



Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (EMSD)

2026 Call for Projects Program Development





Background

- The EMSD Grant Program offers grant opportunities to:
 - Non-profit organizations and local public agencies.
- The Program helps OCTA meet transportation needs for seniors and individuals with disabilities.
 - Augments OC Access and the Senior Mobility Program.
- OCTA is responsible for conducting a Call for Projects and allocating funds.
 - Local funds are utilized to provide streamlined project implementation.



Program Schedule

Milestone	Date
Guidelines Workshop	May 6, 2026
Call Release	June 22, 2026
Application Office Hours	July 2026
Application Due Date	August 28, 2026, by 4 PM
Recommendations/Awards	December/January 2027
Awarded Applicants Office Hours	January 2027



Guideline Updates

Guideline Section	Update
General Updates	Clearer language, 2024 Coordinated Plan goals, Roles and Responsibilities, Pre-Award Authority
Evaluation Criteria	One set of criteria
Implementation Staff	Updated with new contacts



Program Updates

Program Component	Update
Call length*	Three-year cycle, Up to 36-month grant period
Application	One application template
Drug and Alcohol Reporting	Streamlined

* Contingent upon the outcome of the federal reauthorization bill and the availability of future FTA 5310 apportionments



2026 Call Overview

- Available Funding: \$5.85 million*
 - Capital: \$3.22 million (minimum) or 55% minimum of awarded funds
 - Operating: \$2.63 million (maximum) or 45% maximum of awarded funds
 - Funds available for fiscal years: 2026-27, 27-28, and 28-29
- Total Maximum Request per Applicant: \$750,000 (not including match)

* Subject to change based the outcome of the federal reauthorization bill and the availability of future FTA 5310 apportionments



Projects Types

Typically, eligible projects* include:

Capital

- Vehicle acquisitions
 - Purchased / leased / New or used**
- Equipment acquisitions
 - Service-related equipment
- Small capital purchases
 - Computer hardware/software

Operating

- Operating assistance
 - Labor (staff), materials (fuel, office supplies), continuation of services, contracted services, first/last-mile trips, ongoing maintenance
- Mobility management
 - Coordinating transportation services, call centers, communication/dispatching systems, driver/travel training, client travel training and mobility education

* Subject to change

**Must meet certain criteria



Call Request Limitations

Application / Project Type	Minimum Grant Request	Maximum Grant Request	Minimum Match Requirement*
Vehicle, Equipment	\$100,000	\$750,000	10%
Small Capital	\$10,000	\$100,000	10%
Operating Assistance	\$100,000	\$600,000	20%
Mobility Management	\$50,000	\$300,000	10%

*Match calculated off gross project amount



Contacts

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May 6, 2026 Workshop Registration

- www.octa.net/emsd
- Please RSVP (QR code) by May 05, 2025.
 - Email notice to be sent out via TAC, ATAC, and EMSD stakeholder email lists.

