



2019 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program:

Introduction/Question and Answers Webinar

Thursday, September 26th, 2019
TDOT Long Range Planning Division

Tennessee CMAQ Eligible Project Areas



TN

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WebEx Meeting:

Meeting number (access code): 646 852 937

Meeting password: nMpPdQMy

Join by Phone: 1-415-655-0003

Agenda

- **CMAQ 2019 Overview – Timeline**
- **What is CMAQ?**
- **Eligibility – Project Areas**
- **Eligibility – Project Specific**
- **Funding**
- **Buy America**
- **ADA Compliance**
- **eGrants Application Process**
- **Questions and Answers**

2019 CMAQ Overview – Timeline

- Letters of Intent Due
 - ✓ **September 18, 2019**
- Approvals/Rejections Provided to Applicants
 - ✓ **September 20, 2019**
- Full Proposals Open
 - ✓ **September 24, 2019**
- Full Proposals Close
 - ☐ **October 22, 2019**
- Awards Announced
 - ☐ **January 2020**

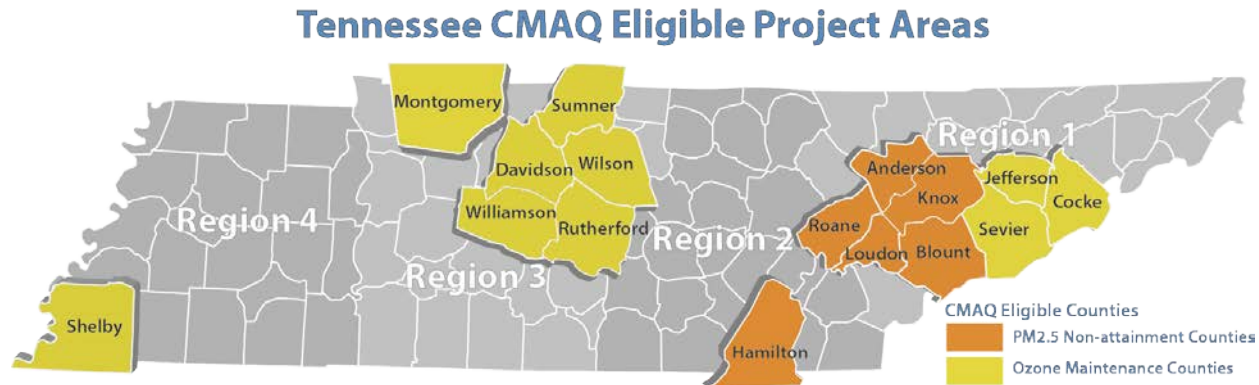
What is CMAQ?

Overview:

- The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) program was established to help fund transportation projects or programs that contribute the non-attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).



Eligibility – Project Areas



- **Eligible Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5}) Non-Attainment Areas:**
 - Anderson (Whole), Blount (Whole) Hamilton County (Whole), Knox (Whole), Loudon County (Whole), Roane County (Partial)
- **Eligible Ozone (O₃) Maintenance Areas:**
 - Davidson (Whole), Cocke (Partial), Jefferson (Whole), Montgomery (Whole), Rutherford (Whole), Sevier (Whole), Shelby (Whole), Sumner (Whole), Williamson (Whole), Wilson (Whole)

Eligibility – Project Specific

All CMAQ projects **must meet three basic requirements**. Each project must:

1. Must be a transportation project;
2. Must be located in (or provide benefits to) either a non-attainment or maintenance area; and,
3. Must have an emissions reduction benefit.



