



Passenger Ferry Grant Program



Est. application deadline¹: June 2025



Est. funding available: \$51M

1. Estimates are based on prior year NOFOs. Subject to change once NOFO is released. Ferry program NOFOs are expected to be released in Spring 2025.

Source: [FY24 NOFO](#)

Passenger Ferry Details

Match funding
requirement: 20%

| | Passenger Ferry | | Low-No Ferry |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Description | Capital projects to purchase, replace, or rehabilitate passenger ferries, terminals etc. | | Low- or zero-emission ferries and related facilities/equipment |
| Eligible grant uses | Support existing ferry service, establish new ferry service, and repair and modernize ferry boasts, terminals, and related facilities and equipment ¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none">Projects must support public transportation ferry systems serving an urbanized areaVehicle ferries are eligible if they also accommodate walk-on passengers.Workforce development/training (recipients are permitted to use up to 0.5% of the requested grant award for workforce development activities) | | |
| Award amounts | Minimum award | No minimum award | |
| | Maximum award | No maximum; largest award in 2023 was \$72M | |
| | Award number | No specify, 13 projects have been awarded in FY23 | |
| | Award type set aside | \$5 million is set aside specifically for low- or zero-emission ferries and related facilities/equipment | |
| Previous awards (national) | 2024 Awards | 8 projects in 7 states (\$56M total) | 6 projects in 5 states (\$49M total) |
| Previous awards (MI) | 2024 Awards | None | |

1. Passenger Ferry Program may not be used to fund operating expenses, planning, or preventive maintenance,
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High level requirements to apply for a Passenger Ferry grant



Eligible Entities

- Providers of publicly owned public transportation service
- States and federally recognized Tribes that operate a public ferry system in an urbanized area
- The state or tribal territory should submit application on behalf of a local entity - and the local service provider should be the proponent of the project and included in the proposal development.



Key Application Components¹

- Project description
- Statement of work
- Project location information identifying impacted location (a map in a PDF format)
- Project budget and funding information
- Narrative of how project meets selection criteria and DOT goals
- Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan
 - useful life benchmark for the vehicles
 - state of good repair performance targets

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Source: [FY24 NOFO](#)

Examples of past winners in other states (MI has not won this grant in the past)



San Francisco Bay Area Passenger Ferry Project (2023)

Applicant: San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Agency
Impacted locality: City of San Francisco
Funding: \$15.9M

Project description: The San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Agency will receive funding to retrofit two ferry floats with battery energy storage systems. The upgrades will improve service, reduce emissions, improve air quality and reduce electrical demand in downtown San Francisco and two terminals in the City of Alameda (Seaplane Lagoon and Main Street)



New York City Passenger Ferry Project (2022)

Applicant: New York City Department of Transportation
Impacted locality: New York City
Funding: \$7.5M

Project description: The New York City Department of Transportation, on behalf of the Trust for Governors Island, will receive funding to build charging equipment to support future rapid charging for vessels serving Governors Island, which is solely accessible by ferry. A battery energy storage system will stabilize the demand on the island's power grid and support rapid charging of vessels and allow them to operate in zero-emissions mode, significantly reducing emissions, decreasing maintenance costs, and improving reliability

Source: [FY24 NOFO](#)



Low-Emitting Ferry Pilot Program



Est. application deadline¹: June 2024



Est. funding available: \$49M

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Source: [FY24 NOFO](#)

Low-No Ferry Details Grant Details

The maximum Federal share for capital projects selected under this program is 80 percent of the net project cost

The maximum Federal share is 85 percent of the net project cost of acquiring vehicles (including clean-fuel or alternative fuel vehicles) for purposes of complying with or maintaining compliance with the Clean Air Act (CAA) or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990

Eligible grant uses



- i) Capital projects for the purchase of electric or low-emitting ferry vessels and related infrastructure
- ii) Support existing ferry service, establish new ferry service, and repair and modernize ferry boasts, terminals, and related facilities and equipment¹
 - Projects must support public transportation ferry systems serving an urbanized area
 - Vehicle ferries are eligible if they also accommodate walk-on passengers.
 - Workforce development/training (recipients are permitted to use up to 0.5% of the requested grant award for workforce development activities)

Award amounts



Average project size:

No minimum or maximum award, the largest award in 2023 was **\$72M**

Previous awards (national)



2023 Awards:

15

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Source: [FY24 NOFO](#)

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