



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety
Administration

FY 2026 High Priority Program Funding Conference

FY 2026 HP-CMV NOFO and HP-ITD NOFO

Spring 2026

We're
Driving
Safety

Agenda

- FY 2026 HP-CMV and HP-ITD NOFOs (Key Overview Info, Notable Changes from FY25 NOFOs, etc.)
- Project Plan Narrative (*incl. Budget Narrative*) Requirements and Other Information (*includes tips for current HP-CMV/HP-ITD recipients*)
- Title VI Compliance Guidance
- Common Application Issues
- Applicant Resources

Presenter

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FY26 HP-CMV NOFO and FY26 HP-ITD NOFO

(Key Overview Info, Changes from FY25 NOFOs, etc.)

Key Overview Information

- **High-Priority Funding Opportunities:**
 - FY 2026 HP-Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Program / HP-CMV
 - FY 2026 HP-Innovative Technology Deployment (ITD) Program / HP-ITD
- ***NOTE: Pay attention to which program you are applying for. Each has unique:***
 - *SAM.gov Assistance Listing Number*
 - *Funding Opportunity Number*
- Read respective NOFO carefully to understand application submission criteria and deadlines
- USDOT/FMCSA seeks to fund projects that advance the priorities of this Administration as described in USDOT's mission statement, as well as FMCSA's, and across executive orders

Key Overview Information

	HP-CMV	HP-ITD
Eligible Applicants*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any State agency (including D.C. and the U.S. territories) Local governments Institution of higher education Non-profit org. (with a 501(c)(3) status with IRS) Fed-recognized Native American Tribes 	Any State agency (incl. D.C. and the U.S. territories) with a Program Plan/Top Level Design (PP/TLD) approved by FMCSA
Eligible Project Types	Projects that help reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving CMVs through enforcement and compliance activities, as well as public awareness/education, development of new technologies, CMV research, safety data improvement support, PRISM support, etc.	Projects that advance CMV safety technology and intelligent transp. system applications , including enhancing security/sharing of CMV data, simplifying enforcement operations, reducing administrative costs, PP/TLD development, and operation and maintenance.
Period of Performance	Year of Award + 2 years <i>(As best practice, build project schedule based on 2-year timeframe)</i>	Year of Award + 4 years <i>(As best practice, build project schedule based on 4-year timeframe)</i>
FY26 Cost Sharing Requirement	No match required	No match required
FY26 Federal Award Limit per Application**	\$2 million	\$2 million
FY26 NOFO Funding Amount	\$56.49 million	\$52.7 million

* = **Individuals and For-profit organizations are NOT eligible.**

** = **New Option:** For projects that have extraordinary benefits, applicants may submit an application with a federal amount greater than \$2M. Approval at sole discretion of FMCSA Administrator.

Notable Changes from FY 2025 NOFOs



FY 2026 HP-CMV NOFO

- **Removed** “Tire Pressure Monitoring System” as a priority
- **Revised** the “Enforcement and Compliance with Safety Regulations” national priority in with the following:
 - Added clarifying language on the appropriate eligible applicant entity categories for activities under this priority;
 - Provided more guidance on applicable entity categories for human trafficking prevention training under this priority versus the “Public Awareness and Education” priority;
 - Renamed the “Drug Interdiction Assistance Program (DIAP) Training” programmatic area to “Criminal Interdiction Program Training”; and
 - Removed the “Migrant Worker Transportation in Rural Areas” special emphasis area section from the Passenger Safety Initiatives programmatic area.
- **Renamed** the “Technologies to Improve CMV Safety Through Enforcement” priority to “Technologies to Improve CMV Safety Through Enforcement and CMV Safety Research” and provided additional guidance
- Project Narrative’s **Introduction section must include information** that explains the **applicant’s organizational capacity** to demonstrate that it can successfully administer the proposed project(s).
- **Added** a suggested, **sample summary activity table** for applicants to include in the Performance Activity Plan section – clearly summarizes target goals.
- Applicants that submit more than one application are **strongly encouraged** to include its priority ranking for all applications submitted.
- Award Funding Limits
 - No changes to \$2 million federal funding request maximum per application.
 - ***New Option*** - Applications with an exceptional project(s) above the \$2 million threshold may be submitted for consideration; however, the project must **demonstrate a significant impact to reducing crashes**, and approval is at the sole discretion of the FMCSA Administrator.

Notable Changes from FY 2025 NOFOs



FY 2026 HP-ITD NOFO

- No Significant Changes
- Award Funding Limits
 - No changes to \$2 million federal funding request maximum per application.
 - *New Option* - Applications with an exceptional project(s) above the \$2 million threshold may be submitted for consideration; however, the project must **demonstrate a significant impact to reducing crashes**, and approval is at the sole discretion of the FMCSA Administrator.

