

Arkansas Department of Transportation

RULES FOR TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM



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BUREAU OF
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

EFFECTIVE xx/xx/2018

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SECTION 1
Regulatory Authority

- 1.1 Authority for promulgating these rules is conferred upon the Arkansas Highway Commission and the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) pursuant...to Ark. Code Ann. § 27-65-145.
- 1.2 These rules shall be known as the Arkansas Department of Transportation Rules for Transportation-Related Research Grants.
- 1.3 Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 19-5-1258 the ARDOT is responsible for the award and administration of grants under the Transportation-Related Research Grant Program (TRRGP).

SECTION 2
Purpose

- 2.1 These rules describe the Arkansas State Highway Commission and the ARDOT procedures for awarding grants from the Future Transportation Research Fund for the TRRGP.
- 2.2 The purpose of the TRRGP is to support the study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions to provide resilient and sustainable logistics, processes, materials, and methods to ensure cost-effectiveness and the furtherance of education and economic development concerning all forms of transportation.

SECTION 3
Procedures

- 3.1 Potential applicants will be notified when an application period begins by email, letter, advertisement in applicable publications, and/or a notice on ARDOT's website.

- 3.2 The minimum amount requested for each application is \$20,000. There is no limit to the maximum amount that can be requested. However, it should be noted that only \$500,000 is available each year.

SECTION 4 Selection Committee

- 4.1 Applications will be reviewed and scored by the TRRGP Committee. It will be the duty of the TRRGP Committee to rate the quality of each application in order to recommend which applications will receive funding.
- 4.2 The TRRGP Committee will be comprised of the following members:
- ARDOT Assistant Chief Engineer – Planning, TRRGP Chairman
 - ARDOT Materials Division Head
 - ARDOT Transportation Planning and Policy Division Head
 - ARDOT System Information and Research Division Head
 - ARDOT Staff Research Engineer

SECTION 5 Scoring Criteria

- 5.1 The scoring criteria will be in accordance with Act 705, which defined “transportation-related research” as the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions to provide resilient and sustainable logistics, processes, materials and methods to ensure cost effectiveness and the furtherance of education and economic development concerning all forms of transportation, including without limitation rail, public transportation, aviation, and waterborne transportation.

SECTION 6
Award Process

- 6.1 The TRRGP Committee will submit their recommendation(s) for award of TRRGP funding to the ARDOT Director. Upon the Director's approval, a Minute Order will be submitted to the Arkansas Highway Commission for their approval. Upon approval, a letter will be sent to each applicant informing them of the award amount granted for their application.

- 6.2 An Agreement of Understanding will be prepared by ARDOT for each grant recipient. The recipient and the ARDOT Director must both sign the Agreement of Understanding before funds will be distributed.

SECTION 7
Reporting Requirements

- 7.1 At the end of each State Fiscal Year, the recipient must provide ARDOT with certification that expenditures were an appropriate use of the TRRGP funds accompanied with a summarized expenditure report.

- 7.2 Additionally, upon expenditure of all TRRGP funds or completion of the project, whichever occurs first, the recipient must submit a final report detailing what has been accomplished by the project and certifying that all expenditures were made in accordance with the TRRGP.

Transportation- Related Research Grant Program (TRRGP)

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STATE FISCAL YEAR 20XX

Project Application

Applications must be received at the following location by
4:30 p.m. CDT on Day of Week, Month XX, 20XX

*Arkansas Department of Transportation
c/o Program Management Division
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261*



**ARKANSAS
TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM
(TRRGP)
PROJECT APPLICATION**

Background

The 91st General Assembly of the State of Arkansas enacted Act 705 during the 2017 Regular Session. Act 705 established the distribution of highway revenue interest income from the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) Fund, in part, to create the Future Transportation Research Fund and the Transportation-Related Research Grant Program (TRRGP). The Future Transportation Research Fund will receive up to a maximum of \$500,000 per year of interest income, if available. The ARDOT shall use these funds for distributing grants under the TRRGP to publicly funded institutions of higher education for transportation-related research.

Primary Contact

Name: _____

Title: _____

Qualifying publicly funded institution of higher education:

Address: _____

Street Address and /or P.O. Box No.

City

State

Zip Code

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

If your organization is submitting more than one application, what priority is this project? _____

Project Category (check all that apply)

- Provides Resilient and Sustainable Logistics, Processes, Materials, and Methods
- Ensures Cost Effectiveness
- Enhances Education and Economic Development

**ARKANSAS
TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM
(TRRGP)
PROJECT APPLICATION**

Project Information

Please identify who will be responsible for the long-term maintenance or operation of the project or improvement:

Who will develop plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the implementation of this project or improvement?

