

The Missouri Department of Transportation is soliciting projects for the 2018 State Fiscal Year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018) Freight Enhancement Program.

Public, private, and not-for-profit entities are invited to submit applications requesting Freight Enhancement Funds (FRE) for non-highway freight improvement projects for the SFY 2018.*

Eligible Applicants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Public, private and not-for-profit entities are eligible for Freight Enhancement funds.
Project Eligibility: <i>NOTE: Any application that fails to meet these criteria will be disqualified and is ineligible for funding.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">In accordance with RSMo 226.225, Freight Enhancement funds must be used for transportation purposes other than highways.Freight Enhancement funds are limited to capital projects such as the construction of improvements or purchase of equipment that address one of the following Four Goals (see Missouri State Freight Plan pages 8-6 and 8-7 for additional descriptions of the Four Goals).<ul style="list-style-type: none">SafetyConnectivity and MobilityEconomic DevelopmentMajor MaintenanceOperating costs are not eligible.A minimum of 20% of the project's cost must come from sources other than FRE funding.A total of \$1,000,000 is available for this program. The maximum available for any one project is \$500,000 (Funds will be paid on a reimbursable basis, and will not be lump sum grants).
Location: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Freight Enhancement funds must be used on projects located within the State of Missouri.
Project Duration: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Notification of awards will be made no later than August 18, 2017, subject to legislative appropriation and release of SFY 18 freight enhancement funds.Projects should be ready to begin August 18, 2017 and must be completed and billed to MoDOT by June 15, 2018. NOTE: All eligible costs must occur after August 18 and be procured following Missouri State Statutes.
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Application Procedure:

- Project applications must be submitted electronically in Adobe .pdf format to MoFreight@modot.mo.gov and received no later than **5:00 pm Central Time, August 10, 2017**. We recommend applicants check the return receipt option in their email. The proposal must be limited to seven pages and contain the following:
 - Name, address, telephone number and email address of the applicant.
 - Address and/or physical description of the project location including a map or aerial photo of the location.
 - A narrative description of the construction project or equipment to be purchased that includes a justification for the project and how it meets one of the Four Goals of: Safety; Connectivity/Mobility; Economic Development; or Major Maintenance.
 - How the project meets the Evaluation Criteria below must be clearly identified including an explanation of applicant’s basis for the response.
 - Project budget. This must include the total project cost and identification of the source and total amount of matching funds. A commitment letter(s) from the matching funds supplier(s) shall be included, but will not be counted against the seven page limit.

Evaluation Criteria:

The following criteria will be considered when making relative project rankings. Final selection will be made by MoDOT staff from among the projects.

1. Which Missouri State Freight Plan performance measures, goals, or strategies (see Missouri State Freight Plan page 8-2 and 9-5) does this project address?
2. Does the project directly affect more than one mode of freight movement (air, rail, road or water)?
3. Amount of additional freight (tonnage or value) this project will directly allow the facility to handle. Include a brief statement on how that amount was calculated.
4. Is the need for this project based on an existing customer/market, a committed prospective customer, or speculative? Include information on industries that will be served by this improvement.
5. Impact to employment in the region. Will there be additional jobs created?
6. Does the project directly reduce the distance truck freight must travel on public roads?
7. Does the project directly reduce the distance permitted Oversized or Overweight freight must travel on public roads? – (Click [here](#) for definitions of what Oversize/Overweight freight requires permits.)
8. Does the project shift the movement of freight from an out-of-state facility to an in-state facility? –*For example, grain hauled to Oklahoma for shipping by barge will now be hauled to Missouri facility for shipping by rail or water.*
9. Percent matching funds above 20 percent can result in a higher relative project ranking.
 - a. *Total Project Cost = Match Dollars + State Freight Enhancement Dollars.*
 - b. *Match Percent = Match Dollars/Total Project Cost.*
10. Applicant can demonstrate knowledge of and the ability to follow the Missouri state statutes for use of state funds for procurement of services or equipment, engineering services, and contractor as necessary for the project. A project timeline should be included that outlines what (if anything) has already been accomplished on the project, and future relevant target dates (e.g. permitting, letting date, award, construction completion).