FY26 HP-CMV National Priorities

- **HP-CMV Program:**

HP-CMV National Priority	Focus Area(s)	HP-CMV Applicable Eligible Applicants	Additional Info
Enforcement and Compliance with Safety Regulations + Prioritized Program Area(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target unsafe driving of CMVs and non-CMV in areas identified as high-risk crash corridors • Promote the safe and secure movement of hazardous materials • Improve safety of transportation of goods and passengers in foreign commerce 	Eligible applicants with proper authority to conduct traffic enforcement and/or inspection activities (<i>or contract with an entity that has proper authority</i>)	<u>Prioritized Program Areas:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Enforcement in High-Crash Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Emphasis: CMV Safety in Work Zones</i> • CMV Safety on Rural Roads • Passenger Safety Initiatives • Human Trafficking • Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse (DACH) Violations • Criminal Interdiction Program Training (<i>formerly DIAP</i>) • Increased State Investigations
Technologies to Improve CMV Safety Through Enforcement and CMV Safety Research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Demonstration, acquisition, and implementation of technologies to improve CMV safety enforcement, and 2) CMV safety research projects that do <u>not</u> have an enforcement or technology nexus 	Any eligible applicant type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological projects in support of CMV information systems and networks <u>must</u> submit those projects under the <u>HP-ITD NOFO announcement</u> • Renamed version of ‘Technologies to Improve CMV Safety Through Enforcement’ priority

FY26 HP-CMV National Priorities

- **HP-CMV Program:**

HP-CMV National Priority	Focus Area	HP-CMV Applicable Eligible Applicants	Notes
Performance and Registration Information Systems Management (PRISM)	Partnership with State International Registration Plan (IRP) offices and law enforcement that improves highway safety by identifying and immobilizing commercial motor carriers that are prohibited from operating due to a Federal Out-of-Service order	State agency <i>(including D.C. and the U.S. territories)</i>	none
Lead MCSAP State Agencies' Compatibility	Projects seeking to achieve or maintain compatibility with the FMCSRs in order to demonstrate continued MCSAP eligibility	State agency <i>(including D.C. and the U.S. territories)</i> -- Ideally, should be State's MCSAP lead agency	none
Public Awareness and Education	Includes but is not limited to: human trafficking detection and prevention, passenger transportation safety, hazardous materials transportation safety, work zone safety, and share-the-road-safely initiatives.	Any eligible applicant type	Audience for outreach activities is motor carrier companies, CMV drivers, and the general public

FY26 HP-CMV National Priorities

- HP-CMV Program:

HP-CMV National Priority	Focus Area	HP-CMV Applicable Eligible Applicants
Skill Performance Evaluation (SPE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• States’ attendance to FMCSA-approved training on the SPE program• SPE activities conducted under FMCSA’s SPE Driver Waiver Program	State agency (<i>including D.C. and the U.S. territories</i>)
State Safety Data Quality (SSDQ)	FMCSA's safety programs use State-reported data on crashes and inspections to prioritize resources for the greatest impact on large truck and bus safety. The FMCSA SSDQ program focuses on ensuring the availability of high-quality data from our State partners	Any eligible applicant type

FY26 HP-ITD National Priorities

Specific details on the Priorities can be found in the NOFO

HP-ITD Priorities	
Meets Core Compliance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop PP/TLD• Safety Information Exchange• E-Credentialing• E-Screening	Detecting Vehicle Out of Service (OOS) Issues
Truck Parking Availability	Electronic Inspection
Work Zone Notification	Enhanced Data Sharing
Detecting Federal Out of Service (OOS)	FMCSA IT Modernization Efforts
Improve Data Quality	Other (e.g., Safety Screening Trail Studies, Operation and Maintenance (O&M), Program Support)



REMINDER:

- All proposed ITD projects must be in a FMCSA-approved Program Plan Top Level Design (PP/TLD).
- If an applicant is not the lead state agency, a MOU must be in place with the lead state agency.

