




COAR Cycle 10 Application Approval  
February 5, 2026

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# Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR)

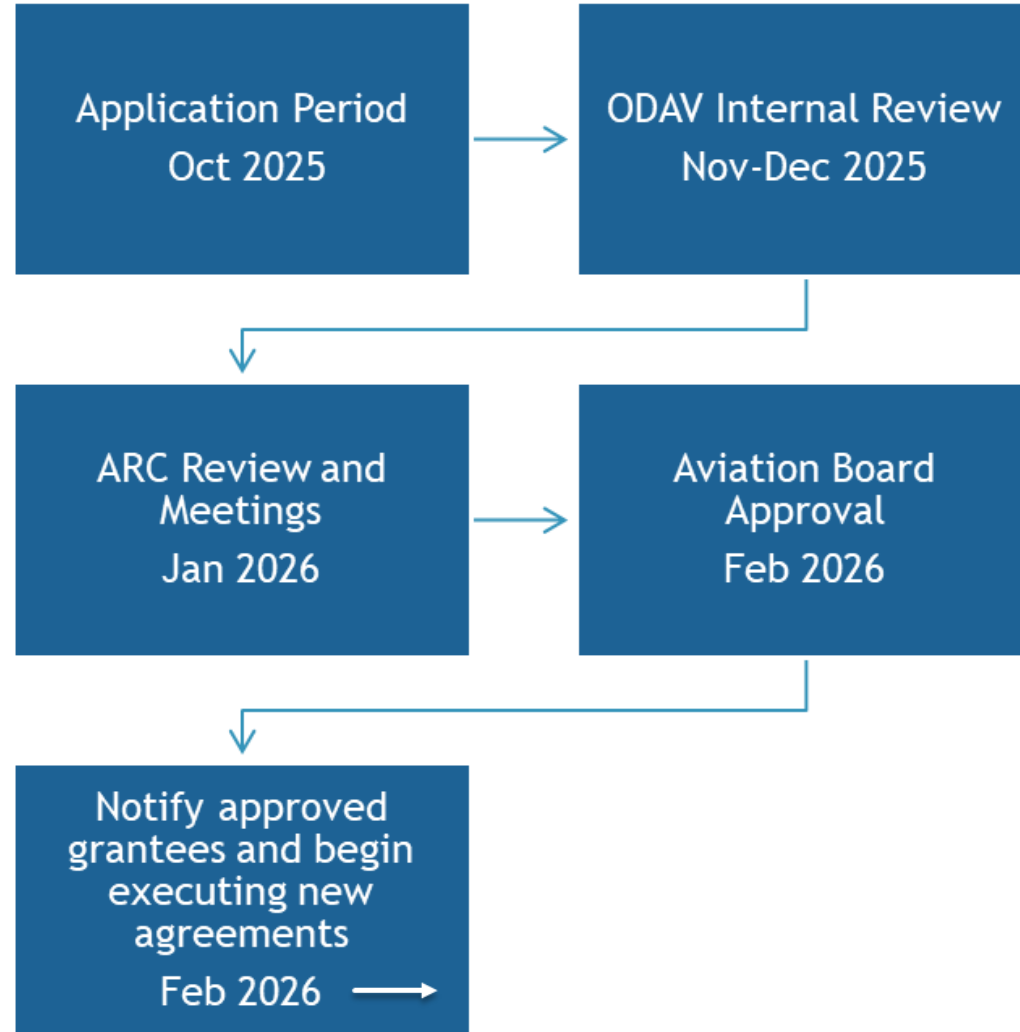


- Established by the Legislature in 2015, funded by aviation fuel tax.
- Governed by Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 319.023 and Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 738-124.
- Grants approved within three Priorities:
  - Priority 1 - assist airports with match requirements for FAA grants.
  - Priority 2 - grants for emergency preparedness and infrastructure projects in accordance with the Oregon Aviation Plan or Oregon Resilience Plan.
  - Priority 3 - grants for critical/essential services, airport development for local economic benefit, or aviation related economic development.
- First grant cycle held in 2016-17, 31 applications approved for \$1.68M in COAR grant funding.
- Since the first cycle ODAV has provided over \$20M in grant funding for 254 projects at 46 of the public use airports in Oregon.

# COAR Cycle 10 2025-26

## COAR 2025-26

- 66 Applications
- Total Project Cost: \$99,092,757
- Total Funding Request: \$5,826,684
- Total Available Funding: \$3.5M



# COAR Grant Funding

- ▶ OAR updates completed in 2025, effective January 1, 2026.
  - ▶ (OAR) 738-124-0040 states maximum grant amount is \$150k per project.
  - ▶ Option for larger requests removed from OAR.
- ▶ Increase in grant funding requests over the life of the COAR program.
  - ▶ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) through the FAA.
  - ▶ Increase in project costs.

# Aviation Review Committee (ARC)

- ▶ The ARC is comprised of one member from each Area Commission on Transportation (ACT).
- ▶ COAR Applications are reviewed and scored by the ARC.
- ▶ Scoring is based on statutory criteria.
- ▶ Once application is scored, ARC breaks ties and prioritizes applications based on criteria established in OAR 738-124-0060(5):
  - ▶ Applicant that can bear the most cost - sponsor match.
  - ▶ Projects related to safety and infrastructure.
  - ▶ Quantity of projects applied for at an airport within the same grant cycle.
  - ▶ Regional significance.
- ▶ ARC presents a list of recommended applications to the State Aviation Board for Approval.
- ▶ The ARC review process has remained consistent since the program's inception, with a single administrative modification implemented in 2022.
- ▶ ARC cohort groups consist of two to three ARC members who collectively evaluate a portion of applications.
- ▶ Prior to cohort meetings, each ARC member is required to submit a conflict-of-interest form.
- ▶ ARC members are prohibited from scoring applications based within their own ACT.
- ▶ ARC members are also excluded from scoring applications for airports or projects where a conflict as defined in ORS 244.020 exists.

