

Safe Routes to School: Education Programs

Non-Infrastructure Resources and Grant Opportunities

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) refers to efforts that improve street conditions, educate and encourage children to safely walk or roll (by bike or mobility device) to school.

ODOT has two main types of SRTS Education programs: local grants and technical assistance. These programs focus on education and engagement to promote awareness and safe use of walking and biking routes. These efforts prioritize underserved communities.

PREVIOUSLY FUNDED EDUCATION GRANTEES

The public call for SRTS Education projects for the grant years of 2023-2024 closed in March 2022. ODOT funded 13 applications, totaling 1.1 million dollars. The new grantees (see <u>funded project summaries</u>) were selected through a competitive process that prioritized safety, equity, communication, collaboration and coordination.

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, and more.

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 programs 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!

- SRTS Education Grant Program: www.oregonsaferoutes.org/educationprogram
- Contact: Heidi Manlove heidi.manlove@odot.oregon.gov 503-986-4196

What does "Safe Routes to School" mean for my community?

SRTS programs aim to create safe, healthy, convenient, and fun opportunities for children to use active transportation for the school commute.

Any community can promote SRTS by promoting livable, vibrant communities; increasing physical activity; and improving conditions throughout the community to encourage safe walking, biking, scooting, skating, and using other mobility devices.

Successful SRTS programs also include a commitment to providing safe bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and reducing crash rates in all communities, including those with low-income families and non-English speakers.

This one-pager focuses on the Education Program. For information about other funding and technical assistance, visit the SRTS Program website:

www.oregonsaferoutes.org/find-funding



How to Apply

WHERE AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?

Application materials can be found on ODOT's <u>SRTS website</u> starting February 2024.

FEBRUARY 12

MARCH 25, 2024: Education Grant Application Due SUMMER 2024: Application Review and Funding Decision OCTOBER 1, 2024: Funds allocated and Grant Work Begins

WHAT RESOURCES CAN I ACCESS NOW?

Resources and technical assistance can be found at https://www.oregonsaferoutes.org/resources/.

What is a Successful SRTS Program?

Successful Safe Routes to School Programs consider all aspects of creating safer streets.

ODOT's Safe Routes to School Program includes grant opportunities for construction projects, education and engagement programs, and technical and planning assistance.