Project Plan Narrative

(incl. Budget Narrative)

Requirements and

Other Information

Project Plan Narrative Overview

- **Project Plan Narrative Sections:**

- Introduction
- Problem Statement
- Performance Objective
- Performance Activity Plan
- Performance Measurement Plan
- Monitoring and Timeline/Milestone Plan
- Budget Narrative

- **NOTE:** *Narrative sections are listed in consecutive order. Per NOFO requirements, they should appear in your application in this order.*

Project Plan Narrative Overview

- **General Requirements:**

- Project plan narratives are limited to 35 total pages
 - This requirement is **per application**, not per project within an application
- Must clearly indicate when a supplemental attachment is referenced
- Tips for multiple projects in one application
 - Applications must not include more than four (4) projects
 - FMCSA will only review the first four
 - Each project must have its own budget narrative AND narrative must contain **a comprehensive or summary budget** that includes expenses per project/per cost category, with an overall total cost of all projects
 - ❑ The comprehensive budget must match the application's SF-424 and SF-424A
 - Must include project and budget narrative sections for each project in consecutive order
 - ❑ Example: P1 (all P1 project and budget narrative sections in consecutive order), followed by P2 project and budget narrative sections

Introduction Section

- **Section Requirements:**

- Provide a description of:
 - Project purpose(s)
 - **Must reference the applicable priority(ies)** being met as described in Section C of the NOFO
 - *For HP-CMV: If the 'Enforcement and Compliance with Safety Regulations' priority is applicable, also include the applicable prioritized programmatic area (e.g., CMV Safety on Rural Roads, Passenger Safety Initiatives, etc.)*
 - Must include the intended outcome(s) of the proposed project
 - Information that explains the applicant's organizational capacity to demonstrate that it can successfully administer the proposed project
 - This is a new specific requirement for *HP-CMV applications*, but **HP-ITD** applicants have option to include information as well
- **For HP-ITD only:**
 - Include statement that the applicant State agency is the lead agency responsible for the PP/TLD
 - OR ... if applicant is not the State agency responsible for the PP/TLD, demonstrate that it has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or other agreement with the ITD lead agency and confirm that the applicant has coordinated with the ITD lead agency

Introduction Section

HP-CMV NOFO Only - Participation by Local Law Enforcement Agencies & Other Entities

- Any eligible local law enforcement agency applicant directly **must provide a statement within the application certifying** that the applicant meets the eight conditions from 49 CFR § 350.405(a)(2), if it meets all eight conditions (provide explanation for any nuances, etc.)
- **Eligible non-law enforcement entities** (*e.g., institutions of higher education, non-profit orgs., Tribes*) **must also certify** compliance with the conditions cited in 49 CFR § 350.405(a)(2)
 - BUT, these entities may state within their application a reason for exemption to the terms and conditions under (ii), (vii), and (viii), if they are not directly responsible for law enforcement activity and/or no current database access exists for their specific project.



Introduction Section

HP-CMV NOFO Only - Participation by Local Law Enforcement Agencies & Other Entities

- Example of Local Law Enforcement & Other Entities Certification:
 - The County of XXX, Sheriff Department, certifies meeting the all conditions listed in 49 CFR § 350.405(a)(2).
 - University ZZZ (or Non-profit entity XXX), certifies meeting [*insert which provisions are applicable*] in 49 CFR § 350.405(a)(2). University ZZZ (or Non-profit entity XXX) is exempt from 49 CFR § 350.405(a)(2) (ii), (vii), and (viii) because [*insert reason*].

Problem Statement Section

- **Section Requirements:**

- Provide a *qualitative and quantitative* description which demonstrates the problem(s) the project will address.
- Include details on the performance data used to identify the problem and to establish the baseline.
 - Must include an objective data source, source date, and trend analysis; and also explain how the applicant collects, maintains, and analyzes the data.
- Data must include clear and concise information directly related to the problem(s).
- Trend analysis must include the previous three-year performance metrics
 - To cover the location of the identified problem(s), driver behaviors that contribute to the problem(s), and targeted location(s) (i.e., targeted State, city and/or county, highway and/or the mile markers involved).

Performance Activity Plan Section

- Section Information: **HP-CMV NOFO Only**

- *New*** Applicants are strongly encouraged to include a summary table formatted like the sample to the right, to include applicable activity categories with target goals.
 - Goal: To get applications with organized activity data
 - Sample table is a guide; applicants should add or remove additional activity categories, as appropriate.
 - Example: If a university applicant’s project is focused on researching and developing best practices for law enforcement officials, the university should NOT include any enforcement-related goals, as the deliverables could be/would be utilized by enforcement agencies in a separate effort (not part of the HP-CMV project/application funding request). University’s can report the number of full-time and part-time personnel in the table.
 - However, if a law enforcement entity is a subrecipient in the university's project and the law enforcement entity is conducting enforcement duties funded under the project, then those enforcement-related goals could be included, if it aligns with project objective(s).