# State Aviation Board Approval Updates

- ▶ COAR grants approved at reduced funding amounts in 2025.
  - ▶ Allowable per OAR 738-124-0035 Board Review and Project Selection.
  - ▶ No process in place to document Board approval that differs from ARC recommendation.
  - ▶ (OAR) 738-124-0035 updated to reflect criteria used by the Board to approve applications.
- ▶ Process for documenting written approval by Board created.
  - ▶ Updated process provides greater clarity and transparency in the Board approval process.
  - ▶ Align ARC and Board review to be based on same criteria.

An aerial photograph of an airport, showing a long runway with the number '27' at its end. To the right of the runway is a large terminal building with a distinctive wavy roof. The airport is surrounded by green fields and distant mountains under a clear sky. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent white rectangle containing text.

# Aviation Review Committee Chair Shelley Humble

# Aviation Review Committee Recommendation

## Priority 1

37 Applications

Total Funding Request of \$2,774,568.13

Seven applicants with multiple applications

The Aviation Review Committee recommends approval of all Priority 1 projects in accordance with OAR 738-124-0010(2) as listed in the attachment. The ARC requests the State Aviation Board to consider the number of applications submitted per airport when approving allocation of COAR grant funding.

*Note: ARC members suggest that the State Aviation Board have discussions and/or update guidelines regarding Priority 1 projects as follows:*

*(1) ability to NOT fund all grants if the slate of projects include several applications from the same airport. The ARC members understand that the number of Priority 1 grants is largely due to the BIL/IIJA FAA funding and allocated in the next 2-3 years, ensure all applicants have a chance at funding; and,*

*(2) currently, the ARC body does not have the ability to limit the number of Priority 1 approvals, possible guideline or process change to give ARC members opportunity to provide guidance to the State Aviation Board if multiple grants for one airport is received.*



# Aviation Review Committee Recommendation

## Priority 2

2 Applications

Total Funding Request of \$285,000.00

The Aviation Review Committee recommends approval of all Priority 2 projects in accordance with OAR 738-124-0010(2) as listed in the attachment.

*Note: The ARC requests the State Aviation Board to consider the number of applications submitted per airport when approving allocation of COAR grant funding.*

# Aviation Review Committee Recommendation

## Priority 3

27 Applications

Total Funding Request of \$2,766,661.51

Six applicants with multiple applications

The Aviation Review Committee recommends approval of all Priority 3 projects in accordance with OAR 738-124-0010(2) as listed in the attachment. The ARC requests the State Aviation Board to consider the number of applications submitted per airport when approving allocation of COAR grant funding.

## Tie Breaking

- ▶ COAR-2026-7S3-00038 and COAR-2026-5S1-00008 - Application 00038 for Twin Oaks recommended to be funded before application 00008 for George Felt as application 00038 is a safety project - obstruction removal
- ▶ COAR-2026-BNO-0005 and COAR-2026-BNO-00068 - Both applications submitted by City of Burns, application 00005 recommended to be funded before application 00068 per applicant preference listed in applications
- ▶ COAR-2026-2S6-00070 and COAR-2026-BNO-00067 - Application 00070 for Sportsman Airpark recommended to be funded before application 00067 for City of Burns based on number of applications submitted by City of Burns
- ▶ COAR-2026-56S-00018 and COAR-2026-DLS-00046 - Application 00018 for City of Seaside recommended to be funded before application 00046 for Columbia Gorge as application 00018 is a safety project - security fencing

# Staff Discussion and Recommendations

Staff recommendations concur with ARC recommendations:

- ▶ Approving applications in Priority 1 as presented (\$2,774,568.13)
- ▶ Approving applications in Priority 2 as presented (\$285,000.00).
- ▶ Approving applications in Priority 3 as presented (\$360,000.00).
- ▶ Approving Priority 3 COAR grants below the funding line contingent on available funding.
- ▶ Approving a total grant cycle funding authorization of \$3,500,000.00.

# Draft Motions

Approve applications submitted in accordance with OAR-738-124-0010(2)(a)  
“Priority 1”: as recommended and ranked by the Aviation Review Committee  
for Priority 1.

Approve applications submitted in accordance with OAR-738-124-0010(2)(b)  
“Priority 2”: as recommended and ranked by the Aviation Review Committee  
for Priority 2.

Approve applications submitted in accordance with OAR OAR-738-124-  
0010(2)(c)“Priority 3”: as recommended and ranked by the Aviation Review  
Committee in Priority 3.

Approve funding authorization for 2025/2026 COAR Grants in an amount not to  
exceed \$3,500,000.00.

**On behalf of ODAV and the COAR Program,  
Thank you!**

**Andria Abrahamson, Program Coordinator**

**Ermie Buncal, Program Coordinator**

**Alex Thomas, Policy, Planning, & Programs Manager**

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