Eligibility – Project Specific

2013 CMAQ Interim Guidance – Eligibility Categories	
VII.F.1	Diesel Engine Retrofits and Other Advanced Truck Technologies
VII.F.2	Idle Reduction
VII.F.3	Congestion Reduction/Traffic Flow Improvements
VII.F.4	Freight/Intermodal
VII.F.5	Transportation Control Measures
VII.F.6	Transit Improvements
VII.F.7	Bicycles and Pedestrian Facilities
VII.F.8	Transportation Demand Management
VII.F.9	Public Outreach and Education
VII.F.10	Transportation Management Associations
VII.F.11	Carpooling/Vanpooling
VII.F.12	Car Sharing
VII.F.13	Extreme Low-Temperature Cold-Start Programs
VII.F.14	Training
VII.F.15	Inspection and Maintenance Programs
VII.F.16	Innovative Projects
VII.F.17	Alternative Fuels and Vehicles

Funding

100% of Federal Share (No Match Required):

- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)*
- Carpool
- Vanpool
- Traffic Signalization
- Other safety projects



80% of Federal Share (20% Local Match Required):

- All other CMAQ Projects



50% of Federal Share (50% Local Match Required):

- Funds that involve a public/private partnership (PPP)
 - -A legally binding, written PPP agreement must be in place if awarded

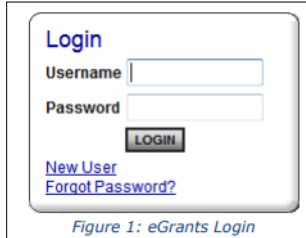
Buy America Requirements

- 23 CFR 635.410 and 23 U.S.C. 313
- If **steel and/or iron** materials are to be **permanently** incorporated into any CMAQ project, all manufacturing processes, including application of a coating, for these materials **must occur in the United States**. Coating includes all processes which protect or enhance the value of the material to which the coating is applied. This is a **Federal Highway Administration requirement**. Regulations do permit a **minimal use** of foreign steel and/or iron in a Federal-aid project in the amount of \$2,500 or one-tenth of one percent, whichever is greater.
- A waiver process based on public interest or the availability of domestic products *

ADA Compliance

- All CMAQ funded projects shall be developed to comply with **TDOT roadway design standards**. Additional work required to address accessibility deficiencies within the limits of project and any ADA upgrades if required **may not eligible for 100%** federal funding , addressing such features will require 20% local match. All projects seeking for CMAQ funding shall scope **addressing accessibility** related issues when putting together project estimates. Refer to roadway design guidelines for additional guidance.
- Projects developed by locals and let by locals are also under obligation to follow the same guidance since local agencies are obligated to comply with the FHWA ADA Transition plan requirements by end of 2019. For more guidance, refer to the **Roadway Design Division's ADA Office**.

eGrants Application Process



Login

Username

Password

LOGIN

[New User](#)
[Forgot Password?](#)

Figure 1: eGrants Login



View Available Opportunities

You have 1 opportunities available.
Select the **View Opportunities** button below to see what is available to your organization.

VIEW OPPORTUNITIES



Description:

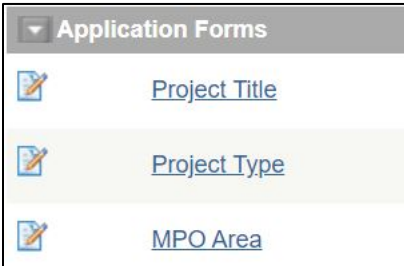
APPLY NOW






View, Edit and Complete Forms

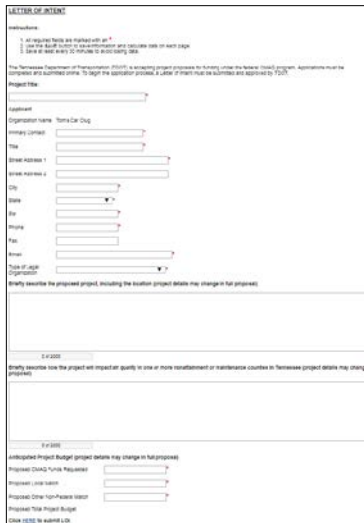
Select the **View Forms** button below to view, edit, and complete forms.

