, we recommend reading the NOFO and attending the associated funding conference.

4. Can grant funds be used to translate the CDL Manual in multiple languages and provide for assistance with printing costs of the manual?

Please refer to previously posted CDLPI NOFOs found on www.grants.gov to see what's projects have previously been eligible, and the CDLPI Annual Reports found here to see what has been funded in the past.

Also consider attending the Funding Conference for the next fiscal year. The Funding Conference is usually held within two weeks of the NOFOs posting and should provide more information as to what projects are eligible under CDLPI.



Topic 4: Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training (CMVOST)

1. Is CMVOST only for military and under-served community?

The CMVOST grant program's statute sets the priority for current and former members of military/armed forces. Additional priorities such as students of underserved communities and refugees were added in the FY2023 NOFO. Please read the FY2024 NOFO to verify the priorities for this coming year.

2. What are examples of non-accredited institutions approved by US DOT? Could you share any info on the process of getting approved?

US DOT does not approve non-accredited institutions for eligibility purposes. In terms of the process of getting approved, you would have to contact the U.S. Department of Labor. Information is available on their website.

A list of non-accredited institutions who have received CMVOST grant funding in the past can be found on the grants summary on A&I Resource Center of CDL training schools who have received funding for those specific programs.

3. If you are with career schools are you eligible for grants? To get approved depends on your state workforce.

The CMVOST grant program entity eligibility requirements are found in Section C of the NOFO. An applicant must meet the requirements explained in that section.

4. Our Institution got awarded an FMCSA grant some months ago. Are we eligible to apply for another FMCSA grant?

Yes, you are eligible to apply for future funding opportunities. For CMVOST the period of performance is current fiscal year plus 2 years. You should take into consideration your remaining funds available from your current award.

Under the CDLPI grant program always, ensure the project(s) you propose are not duplicative to what you are working on now or have worked on and that it is still reasonable/necessary to support the CDL program.

5. Can you apply for grant funding at a lower amount than the grant awards?

The CMVOST grant program only has a maximum amount per application but you can apply for less if your institution can only service, for example, half an amount. Please see Section B for funding limitations.