SAMPLE Summary of Proposed Activities	
Activity Category	Benchmark / Target Totals (Numbers Only)
# of Traffic Enforcement Contacts (Total)	
<i># of Traffic Enforcement Contacts CMV</i>	
<i># of Traffic Enforcement Contacts Non-CMV</i>	
# of Educational Events (Total)	
# of Outreach Events (Total)	
<i># of CMV Outreach Events Contacts</i>	
<i># of Non-CMV Outreach Events Contacts</i>	
# of Hours (Total)	
<i># of Regular Hours</i>	
<i># of Overtime Hours</i>	
# of Employees (Total)	
<i># of Full-Time Employees</i>	
<i># of Part-Time Employees</i>	
# of Citations (Total)	
<i># of Non-CMV Citations</i>	
<i># of CMV Citations</i>	
<i># of Motor-coach Citations</i>	

Budget Narrative Section

Personnel Budget Narrative				
Position(s)	# of Staff	% of Time on Grant project	Annual Salaries	Total Cost
Sub-Total Personnel				

OMB Approval No. 4040-0006
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs						
SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Hire CDL Road Skill Test	20.237			\$688,744.00		\$688,744.00
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. Totals				\$688,744.00		\$688,744.00
SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES						
6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)	
	(1) Hire CDL Road Skill Test	(2)	(3)	(4)		
a. Personnel	\$409,552.00				\$409,552.00	
b. Fringe Benefits	\$199,248.00				\$199,248.00	
c. Travel						
d. Equipment						
e. Supplies						
f. Contractual						
g. Construction						
h. Other	\$8,068.00				\$8,068.00	
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	\$616,868.00				\$616,868.00	
j. Indirect Charges	\$71,876.00				\$71,876.00	
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$688,744.00				\$688,744.00	
7. Program Income						

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Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)



Applicants are strongly encouraged to use the budget narrative template that is included with the HP NOFO application packages on grants.gov

Tips for Current HP-CMV/HP-ITD Grant Recipients

- Reminder for current FMCSA HP Grant Recipients with Active / Open grant agreements
 - Be mindful of existing organization resources and ability to complete new activities in FY26 application
 - Explain as part of organizational capacity information in Introduction section of project narrative (*NOTE: this guidance mainly for HP-CMV applications but HP-ITD applications can include same info*)
 - Monitoring and Timeline/Milestone Plan:
 - REMINDER: For FY25 awards, period of performance end date is 9/30/2028 for **HP-CMV** and 9/30/2030 for **HP-ITD**.
 - **HP-CMV**: Plan for two-year project schedule - do not estimate potential extra months beyond 2 years
 - **HP-ITD**: Plan for four-year project schedule - do not estimate potential extra months beyond 4 years
 - After award selection announcement, FMCSA and recipients can discuss schedule adjustment, as needed
 - If you plan to include a project(s) with same scope elements as existing/active HP grant, be mindful to only **request funding for the new scope elements**
 - Period of performance is relevant
 - Duplicate scope elements for same project are not eligible

Title VI Compliance Guidance

Title VI Compliance Guidance

- **Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Program Assurance and Plan Title VI Assessments**
 - If an application is selected for an award, FMCSA will not obligate the funds/execute the grant agreement until FMCSA approves the Title VI Plan.
 - Optional: Applicants are encouraged to include a draft or FMCSA-approved Title VI Program Compliance Plan with their applications
 - *Submitted to and approved by the FMCSA Title VI Program Manager*
 - *Review process could take up to six months, if applicant does not have an existing Plan*

Title VI Compliance Guidance

- Title VI Resources available on FMCSA A&I Resource Center website – Policy/Guidance section:

<https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ResourceCenter/Results?topics=7>

- FMCSA Title VI Program Compliance Plan Requirements (as of Aug. 2025)
 - Review this ASAP if you do not have a draft or FMCSA-approved plan, in particular
- FMCSA Applicant Title VI Program Compliance Checklist FY 2026
- FMCSA Title VI Program Assurances (May 5, 2025)



**USE THIS VERSION /
DO NOT USE OLDER VERSIONS**

Common Application Issues

Common Application Issues

- **General:**

- Repeating same information throughout narrative
- Heavy use of “buzz” words and hard to understand project basics

- **Introduction:**

- Does the narrative reference the applicable national priority(ies)?
 - *Note for HP-CMV: Traffic Enforcement (TE) in high-crash areas' priority should only be used / referenced if project scope includes TE*

- **Problem Statement:**

- Does the narrative include details on performance data used to identify the problem?
- Does the narrative include a sufficient trend analysis?
- Is your information a “data dump” and no cohesive nexus to primary project goal?

Common Application Issues

- **Performance Activity Plan:**

- Does the narrative provide a description of the activities the applicant will conduct to help mitigate the problem and achieve objective's outcome?
- If technology or research project is very technical, use plain language when possible (e.g., explain acronyms, etc.)