**ARKANSAS
TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM
(TRRGP)
PROJECT APPLICATION**

Estimated Project Budget

| Item of Work | Quantity | Units | Unit Cost | Total Item Cost |
|--------------|----------|-------|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 | | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
| 4 | | | | |
| 5 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | |
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| 10 | | | | |
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| 13 | | | | |
| 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | |
| 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | |

Please fill out multiple copies of this page if necessary

Total Estimated Project Cost _____

Requested TRRGP Funds _____

If this project is not fully funded with TRRGP funds, are other funds available to implement this project? If other funds are not available, is the project scalable in order to efficiently use the funds awarded? Please explain:

**ARKANSAS
TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM
(TRRGP)
PROJECT APPLICATION**

Sponsor Authorization and Certification

(To be completed by the Chief Executive Officer)

I attest that the information contained in this application is truthful and correct and that the provision of false or misleading information can lead to the withdrawal of Transportation-Related Research Grant Program funding. By signing in the space provided, I do hereby certify that I will comply with ARDOT's deadline for submittal of plans and specifications at an estimated cost within the amount requested.

Printed Name

Title

Signature

Date

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (Department) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion (not applicable as a protected group under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Title VI Program), disability, Limited English Proficiency (LEP), or low-income status in the admission, access to and treatment in the Department's programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Joanna P. McFadden Section Head – EEO/DBE (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501)569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address: joanna.mcfadden@ardot.gov

Free language assistance for Limited English Proficient individuals is available upon request.
This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.

**Transportation-
Related Research
Grant Program
(TRRGP)
Application**

STATE FISCAL YEAR 20XX

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TRRGP Project Application – SFY 20XX

**Applications ~~must be received~~ due at the following location by 4:30 p.m. CDT
on July 01, 20XX:**

*Arkansas Department of Transportation
c/o System Information and Research – Research Section
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203-2261
OR*

TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Research@ardot.gov

PROJECT TITLE:

PROJECT TIME (months):
Months

**PROJECT COSTS/FUNDING
REQUESTED**
(\$20,000 min. - \$500,000 max.):

**INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
EDUCATION (RECIPIENT):**

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S):

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TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

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Problem Statement **Brief description of the proposed Project:**



TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Objectives of the Study **Estimate any cost-effective benefits anticipated from the Project:**

(Objectives must provide resilient and sustainable logistics, processes, materials, and methods to ensure cost effectiveness and the furtherance of education and economic development concerning all forms of transportation.)



TRRG PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Background and Significance of Work Describe any economic development anticipated from the Project:



TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Cost Effectiveness of the Research:



TRRGF PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Economic Development Benefits to the State of Arkansas:



TRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Implementation:



TRRGF PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX



TRRGF PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Project Work Plan:



Project Work Plan Continued:

TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Personnel and Budget

Personnel Required for Project:



TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Equipment and Materials Required for Project Budget:



TRRGP PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Project Budget Equipment:



TRRG PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX



Work Time Schedule:

TRRG PROJECT APPLICATION
SFY 20XX

Reports (Annual Project Reports to be added by ARDOT):

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Transportation-Related Research Grant Program

APPLICATION

- The application fields ~~are based on~~ conform to the required fields specified in the Act 207705.
- Within the "Objectives" area of the application, the submitter is encouraged to provide the information needed to meet the intent of the Act.
- ~~Upon approval, the~~ application will be turned into a fillable PDF ~~upon approval~~ to create a unified proposal for the ease of the selection committee and submitter.
- The applications are very similar to ARDOT's current research proposals.

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SCORING CRITERIA

- Each proposal will ~~be~~ have one score per committee member. Each proposal will be scored as a whole; with each committee member keeping the scoring criteria in mind. This will allow the better quality and more applicable proposals ~~to receive a more ample~~ higher score.
- Votes are based on a 0 to 5 scale; 0 being the least applicable and 5 being the most applicable.
- The scoring criteria are based on the approved Rules of Implementation and Minute Order 2017-111, and are as follows. "Transportation-related research" is defined as the systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions that will provide resilient and sustainable logistics, processes, materials and methods to ensure cost effectiveness and the furtherance of education and economic development concerning all forms of transportation.

AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING

- The Agreement of Understanding's format is very similar to the ACTSEP AOU.
- The "Recipient" ~~of~~ the AOU is defined as the Institution of Higher Education per Act 207705. This will ~~assist ensure that TRRGP funds are utilized by~~ Arkansas Institutions of Higher Education should any of the professors requesting funding leave their ~~Recipient~~ institution for one outside of the state.

- Two provisions have been added to ensure ARDOT is not charged rental fees on ~~future research projects~~ for equipment and materials purchased or lab fees from any ~~facility constructed~~ facility with this funding on ~~future research projects~~.

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