

# Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Grants Overview

May 18, 2022



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



# What is the FMCSA?

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- Under the U.S. Department of Transportation
  - Lead Federal government agency responsible for regulating and providing safety oversight of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs)
- Mission - to reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses
- <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/mission/who>

# Some Facts

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- Safe and efficient commercial transportation critical to public and economy
- Number of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in U.S.\*
  - 10,160,433 single-unit trucks (straight trucks);
  - 2,925,210 combination trucks (tractor-trailers); and
  - 995,033 buses
- Approximately 6.5 million CMV drivers
- More than 318 billion vehicle miles
- More than 64% of freight (by weight)



\*All data mentioned is 2017. Source: FMCSA "2021 Pocket Guide to Large Truck and Bus Statistics"

# FMCSA Grant Programs



# FMCSA's Four Grant Programs

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## Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP)

- Federal **formula** grant program for all 50 States, Washington, DC, & U.S. Territories.
  - **Uniform and reciprocal system** for enforcing the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) & Federal Hazardous Materials Regulations (FHMRS)
  - Reduce the number and severity of crashes and hazardous material incidents involving commercial motor vehicles
  - Improve safety through enforcement, education, outreach and technology

## High Priority (HP)

- Discretionary grant program
  - Augment a State's/Territory's CMV safety efforts
  - Target unsafe driving, safe transportation of HAZMAT, education/outreach, implement innovative technological solutions, other related efforts.

# FMCSA's Four Grant Programs (cont'd)

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## CDLPI

- Discretionary grant program
  - Provides financial assistance to States and other eligible entities to improve the National CDL program and to achieve compliance with FMCSA's CDL regulations.
  - Ensures that only qualified drivers are eligible to receive and retain a CDL
  - Ensures "One Driver – One License – One Record" for each CDL holders

## CMVOST

- Discretionary grant program
  - Helps reduce crashes involving CMVs by expanding the number of CDL holders possessing enhanced operator safety training
  - Assists current or former members of the U.S. Armed Forces, as well as certain family members, to obtain a CDL

# History – MCSAP

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## **Authorized by the Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) of 1982**

- Initially a discretionary grant-in-aid program to the States (for roadside inspections only).
- In FY1984, MCSAP = 4 States; \$8 million
- In FY2021, MCSAP provided over \$304 million to 56 jurisdictions
- In FY2022, over \$470 million eligible for award due to BIL

## **Structure changed significantly under FAST Act**

- Combined several previous discretionary grants under MCSAP
- Established mandatory deadlines for certain compliance requirements
- Significant increase in funds to States & new formula requirement

## **States/Territories form the backbone of FMCSA's safety programs**

- Conduct 95% of all CMV safety inspections (and other enforcement measures) nationally
- County and municipal agencies also perform enforcement activities in support of MCSAP.

# MCSAP – What it Supports...

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- Reimburse States for personnel, equipment and other costs to enable recipients to carry out the following activities and projects.
  - Inspections of CMVs and drivers
  - CMV & non-CMV traffic enforcement
  - Motor carrier compliance reviews/investigations
  - Public education & outreach
  - Data quality improvements by MCSAP state agencies
  - Drug and alcohol enforcement (when accompanied by inspection)
  - Size & Weight enforcement (when accompanied by inspection)
  - Human Trafficking Intervention (when accompanied by inspection)
  - Other CMV safety-related activities
  - Safety Audits of New Entrant Carriers
  - Safety activities for CMV's in international commerce (Border Program)\*



# MCSAP Grant – CMV Safety Efforts

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- MCSAP partners account for the majority of national CMV safety efforts\*
  - CMV Safety Inspections – 2.8 million
  - Carrier Investigations – 2,521
  - New Carrier Safety Audits – 41,561
  - Traffic Enforcement Inspections – 552,797

\* FY 2021 data from FMCSA Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS)