- **Monitoring and Timeline/Milestone Plan:**

- Information should not be too vague / generic - be descriptive and concise.

- **Performance Measurement Plan:**

- What is the baseline data that will measure progress toward achieving performance objectives?

Common Application Issues

- **Budget Narrative:**

- Inconsistencies with total federal request in SF-424 and total amounts in SF-424A and/or budget narrative
- Is the level of detail provided sufficient to justify requested funding?
 - Costs for equipment and supplies for personnel should be reasonably proportional
 - Concise explanation for cost estimate for an item and quantity - large quantities and high cost, in particular
 - Has adequate supporting documentation been provided?
 - Equipment disposition policies (if applicable), etc.
 - Are personnel costs reasonable (see 2 CFR § 200.430)?
 - Are Institute of Higher Education (IHE) faculty personnel expenses based on Institutional Base Salaries (IBSs)?
 - If undergrad/grad students that are included in personnel and fringe cost categories are deemed employees of the IHE, please mention that in the cost category narratives.

Common Application Issues

- Budget Narrative (*continued*):

- Prorate costs appropriately (i.e., only costs applicable to HP-funded project)
- Equipment cost category: If your agency's equipment threshold is below \$10,000, mention the policy in the narrative so FMCSA can verify why lower cost items are included in this category vs. Supplies cost category.
 - This guidance has been in past NOFOs
- Cost eligibility questions / concerns
 - Resource: Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) Comprehensive Policy (MCP), Version 4.0 (April 2026)
 - Link: <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/mission/grants/motor-carrier-safety-assistance-program-grant-comprehensive-policy>
 - Provides program policy, guidance, technical assistance and eligibility Information
 - For **HP-CMV**: Refer to MCP Appendix A - MCSAP and HP Cost Eligibility Table
 - Note the differences between MCSAP formula program and HP-CMV competitive program
 - For **HP-ITD**: Refer to MCP Appendix H - High Priority-ITD Cost Eligibility Table

Applicant Resources

Grant Resources

- **FMCSA Discretionary Grants Toolkit**
 - <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ResourceCenter/Results?topics=8>
- **HP-CMV Best Practices Guide** (for preparing an application)
 - <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/HighPriority.aspx>
- **HP-ITD Best Practices Guide** (for preparing an application)
 - <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ITD.aspx>

Resources

Past HP Funding Summaries:

Check out the FY 2025 and FY 2023 HP Funding / Project Summaries documents*:

<https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/ResourceCenter/Results?topics=3>

(*Note: FY 2022 and FY 2024 HP awards documents only list recipients and award amounts – no scope summary)

NOTE - Suggestion for proposed research and technology projects:

Take into consideration previously/currently FMCSA funded efforts, as described in the funding summaries documents and FMCSA Office of Research website:

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/research/office-research>

(Also, check other USDOT agency sites (e.g., FHWA and NHTSA) for overlapping active/completed research.)

The screenshot displays the FMCSA Resource Center website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for MCSAP, HP, CDLI, CMVOST, a Resource Center, and Tools. A search bar is present with the text "What do you want to learn about? Try searching for key words, such as 'meeting' or 'awards'". Below the navigation is a section titled "Explore by Grant" with icons for MCSAP Grant, HP Grant, CDLI Grant, and CMVOST Grant. A "Frequently Searched Topics" section is visible, with "Funding Summaries (26)" highlighted in a yellow box. Other topics include Conference Materials (78), Funding Conferences (14), MCSAP Formula (15), MCSAP National Program Reviews (5), and MCSAP Partner Webinars (19). The FMCSA logo and "Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration" are prominently displayed. At the bottom, there is a "Home / Research" breadcrumb, a "Office of Research" sidebar with links to Active Research Projects, Completed Research Projects, Data & Statistics, Research and Technology Programs, Reports & Publications, and Our Divisions. A main content area features a large image of a red semi-truck and a "Motor Carrier Safety Progress Report" link. A "RELATED RESOURCES" sidebar on the right lists "HP-CMV 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity", "HP-ETS 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity", "HP-ITD 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity", and "HP Grant Awards FY 2025".

FMCSA Contacts

General FMCSA HP Grants Program Email Address: FMCSAHPGrants@dot.gov

General FMCSA Grants Management Office (GMO) Email for questions regarding grants.gov posting and application submission: FMCSA_GrantMgmtHelpdesk@dot.gov

FY2026 HP-CMV

- Program Manager POC:
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- Financial/Application Submission POC:
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FY 2026 HP-ITD

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- Financial/Application Submission POC:
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THANK YOU