



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

FY 2026 CDLPI - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Funding Conference

A woman with dark hair, smiling, sitting in the driver's seat of a truck. She is wearing a dark hoodie over a grey shirt. The background shows the interior of the truck cab with windows.

**We're
Driving
Safety**

Agenda



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

- Commercial Driver's License Program Implementation (CDLPI) Grant Program Overview
- Title VI Compliance Program Information
- FY 2026 NOFO Priorities and Additional Information
- Resources and Contacts

The purpose of the CDLPI Grant Program is to...



Provide **financial assistance** to States and other eligible entities to aid participation in 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**



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



Help 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

Title VI Program Compliance Plan Award Requirement

- FY2026 Title VI Program Assurance and Compliance Plan Requirements
 - The FMCSA Title VI Program Federal financial assistance award requirements consist of an annually updated **Title VI Program Compliance Plan** (Plan) including the **FMCSA Title VI Program Assurance** (Assurance)
 - The resource for the **FMCSA Title VI Program Compliance Plan Requirements** is available at this link: [A&I online - Motor Carrier Analysis and Information Resources Online](#)
 - The Assurance and Compliance Plan must be submitted to Mr. Lester Finkle, FMCSA National Title VI Program Manager for approval
 - To begin this coordination, please contact Mr. Lester Finkle, FMCSA National Title VI Program Manager, at lester.finkle@dot.gov



Title VI Program Assurances and Compliance Plan must be submitted with applications and approved by FMCSA to be eligible for grant award.



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FY 2026 NOFO Priorities & Additional Information

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CDLPI Award Performance Goals

- **Data Sources**

- Baseline Data – quantifiable and qualitative
- For SDLAs, FMCSA will evaluate the applications performance goals by examining:
 - State Compliance Records Enterprise (SCORE) System
 - Commercial Driver's Licensing Information System (CDLIS) reports, Driver History Reports
 - Other data sources/reporting that the applicant provides as their source data baseline
 - Provide database(s) name or webpage source/links in project plans
- For applicants that are not States, FMCSA will evaluate the applications performance goals by examining:
 - Any available data and other data source(s) used and reported or referenced by the applicant,
 - Compare the results from the program with baseline data provided in the application, and
 - Any other FMCSA accessible reports.

CDLPI Award Performance Goals

- **Performance Goals and Indicators**

In general, activities must be tied to 49 CFR Parts 383 and 384. Performance goals for successful CDLPI grant award projects may include, but are not limited to:



Sustained
Compliance



Compliant Issuance
of CDL/CLPs



Timely Driver History
Record (DHR) Actions



Restoring Integrity
to the CDL Process



Ensuring Data
Quality



Improve Fraud
Prevention Methods



Innovative
Approaches to
Improving CDL
Issues



Increased Testing
Rates and Integrity



Human Trafficking
Awareness, Prevention,
and Reporting



Cost
Savings



Reduction in
Fraudulent
Activities



Increased Training
in the Adjudication
Process

FY 2026 National Priorities

- **CDLPI Basic Projects**

- Only applicable to State agencies. Applications should support the development, implementation, and compliance sustainment with provisions in 49 CFR Parts 383 and 384.

- **CDLPI High Priority/Emerging Issues Projects**

- May be implemented by States, local governments, Tribal governments, and other entities capable of executing national projects that aid States in their compliance efforts and improving the national CDL Program.

FY 2026 National Priorities

- **CDLPI Basic Projects – State Agencies ONLY**
 - Applicants must provide, for each priority,
 - the 49 CFR section citation that supports the project's compliance initiative(s);
 - baseline data;
 - projected outputs and outcomes; and
 - source of data that supports the need for funding and will be used to measure the outcomes.

