

FACT SHEET

COMPETITIVE RAIL CONNECTIVITY GRANTS



The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) will be accepting applications for the Competitive Rail Connectivity Grants. This grant program seeks to strategically expand rail access and opportunities within the state of Tennessee in order to benefit the state by:

- impacting job creation and capital investment by industries that require rail access;
- enhancing the marketability of available industrial sites; and/or
- reducing highway and bridge maintenance costs by diverting heavy freight from the roadway network to rail.

Funds Available \$10.3M is available in this call for projects. However, TDOT will only award funds to projects that meet program objectives.

Maximum Request An applicant may request a maximum of \$2M in state funding.

Local Matching Funds The program requires a minimum 10% local cash match.

Schedule

Application Period Begins:	October 15, 2018
Notice of Intent Due Date:	November 15, 2018
Application Due Date:	December 7, 2018, 5 p.m. CST
Award Announcements:	January 2019

Applicant Eligibility

- local railroad authorities
- local port authorities
- local governments
- industrial development corporations (pursuant to TCA Title 7 Chapter 53)
- other governmental entities authorized to conduct eligible grant activities

Project Eligibility Proposed capital projects must facilitate new economic development, foster expansion or retention of existing industries, and/or shift heavy truck movements from highway to rail. Examples include:

- New spurs or sidings for industry
- Truck-rail transload facilities
- River-rail transload facilities
- 286,000-pound upgrades on short lines
- Bridge rehabilitation on short lines
- Other capital projects with benefits that meet program objectives

Application Instructions Application instructions will be posted the week of October 22 at <https://www.tn.gov/tdot/multimodal-transportation-resources.html>

Application Due Date Applications are due on December 7, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. (CST)

Evaluation Criteria Applications will be reviewed by an Advisory Committee with participation from ECD, TVA, TDOT Long Range Planning, and TDOT Multimodal. Recommendations will be made to the Commissioner of Transportation for final approval. Evaluation criteria include:

- Project Narrative
- Economic Development Benefits
- Employment and Capital Investment Impacts
- Transportation System Impacts
- Community Need and Support

TDOT Contact Information

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