COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE? The 2019-20 Competitive Grant cycle will distribute $16 million. The minimum grant request is $60,000, and the maximum is $2 million.

WHO CAN APPLY? Cities, counties, ODOT, tribes, transit districts, and other road authorities may apply.

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE? Safety projects on the public road right of way, consistent with jurisdictional plans, supported by the school or school district, are within a one-mile radius of a school, and that positively affects the ability of children to walk and bicycle to school. Project examples include sidewalks, median refuge islands, rapid flashing beacons, etc.

WHAT IS THE MATCH REQUIREMENT? 40% cash match is required which may be reduced to 20% for certain criteria. For more information read the Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Program Guidelines available on the SRTS Program website.

HOW TO APPLY

WHERE AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?
All application materials can be found at https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx.

Solicitation begins: July 23, 2018
Letter of Intent due: August 31, 2018
Applications due, solicitation ends: October 15, 2018

CONTACT: LeeAnne Fergason
leeanne.fergason@odot.state.or.us,
503-986-5805

SRTS PROGRAM WEBSITE:
https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx
PROJECT SELECTION

WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS WILL RISE TO THE TOP FOR FUNDING?

A competitive project will have some of the following criteria:

High Priority:
• High percentage of students receiving free/reduced lunch
• High posted speed at project location
• Two or more lanes at project location, or crossing distance greater than 30 feet
• High average daily vehicles at project location
• One or more school related crashes near project location

Priority:
• Affects elementary or middle school students
• Ability for project to be completed in five years
• Project proximity to the school
• Project benefits multiple schools

The Safe Routes to School Advisory Committee will make final project recommendations to the Oregon Transportation Commission.

PROJECT DELIVERY

• Grant Recipients will be reimbursed for project costs by ODOT.
• Monthly progress reports must be submitted by Grant Recipient.
• Projects must be completed within five years.
• Grant Recipient must begin to expend funds ASAP, at least by two years.
• Grant Recipients are highly encouraged to incorporate encouragement programs.
• Visit SRTS Program website for more details.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

All Safe Routes to School Advisory, Oregon Transportation Commission, and Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public with time allotted for public testimony. Applicants may submit letters of support for projects from committees like local Area Commissions on Transportation and community-based organizations.

FUNDING FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS

In the spring of 2017 House Bill 2017 passed in the Oregon State Legislature, dedicating $10 million annually for Safe Routes to School infrastructure, increasing to $15 million annually in 2023. The purpose of the funding is to build projects within a one-mile radius of schools to make it safer and easier for students to walk and bicycle to school.

IMPORTANT FACTS:
• SRTS funds are available because of an increase in State Highway taxes and fees and are deposited into the Safe Routes to School Fund.
• There is a 40% cash match for the funds. Cash match can be reduced to 20% when the project is within a city of 5,000 people or fewer, or is near a Title I school, or is within a “Priority Safety Corridor.”
• The Safe Routes to School Fund is guided by OAR 737-025.

CONTACT: LeeAnne Fergason
leeanne.fergason@odot.state.or.us, 503-986-5805

SRTS PROGRAM WEBSITE:
https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/SRTS.aspx