

Safe Routes to School: Construction and Rapid Response Grants

Competitive Construction Grant Program

HOW MUCH IS AVAILABLE?

The 2025–2026 grant cycle will distribute approximately \$26 million. The 2023–2024 Competitive Grant cycle distributed \$26 million (<u>interactive map</u>).

WHO CAN APPLY?

Cities, counties, ODOT, tribes, transit districts, and other road authorities may apply.

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

Safety projects that positively affect the ability of children to walk and bicycle to school. Projects must be within a public road right-of-way, consistent with jurisdictional plans, supported by the school or school district, within a two-mile radius of a school, and be able to be constructed within five years of the application.

Project examples include sidewalks, median refuge islands, and rapid flashing beacons. The minimum funding request is \$60,000, and the maximum is \$3 million.

How to Apply

WHERE AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?

Application materials can be found on ODOT's <u>Safe Routes to School</u> (<u>SRTS</u>) website.

FEBRUARY 12–MARCH 25, 2024: Application Part 1 due MAY 6–JULY 31, 2024: Application Part 2 due

A Comprehensive Approach

SRTS programs usually start by identifying barriers to students walking and rolling in your community. Solutions to overcome these barriers may include community engagement, walk/bike safety education for students, building safe places for kids to walk and roll such as sidewalks and safe street crossings.

ODOT has programs and grants to help you get started! Applications for the following programs are open February–March 2024:

- <u>Education grants</u> for all levels of experience with SRTS outreach and engagement
- <u>Construction grants</u> for infrastructure improvements to bicycle and pedestrian access to schools
- <u>Construction technical assistance</u> to identify projects, refine designs, and implement surface treatments

In addition, ODOT SRTS has exciting Education programs and incentives for schools and students available year-round. Contact us or attend a Regional Hub meeting to <u>learn more</u>.

LEARN MORE AND GET IN TOUCH!

- 2024 SRTS Solicitation Materials: www.oregonsaferoutes.org/find-funding
- Contact: Xao Posadas, ODOT SRTS Construction Program Manager xao.posadas@odot.oregon.gov

Construction Program Overview

\$15 million in SRTS Construction funds are allocated annually to three programs:



- Competitive Program: 87.5%
- Rapid Response Program: 10%
- Project Identification Program: 2.5%

This one-pager focuses on the Competitive Construction Grant and Rapid Response Grant. For more information about other funding and technical assistance, visit the SRTS Program website: www.oregonsaferoutes.org/findfunding



WHAT IS THE MATCH REQUIREMENT?

A 40% cash match is required unless the project meets the population, equity, or safety criteria for reduced match of 10.27% or 0%. More information on the reduced match criteria can be found on the SRTS website.

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

For the 2025–2026 round of funding, top priorities include:

- Equity: schools with a high percentage of students receiving free/ reduced lunch and those with other vulnerability factors
- Safety: areas where risk factors such as high speeds, long crossing distances, crash history, or high vehicle volumes exist
- **Project Readiness**: former planning assistance participation and readiness to address right-of-way, utilities, and other issues

Available Now! Rapid Response Grants

HOW MUCH FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

The Rapid Response Grants are available now and will distribute up to \$3 million per cycle.

WHO CAN APPLY AND WHEN?

Cities, counties, tribes, transit districts, and other road authorities may apply <u>at any time</u>.

Details are available at www.oregonsaferoutes.org/rapid-response-grants/.

WHAT KIND OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

The same eligibility criteria as Competitive Grants apply, plus:

- A recent crash occurred in the last 24 months involving a pedestrian or a bicyclist and the pedestrian/bicyclist was injured, seriously injured, or killed, and the proposed project specifically addresses this incident effectively and cost effectively, or
- An urgent opportunity arises, which means that something substantial and unexpected has changed and must be addressed before the next Competitive Grant cycle.

Project examples include sidewalks, median refuge islands, and rapid flashing beacons. **The maximum funding request is \$500,000.**

