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## **GRANT INSIGHTS**

The **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program** aims to invest in surface transportation with significant local or regional impacts and support projects that improve safety, economic strength, global competitiveness, equity, and climate and sustainability. Program funds are authorized through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). There are two primary project types: 1.

## Capital Projects; and 2. Planning Projects.

Program goals align with the Department's Strategic Plan and Executive Orders seeking to fund projects that address environmental justice and the disproportionate negative environmental impacts of transportation on disadvantaged communities, as well as increase equitable access to project benefits.

Federal Agency Name	U.S. Department of Transportation - Office of the Secretary
Funding Opportunity	Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program - FY2024

NOFO Release Date	11/30/2023
<b>Application Due Date</b>	02/28/2024 by 11:59 p.m. EST via <u>www.Grants.gov</u>
# of Programs:	1. Capital Projects 2. Planning Projects
<b>Total Funding Available</b>	\$1,500,000,000
Award Minimum	<b>Capital Grants</b> (Urban Areas): \$5,000,000 <b>Capital Grants</b> (Rural Areas): \$1,000,000
Award Maximum	Capital and Planning Grants: \$25,000,000
Recipient Cost-Share/ Match Requirements:	Applicants <b>must</b> provide at least 20% of the total project costs via non-Federal matching contributions. *Projects located in a rural area, a historically disadvantaged community, or an area of persistent poverty may not require the predetermined minimum cost-share contribution.
Summary	<b>Eligible Projects</b> (not limited to): <u>Capital Projects</u> : (1) highway or bridge projects; (2) public transportation projects; (3) passenger and freight rail transportation projects; (4) port infrastructure investments; (5) surface transportation components of an eligible airport project; (6) replace or rehabilitate a culvert or prevent stormwater runoff to improve habitat for aquatic species; (7) investing in surface transportation facilities on Tribal land, for which title or maintenance is the responsibility of the Federal Government;

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and (8) any other surface transportation infrastructure project the Secretary considers necessary to advance the goals of the program.

<u>Planning Projects:</u> (1) environmental, equity, and benefit-cost analyses; (2) community engagement; (3) feasibility studies; (4) developing master plans, comprehensive plans, transportation corridor plans, and integrated economic development, land use, housing, and transportation plans; (5) zero-emissions plans for transit fleets and goods movement; (6) planning the development of a multimodal freight corridor; (7) port and regional port planning, including State-wide or multi-port planning within a single jurisdiction or region:

	planning, including State-wide or multi-port planning within a single jurisdiction or region; and (8) risk assessments and planning to identify vulnerabilities and address the transportation system's ability to withstand probable occurrence or recurrence of an emergency or major disaster.
Eligible Applicants	<ul> <li>State; District of Columbia; any Territory or possession of the U.S.</li> <li>Unit of Local Government</li> <li>Transit Agency</li> <li>Federally recognized Indian Tribe or Consortium of such Indian Tribes</li> <li>Multi-State or Multi-Jurisdictional Groups of Entities (separately eligible)</li> <li>Public Agency or Publicly Chartered Authority (established by one or more states)</li> <li>Special Purpose District or Public Authority (with a transportation function)</li> <li>Multiple states or jurisdictions <b>may</b> submit a joint application and should identify a lead applicant as the primary point of contact and primary recipient of the award.</li> <li>*Applicants may submit a total of three (3) applications</li> </ul>
Special Considerations	<ul> <li>Each applicant selected for RAISE funding must demonstrate an effort to consider climate change and environmental justice impacts, housing affordability impacts, racial equity, creation of good-paying jobs, and physical/cyber security risks.</li> <li>Urban = an area with a population greater than 200,000 in the 2020 Census.</li> <li>Rural = an area outside a Census-designated urban area, as defined.</li> <li>Applicants are encouraged to use the Department's Equitable Transportation Community (ETC) Explorer to describe how their project area is experiencing transportation-related disadvantages.</li> </ul>
Notes	The Department will evaluate whether the application uses data-driven and evidence-based methods to demonstrate that the project will provide the anticipated benefits to the following <b>required merit criterion</b> : (1) safety; (2) environmental sustainability; (3) quality of life; (4) mobility and community connectivity; (5) economic competitiveness and opportunity, including tourism; (6) state of good repair; (7) partnership and collaboration; and (8) innovation.

Funding Restrictions:
· Up to \$750M allocated to rural projects.
· Up to \$750M allocated to urban projects.
· At least \$75M allocated to planning awards.
· At least \$15M allocated to projects located in areas of persistent poverty and historically
disadvantaged communities (Defined in Section C.5 of NOFO)

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