# MCSAP – Eligibility

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- Formula-driven grant, mandated by authorization and by annual Congressional appropriations
- Only available to States and Territories
- Payment is by reimbursement for eligible expenditures
- Recipients must adopt laws compatible with the FMCSRs & FHMRs;
- Must have an approved Commercial Vehicle Safety Plan (CVSP) (including compatibility assurances)
- States can assume a share of the program costs
- Must maintain prior level of State effort, or “maintenance of effort” (MOE)

## Formula Factor Allocation

### Basic Factors: (States and Puerto Rico)

➤ National Highway system road miles	➤ VMT
➤ Population	➤ Special (diesel) Fuel Consumption
➤ Carrier Registrations	

### Additional Components:

- Border Safety Component – additional funds only for States sharing a border with Canada or Mexico and engaging in CMV safety activities targeting international commerce.
- Territory Component – Funds for US Territories only (excluding Puerto Rico). Territories do not receive above components

# High Priority (HP) Grant Program

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Awarded to States, local jurisdictions, institutions of higher education, Federally recognized Indian tribes and non-profit organizations to support specific safety priorities

- FY 2021 funding = \$45.9 million
  - \$45.2M available for award after 1.5% Administrative Takedown
  - **HP CMV = \$21.3 million**
    - CMV Safety
    - Safety Data Quality
    - PRISM
  - **HP ITD = \$23.9 million**
- FY 2022 funding = \$84.1M total
  - Applications currently under review

**Intended to increase public awareness of CMV safety and related issues, and to demonstrate new safety-related technologies**

- Discretionary grants; open competition via grants.gov
- Proposals are evaluated via an Agency assessment and concurrence process incorporating technical, programmatic and budget reviews.
- Payment is by reimbursement for eligible expenditures
- States typically assume 15% share of the program cost

# Commercial Driver's License Program Implementation Grant Program (CDLPI)

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## Discretionary Grant Program

- Typically awarded to States, institutions of higher education, and non-profit organizations to support improved compliance with 49 CFR parts 383 and 384.
  - Period of Performance is year of award, plus four fiscal years
    - FY 21 awards: August 1, 2021, to September 30, 2025
  - FY 2021 funding award = \$29 million

# CDLPI Grant Program – Overview

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Provides **financial assistance** to States and other eligible entities to improve the National CDL program



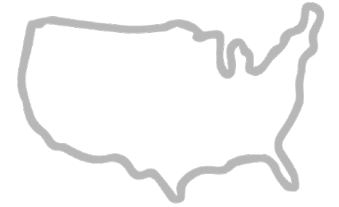
Ensure that only **qualified drivers** are eligible and receive and retain a CDL



Focus on concept that each driver has **only one driving record and only one licensing document**



States to achieve compliance with **FMCSA regulations** concerning driver's licensing standards and programs



Other Entities capable of executing **National projects** that aid States in their compliance efforts and that will improve the success and consistency of the National CDL Program

# CDLPI Grant Program – Eligibility

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- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
  - Outlines eligibility and application requirements
    - Posted in grants.gov annually
    - Performance based project proposals
    - Evaluation description of Agency Merit Review Process
      - Technical, program specific, budget review and cost analysis, and past performance
    - Reimbursable for eligible expenditures incurred during period of performance
    - Cost sharing up to 15% of the total project cost

# Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training Grant Program (CMVOST)

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## Discretionary Grant Program

- Typically awarded to institutions of higher education, and training providers
  - Period of Performance is year of award, plus one fiscal year
    - FY 2021 awards: August 1, 2021 to September 30, 2023
  - FY 2021 funding awarded = \$2 million
    - Subject to approval of necessary authorization and appropriation
- The CMVOST Grant Program purpose is to train individuals in the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles (as defined in section 31301)

# CMVOST Grant Program – Eligibility

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- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
  - Outlines eligibility and application requirements
    - Posted in grants.gov annually
    - Project based proposals
    - Evaluation description of Agency Merit Review Process
      - Technical, program specific, budget review and cost analysis, and past performance
    - Reimbursable for eligible expenditures incurred during period of performance
    - Cost sharing: 15% of the project cost



