

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR STATE DOTs

FHWA Funds for Evaluation and Use of Low Carbon Transportation Materials

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/lowcarbon/>



OVERVIEW

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is making \$1.2B available to State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) to enable the procurement and use of Low Carbon Transportation Materials (LCTM).

Applications are due June 10, 2024. State leaders must make this a high priority and ensure staff has the resources they need to complete the application on time.

This is a one-time opportunity to obtain funds that can be used for programmatic purposes as well as the costs of using new materials. FHWA anticipates each State DOT could receive at least \$22 million.

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- **Expand your budget.** No state match required and no restrictions on combining with other sources of funding.
- **Get ahead of the curve.** Many states are setting goals to measure and reduce emissions, and others could someday follow suit.
- **Attract manufacturers of low carbon materials to your state.** Create local demand that will incentivize local supply.
- **Future-proof your organization.** More low carbon materials are becoming available every day.

DATES FOR STATE DOTs

- ➔ By June 10, 2024: Submit application to FHWALowCarbonMaterials@dot.gov
- ➔ By Sept 30, 2026: Commit funds
- ➔ By Sept 30, 2031: Use or distribute funds



\$1.2 BILLION TO

CREATE A "BUY CLEAN" PROGRAM

- Material identification, assessment & deployment

PAY THE GREEN PREMIUM

- Provide incentive or incremental amount to cover the costs of development and use of materials.

DID YOU KNOW?

- State matching of funds is NOT required.
- No prior experience or existing program for low carbon materials needed.
- Funds can and should be combined with Highway Trust Fund dollars.
- Responsive applications will be eligible to receive at least \$22M.

HOW CAN FUNDS BE USED?

FOR INTERNAL CAPACITY BUILDING WITHIN STATE DOTs. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE ESTABLISHING THE ABILITY TO:

- Evaluate the suitability and performance of low carbon construction materials
- Update specifications to enable the use of low carbon materials
- Develop and implement processes and procure tools to collect, verify, and use environmental product declarations (EPDs) to qualify low carbon materials

TO COVER ANY INCREASED COSTS INCURRED IN DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF LOW CARBON TRANSPORTATION MATERIALS. SPECIFICALLY, FUNDS CAN BE USED TO PROVIDE:

- An incentive equal to 2% of the cost of using low carbon construction materials and products on a project
- A reimbursement equal to the incrementally higher cost of using such materials relative to the cost of using traditional materials

ELIGIBLE MATERIALS

concrete/cement

steel

asphalt

glass

must have substantially lower levels of embodied greenhouse gas emissions associated with all relevant stages of production as compared to estimated industry averages of similar materials or products

REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF APPLICATION

Successful applications will answer the following questions:

1) How will materials be evaluated? How will they be compared to industry averages?

2) How will you determine appropriateness of use of identified materials on a Federal-aid project?

Note: Funding may be set aside for future engineering performance monitoring needs

3) How will you facilitate the availability and use of LCTMs on eligible projects?

4) What are the schedule and budget for eligible activities?

Note: Estimate costs for at least \$22M in funding & indicate how you would scale up to spend up to \$100M

RESOURCES

FHWA Request for Application, webinar & other resources: <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/lowcarbon/>

RC3 is available to provide application assistance to State DOTs. For access to application templates and weekly Q&A meetings, submit an inquiry via <https://rc3.acpa.org>.

Georgetown Climate Center Webinar for State DOTs available by request. Reach out to james.bradbury@georgetown.edu.