



## **Purpose**

SMART SCALE is a statewide program that distributes funding based on a transparent and objective evaluation of projects that will determine how effectively they help the state achieve its transportation goals.

## **Funding**

There are two main pathways to funding within the SMART SCALE process—the Construction District Grant Program (DGP) and the High Priority Projects Program (HPPP). A project applying for funds from the DGP is evaluated against other projects within the same construction district. A project applying for funds from the HPPP is evaluated against projects statewide. The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) then makes a final decision on which projects to fund.

## **Eligible Projects**

Projects must address improvements to a Corridor of Statewide Significance, Regional Network, or Urban Development Area (UDA) that meet a need identified in the statewide multimodal long-range transportation plan, VTrans. Project types can include highway improvements such as widening, operational improvements, access management, intelligent transportation systems, transit and rail capacity expansion, and transportation demand management, including park and ride facilities. Projects may also address a documented safety need.

## **Eligible Applicants**

Applications may be submitted through the SMART Portal by regional entities including Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Planning District Commissions (PDCs), along with public transit agencies, and counties, cities, and towns that maintain their own infrastructure. Projects pertaining to UDAs and safety needs can only be submitted by localities. Applications may be for eligible project types only and sufficiently developed such that benefits can be calculated.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

There are five factors evaluated for all projects: Safety, Congestion Mitigation, Accessibility, Environmental Quality, and Economic Development. Projects in MPOs with a population greater than 200,000 are also evaluated by a land use factor.

## **Funding Cycle**

Beginning with the FY2018-FY2023 SYIP Update, the application cycle will alternate every other year with funding generally applied to projects in the last two years of the SYIP. Applications are generally accepted beginning in the Spring through July. Approximately \$500-600 million in each program is expected to be available per cycle. Funding includes both state and federal sources. Projects that can be developed as federal projects will follow the federal process.

## **Website**

<http://www.vasmartscale.org/>



## **Purpose**

This federal transportation program is structured and funded to identify and improve locations where there is a high concentration, or risk, of vehicle crashes that result in deaths or injuries and to implement strategies to attain Virginia's Towards Zero Deaths vision.

## **Funding**

There are several core safety programs, including Highway Safety, Systemic Safety, Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety, and Highway-Rail Safety.

## **Eligible Projects**

Projects involve the identification of high-crash spots or corridor segments, an analysis of crash trends and existing conditions, and the prioritization and scheduling of improvement projects. Submitted projects must demonstrate a cost benefit and must:

- Be relevant to the program purpose of reducing severe crashes or risk to transportation users.
- Address hazardous situations through good safety planning and identified by safety data driven network screening.
- Demonstrate compliance with the appropriate VDOT design guideline and standards.

## **Eligible Applicants**

The Highway Safety Programs (HSP), Rail-At-Grade-Crossing (Rail) and the Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Program (BPSP) applications must be submitted through the SMART Portal by local governments, VDOT District and Regional Staff.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

The eligibility criteria and process for the safety programs are different. The Portal automatically scores each application based upon the various factors such as: Benefit/Cost ratio, PSI listing, supporting documents, complete cost estimate/schedule etc. The (HSP) application targets vehicle only crashes and requires a benefit-cost (B/C) ratio analysis, or the Systemic Safety Improvement (SSI) application can utilize a risk assessment methodology that addresses these risks throughout a network of roadways. The Rail Safety and Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety applications require a risk analysis due to the unpredictability of the crash types.

## **Funding Cycle**

The funding cycle for the Highway Safety program will be every year. Approximately \$60 million is available per year. Applications are generally accepted August through October of each year. All funding is federal.

## **Website**

[http://www.virginia.gov/business/ted\\_app\\_pro.asp](http://www.virginia.gov/business/ted_app_pro.asp)



## **Purpose**

This program is intended to help sponsors fund projects that expand non-motorized travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by improving the cultural, historical, and environmental aspects of transportation infrastructure. It focuses on providing pedestrian and bicycle facilities and other community improvements.

## **Funding**

TAP is not a traditional grant program and funds are only available on a reimbursement basis. The program will reimburse up to a maximum 80% of the eligible project costs and requires a minimum 20% local match. These are federal transportation funds and therefore require strict adherence to federal and state regulations including Americans with Disability Act (ADA) design standards. Funding is allocated statewide and to specific population areas as set forth in federal regulation. Funds are awarded by the CTB and the MPOs in Virginia's Transportation Management Areas (TMAs).

## **Eligible Projects**

- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities such as sidewalks, bike lanes, and shared use paths
- Infrastructure-related projects and systems that will provide safe routes for non-drivers to access daily needs
- Conversion and use of abandoned railway corridors for rails-to-trails facilities
- Construction of turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas
- Inventory, control or removal of outdoor advertising (billboards)
- Preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities including train depots, lighthouses and canals
- Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way
- Archeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of a transportation project
- Environmental mitigation activities to decrease the negative impacts of roads on the natural environment
- Wildlife mortality mitigation activities to decrease negative impacts of roads on wildlife and habitat connectivity

## **Eligible Applicants**

Applications may be submitted through the SMART Portal by local governments, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, natural resource or public land agencies, school districts, local educational agencies, schools, tribal governments, and any other local/regional entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

- Project funding
- Project concept
- How the project improves the existing transportation network
- Sponsor's experience administering federal-aid projects
- Project's readiness to proceed

## **Funding Cycle**

Beginning with the FY2019-2024 SYIP Update, the application cycle will alternate every other year with allocations available in the first and second year of the SYIP. Approximately \$20 million is available per year with a maximum request of \$1M per year (\$2M per application). Applications are generally accepted August through October of every other year. All funding is federal.