# How to Apply for FMCSA Grant Funding

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- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) posted on grants.gov
  - Assistance Number: 20.232 (CDLPI Grant Program)
  - Assistance Number: 20.235 (CMVOST Grant Program)
  - Assistance Number: 20.237 (HP Grant Program)
- NOFO details all eligibility and application requirements
- Applications are submitted via grants.gov
  - Project plans typical sections include project description, goals/objectives, budget narrative
  - Please read the NOFO for complete requirements
  - Make sure to include all required documents

# Changes Under BIL



# BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW [BIL]

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Signed into law on November 15, 2021

❑ Nearly \$1.2 trillion dollar investment in our Nation's infrastructure and future.

## Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA)

❑ Historic increase in grant programs - more than \$3.2 billion over five years.

- Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) increases by approximately 61%
- Discretionary Programs increase by approximately 90%.

❑ New Safety Enforcement Training grant program totaling \$25 million over the life of the law.

❑ FMCSA Funding in both Highway Trust Funds and General Fund apportionments.

❑ Agency is currently operating under a continuing resolution at FAST Act fiscal year 2020 levels (through February 18, 2022).

# Grant Program Changes in BIL

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## MCSAP

- Adds a year of performance

## High Priority Grant Program:

- Detect and immobilize unsafe large trucks and passenger carrying vehicles operating on nation's roadways
- Prioritizes the prevention and detection of human trafficking

## Safety Enforcement Training (SET) Grant

- SET grants provide \$5 million/year for 5 years (Totaling \$25 million)
- Program supports state and local commercial motor vehicle (CMV) safety enforcement professionals
- Available for non-profit organizations that:
  - Have the ability to “reach and involve” CMV safety personnel in a training programs
  - Expertise in training non-federal personnel.

# DOT/FMCSA Strategic Objectives

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- ❑ **Safety:** Make our transportation system safer for all people
- ❑ **Economic Strength & Modernization:** Grow an inclusive and sustainable economy
- ❑ **Equity:** Address inequities
  - Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government (86 FR 7009)
- ❑ **Climate & Sustainability:** Tackle the climate crisis
  - Executive Order 14008, Tackling the Climate Change Crisis at Home and Abroad (86 FR 7619)
- ❑ **Transformation:** Design for the future. Invest in purpose-driven research and innovation to meet the challenge of the present and foster a future transportation system that serves everyone.
- ❑ FMCSA encourages applicants to consider how grant proposals will address the challenges faced by individuals and underserved communities, and tackle climate change and sustainability.
- ❑ Make sure to carefully read [Notices of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#)!!

# BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW GRANT FUND BREAKDOWNS

(assumes full appropriations)

Grant	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
MCSAP BIL	\$390,500,000	\$398,500,000	\$406,500,000	\$414,500,000	\$422,500,000
MCSAP Supplemental	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$80,000,000
HP BIL	\$57,600,000	\$58,800,000	\$60,000,000	\$61,200,000	\$62,400,000
HP Supplemental	\$26,500,000	\$26,500,000	\$26,500,000	\$26,500,000	\$26,500,000
CDLPI BIL	\$41,800,000	\$42,650,000	\$43,500,000	\$44,350,000	\$45,200,000
CDLPI Supplemental	\$16,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$16,000,000
CMVOST BIL	\$1,100,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,500,000
CMVOST Supplemental	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
SET BIL	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000

# Key Points to Remember

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## Funding Opportunities

Sign up for Grants.gov



## Stay Up-to-Date

Visit FMCSA website



## New Approaches

Opportunities under BIL

**FMCSA Grants Information Page:** <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/default.aspx>

# Contacts

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## MCSAP and High Priority Grant Programs

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## Commercial Driver's License Program Implementation (CDLPI) and Commercial Motor Vehicle Operator Safety Training (CMVOST) Grant Programs

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**Questions?**