FY 2026 National Priorities

- **CDLPI Basic Projects – State Agencies ONLY**
 - Eligible applications under this category include but are not limited to:
 - Projects that achieve and maintain compliance with FMCSA's CDL rulemakings.
 - Projects that restore systemic integrity, correct non-compliance, and prevent fraud in CLP and CDL issuance.
 - Projects that support a state's correction and mitigation of its CDL regulatory compliance findings.
 - Projects that support a State in improving the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of CDLIS-required data elements.
 - Projects that support an SDLA's partnership efforts that lead to enhancing SDLA compliance with 49 CFR Parts 383 and 384.
 - Projects that support an SDLA's operation and maintenance (O&M) projects that sustain and maintain compliance with 49 CFR Parts 383 and 384

FY 2026 National Priorities

- **High Priority/Emerging Issues Priorities**

Must be capable of executing national projects that aid States in their compliance efforts and improving the National CDL Program

- Eligible applications under this category include but are not limited to:
 - Recognizing, preventing, and reporting of human trafficking
 - Conducting a systemic review of a State's CDL program to support the State's Annual State Certification of Compliance
 - Improving compliance by using proven tools or developing new tools to be utilized by SDLAs and other partners
 - Projects for enhancing court expertise

FY 2026 National Priorities

- **High Priority/Emerging Issues Priorities (contd.)**

- Eligible applications under this category include but are not limited to:
 - Researching and/or facilitating the detection and prevention of fraud in the CDL process
 - Hosting meetings and conferences to address CDL compliance issues
 - Detailed budget
 - Timeline for plan completion
 - Detailed plan for execution
 - Post-meeting final report
 - Implementing or maintaining an Employer Notification System (ENS)

Federal Award Information

Funding	Application Project Information	Period of Performance (PoP)
- Authorized up to \$105.1 million - Final funding amounts are subject to availability of funding appropriated by Congress	No more than four projects per application	- Year of award, plus four fiscal years 9/30/2030



Due Date Found: Section E – Submission Requirements and Deadlines, 4 Submission Dates and Times

Eligibility Information



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Eligible Applicants



SDLAs



**Other State
Agencies**



**Non-State
Organizations**

Federal Funding 100% - No match requirement

Eligibility Information



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INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

Content and Form of Application Submission



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Application Page Limitations

Non-SDLAs

35

Pages

SDLAs

40

Pages

Performance Based Project Plan Elements

1. Brief Introduction
 - SDLA Self-Assessment
2. Problem Statement
3. Performance Objective
4. Performance Activity Plan
5. Performance Measurement Plan
6. Monitoring and Timeline/Milestone Plan
7. Budget Narrative

CDL Program Self-Assessment



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- SDLAs required to have a CDL program assessment
- Include components outlined in the NOFO

a. Introduction

Include a description of the goal(s)/purpose(s) intended to be accomplished within the application and reference the applicable program priority(ies) (See Section A) for the project. The introduction must also include a discussion of the organizational capacity of the entity: an overview of the organization's structure and a description of sufficient resources to be successful in administering the proposed projects.

For SDLA Applicants Only: CDL Program Self-Assessment (Program Overview)

Applications from SDLAs must include a CDL program self-assessment, which may be included as part of the application's brief introduction. A separate, stand-alone document is not required. The CDL Program Assessment is a summary of key elements of the applicant's program and must include the following six components:

- A list of all open findings in the SCORE system, including the finding's citation and a brief description; the reason for the finding; the proposed resolution; and the expected date by which the finding will be closed.
- A list of all open CDLPI grant awards, including the award number, award amount, and purpose; progress made to date in achieving the award's objectives; remaining unexpended funding; the expected date of completion; *and how this application's requested funding does not duplicate their costs or activities.*

Funding Restrictions

- **Bonus costs are not a necessary expense under FMCSA awards**
 - 2 CFR part 200, subpart E; 2 CFR 200.403-200.405
- **The rent, lease, or buying of land or buildings is NOT an allowable cost**
- **Indirect Cost (IDC) Agreement Requirement**
 - 2 CFR 200.414(c)
 - Current period IDC agreements must be submitted within 90 days of acceptance of the award. If not, **indirect cost rate will** not be reimbursed that fiscal year. It will be allowed the following fiscal year with a current period IDC agreement.

Eligibility Criteria

SECTION F – APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1 Criteria

1.1 Eligibility Criteria

FMCSA will first screen all applications received by the due date to determine if the application is eligible. In addition to the eligibility criteria under Section C, FMCSA will review the application for the following criteria.