## **Website**

<http://www.virginiadot.org/business/prenhancegrants.asp>



## **Purpose**

This program provides additional funding for use by a county, city, or town to construct, reconstruct, improve, or maintain the highway systems within such county, city, or town, and for eligible rural additions in certain counties of the Commonwealth. Locality funds are matched, dollar for dollar, with state funds, with statutory limitations on the amount of state funds authorized per locality.

## **Funding**

Application for program funding must be made by resolution of the governing body of the jurisdiction requesting funds. Project funding is allocated by resolution of the CTB. The Revenue Sharing program will match, dollar for dollar, eligible project costs up to limitations specified in CTB Policy

## **Eligible Projects**

- Supplemental funding for projects listed in the adopted in the SYIP
- Construction, reconstruction, or improvement projects not including in the adopted SYIP
- Improvements necessary for the specific subdivision streets otherwise eligible for acceptance into the secondary system for maintenance (rural additions)
- Maintenance projects consistent with the department's operating policies
- New hardsurfacing (paving)
- Deficits on completed construction, reconstruction, or improvement projects

## **Eligible Applicants**

Applications may be submitted through the SMART Portal by any county, city, or urbanized town in the Commonwealth.

## **Evaluation Criteria**

- Priority 1: Construction projects that have previously received Revenue Sharing funding
- Priority 2: Construction projects that meet a transportation need identified in the Statewide Transportation Plan or projects that will be accelerated in a locality's capital plan
- Priority 3: Projects that address deficient pavement resurfacing and bridge rehabilitation
- Priority 4: All other projects

## **Funding Cycle**

Beginning with the FY2019-2024 SYIP Update, the application cycle will alternate every other year with allocations available in the first and second year of the SYIP. Approximately \$100 million in state funding is available per year. Applications are generally accepted August through October of every other year. All funding is non-federal.

## **Website**

[http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local-assistance-accessprograms.asp#Revenue\\_Sharing](http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local-assistance-accessprograms.asp#Revenue_Sharing)



**State of Good Repair**  
Locally Owned Bridges



**State of Good Repair**  
Primary Extensions

## Purpose

SGR provides funding for the Commonwealth of Virginia’s pavements and bridges. The funds are used for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of deteriorated pavements on the Interstate and Primary Systems, including Primary Extensions, as well as the replacement and rehabilitation of structurally deficient bridges on all systems.

## Funding

Funding is allocated to each district based on needs for VDOT and locality owned bridges and pavements. Allocation of the funding is based on a needs prioritization methodology as approved by the CTB. All nine construction districts will receive funding in a given year, with no district receiving less than 5.5% or more than 17.5% of the funds in a given year.

The Code of Virginia allows for two waivers in the SGR. The first waiver allows the CTB to remove the cap and allocate the SGR funds to a key need or project. The second waiver allows the CTB to allocate 20% of the funds to secondary pavements if the Department does not meet its secondary pavement performance targets.

## Eligible Projects

Projects must meet the three tests as depicted in the following chart prior to receiving funding:

Tests	Pavement	Bridge
1	Improves to fair or better status	Removes from structurally deficient status
2	Meets definition of pavement rehabilitation and reconstruction in FHWA’s memo dated 9/12/2005	Meets definition of bridge rehabilitation and replacement in FHWA’s Bridge Preservation Guide dated August 2011
3	Adds or restores strength	
FHWA Memo Links	<a href="#">FHWA’s Memo – September 12, 2005 - Pavement Preservation Definitions</a> <a href="#">FHWA’s Memo - February 25, 2016 - Pavement Preservation</a>	<a href="#">FHWA’s Bridge Preservation Guide – August 2011 – Maintaining a State of Good Repair Using Cost Effective Investment Strategies</a>

## Eligible Applicants

Localities may submit applications for primary extensions and work notification forms for structurally deficient bridges through the SMART Portal. If a locality has multiple structurally deficient bridges, the locality is required to submit work notification forms for all bridges to show what work will be completed in order to remove the deficiency.

## Evaluation Criteria

The SGR Program requires the prioritization process to consider mileage, condition and costs for pavements while considering number, condition and costs for bridges. For additional detail related to the prioritization process, refer to the following link: <http://www.ctb.virginia.gov/resources/2016/june/reso/Resolution1.pdf>

## Funding Cycle

The funding cycle for SGR will be every year. Funding was first planned to begin in FY2021 but due to a more positive revenue outlook, funding became available in FY2017. Beginning in FY2021, approximately \$300 million is projected to be available per year. Applications are accepted November through January. Funding includes both state and federal sources.

## Website

[http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local\\_assistance\\_division\\_funding\\_programs.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/business/local_assistance_division_funding_programs.asp)