VIEW FORMS



Application Forms

-  [Project Title](#)
-  [Project Type](#)
-  [MPO Area](#)



LETTER OF INTENT

Introduction:

1. An original form is needed with an "L" (Use the form to submit your application and calculate bids on each page)
2. Use the form to submit your application and calculate bids on each page

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) is seeking project proposals for funding under the federal-aid program. Applicants must be companies and approved contractors to begin the application process. A letter of intent must be submitted and approved by TDOT.

Project Title:

Applicant:

Organization Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Type of work:

Organization:

Briefly describe the proposed project, including the location (project details may change in full proposal):

Identify resources (use the project with impact on quality in one or more transportation or maintenance context in Tennessee project details may change in full proposal):

Identified Project Budget (project details may change in full proposal):

Proposed 2014/15 Total Request:

Proposed 2015/16 Total Request:

Proposed Other Year/Period:

Proposed Total Project Budget:

Click (L25) to submit L25

Click [Here](#) to submit Application.



Questions and Answers

Can a project extend beyond a non-attainment/maintenance area?

- Yes. However 50% or more of the primary air quality benefit must be in the eligible non-attainment/maintenance area.
- Counties adjacent to the eligible area can be included in the application, but should not be the primary focus of the emissions reductions.

How detailed should the project budgets be?

- Project budgets should provide an accurate picture of the activities that are necessary to carry out the project. Submitted budgets should be detailed, and to the degree possible, based on reliable cost estimates for activities proposed in the project.

Can CMAQ awards be used to hire full time employees?

- Personnel costs could be an eligible item for some projects that require personnel to do the work of the grant-funded activities.
- Eligible billable time is based on an employee's time directly spent conducting activities for the project. This must be documented as part of the project's reporting.
- Examples:
 - Outreach Coordinator of a rideshare or transportation demand management project.
 - Preliminary Engineering
 - Operating Assistance

How are projects evaluated and ranked through project selection process?

- Emission Reduction Estimates 1- 20 Points
- Cost-Effectiveness of Project Emission Reductions 1- 20 Points
- Quality of Emissions Reduction Estimation Methodology and Analysis 1- 20 Points
- Regional Efforts and Complementary Projects 1-10 Points
- Regional Priorities 1-10 Points
- Project Readiness 1- 10 Points
- Project Schedule and Project Management 1- 10 Points

What establishes a Public-Private Partnership?

- Before a CMAQ-funded project may be implemented, a legally binding partnership must be developed. A written agreement must be in place between the public agency and the private or non-profit entity.
- Usually, TDOT accepts a letter of support from a public sector indicating – if in the event of a ownership change, issues related to insolvency, etc., - the federal investment is protected.

What if I cannot fit the narrative within the word count?

The eGrants software limits the word count to help make the review process easier, and to standardize the narrative portion of all applications.

What are some tools to calculate emissions metrics?

- https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/air_quality/cmaq/toolkit/
- FHWA's Office of Natural Environment has developed various tools helpful for the implementation of the CMAQ Program.

How long will it take to obtain funding after my project is awarded?

- TIP/STIP will need to be amended and approved
- Initiation Packet completed and submitted
- NEPA/Buy America
- Contract
- Request funding to be obligated
- Funding is obligated
- Notice to Proceed is issued

How will the pending rescission affect my project?

- We do have about **\$35 million** available to award in this call for projects; however, the final awards made will be dependent on the number of applications we receive.
- We are aware of the Rescission and do plan to accommodate that in the final decision we make on awards.
- The FHWA will issue a Notice signed by the FHWA Administrator outlining the FAST Act rescission and including preliminary rescission amounts by State and program/fund source by October 2019.

Who should I contact if I'm having trouble with the eGrants software?

- Brianna Benson @ TDOT
 - Brianna.Benson@tn.gov
 - 615-532-8589
- Help Desk
 - helpdesk@agatesoftware.com
 - 1-800-820-1890



What questions do you
have today?

Air Quality Office

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