Eligibility Criteria:
1. Was the application submitted by the deadline?
2. Was the application submitted by an eligible applicant?
3. Is this application a duplicate submission as confirmed by the applicant?
4. Was the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) completed?
5. Was the Budget information for Non-Construction form (SF-424A) completed?
6. Was the Assurances for Non-Construction form (SF-424B) completed?
7. Was the grants.gov Certification Regarding Lobbying form completed?
8. Was the Disclosure of Lobbying activities form (SF-LLL) completed?
9. Do the Key Contact forms include PI/PD and ADO contact information?
10. Was a current IDC agreement included in the application? (if applicable)
11. Does the application include a complete Budget Narrative?
12. Does the application include a complete Project Narrative?
13. Does the project support the purpose of the CDLPI grant program and statutes?
14. Does the application include a Title VI Program Compliance Plan (including FMCSA Title VI Program Assurance) reviewed and approved by the FMCSA Office of Civil Rights for the current Federal Fiscal Year? If not, please contact the FMCSA Office of Civil Rights to coordinate the development/update of a Title VI Program Compliance Plan for its' review/approval for the current Federal Fiscal Year as soon as possible. Please note that absence of this document in the funding application will not delay the FMCSA Intake Review of the funding application.

Application Review Information

Section B – Eligibility, 3 Other

A complete application includes:

- The application was submitted by the deadline
- The application was submitted by an eligible applicant, as described in Section B.1.
- The application has a completed SF-424, SF-424A, and SF-424B
- The application has a completed Grants.gov Certification Regarding Lobbying form.
- The application has a completed Lobbying activities (SF-LLL) form, if applicable.
- The application includes a complete Budget Narrative and Project Narrative.
- The application's projects support the purpose of the CDLPI grant program and statutes.

Application Review Information

Merit Evaluation Criteria (Section F. 1.2)

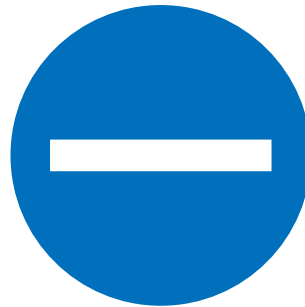
- FMCSA subject matter experts will review all eligible applications using the following Merit Evaluation Criteria:
 - Technical Merit Criteria
 - Budget Review/Cost Analysis Criteria
 - Program-Specific Criteria
 - Past Performance Criteria
 - Other Review Information
 - DOT Order 2100.7
 - Families First

Merit Review Rating

FMCSA prioritizes applications using the ratings below based on the applicability of the Merit Criteria and other preferences to the application.



**Highly
Responsive**



Responsive



**Not
Responsive**

FFR & PPR Reporting



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- **Recipients will submit Quarterly electronically through GrantSolutions:**
 - Federal Financial Report (SF-425)
 - Performance Progress Reports (SF-PPR)
- **Recipients must submit requests for reimbursement electronically through the Delphi eInvoicing System (iSupplier)**

Resource and Contact Information



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FY 2026 CDLPI Grant Resources



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- **Discretionary Grants Toolkit**
 - <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/downloadfile.axd/FMCSA-Discretionary-Grants-Toolkit.pdf>
- **Grants Management Training**
 - <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/GrantManagement.aspx>
- **CDLPI Grant Resource Guide**
 - https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/downloadFile.axd?file=Grants_Management_CDLPi_Resource_20190628.pdf
- **CDLPI Grant General Information**
 - <https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/CDLPi.aspx>
- **CDLPI Grant Application Best Practices**
 - https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/downloadFile.axd/CDLPi_Best_Practices_20190628.pdf
- **Tips for Completing Your CDLPI Grant Application**
 - https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/downloadFile.axd?file=Tips-for-Completing-CDLPi-Grant-App_508.pdf

FY 2026 NOFO Contacts



U.S. Department of Transportation
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- **Financial/Application Concerns**
 - Montika Brooks
Montika.Brooks@dot.gov
- **Programmatic Concerns**
 - Isabella Marra
Isabella.Marra@dot.gov
- **General Information: FMCSA Grants Management Office**
 - FMCSA_GrantMgmtHelpdesk@dot.gov

THANK YOU



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