Letter of Interest

Transportation Alternatives and Safe Routes to School Programs

Federal Funding for Fiscal Years 2027, 2028, 2029

October 2026

Submission Deadline: December 15, 2026







COLORADO
Department of Transportation

At-a-Glance

Submission of this completed form is the first step in seeking a portion of Colorado's federal fiscal years 2027, 2028 and/or 2029 funding allocation of the Transportation Alternatives (TAP) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant programs. This step initiates a preliminary review to determine if your project is a good fit for these grant funds.

This is a combined call for grant seekers. Therefore, any applicant interested in either TAP or SRTS grant funds will submit one LOI per project. LOIs will be reviewed by program staff and if deemed eligible, applicants will be invited to submit an application. For each submitted project, both funding programs will be considered and the funding type awarded will be based on the project scope applicability.

Instructions

To be considered for these funds, a complete Letter of Interest (LOI) form must be submitted before **December 15, 2026**. No time extensions will be offered for this deadline. Submission well in advance of this deadline offers you more time to request consultations and/or input on your project.

Applicants can submit up to two separate project LOIs for this call.

Your LOI is a draft to offer insight into your project application. Responses to the questions below will help to inform CDOT coaching, if necessary, regarding your project's eligibility and level of readiness to receive these federal grant funds. You will be able to make necessary changes to the project scope, schedule and budget before the next step, which is a final application submission. Please respond to each question below with clear and complete answers. Once submitted to CDOT via the online link, please review the next steps to prepare for what will follow. Please see scoring categories, weights, and data used to inform decisions in the Guidance Book.

Support Services Available

CDOT is available to provide guidance on project eligibility, best practices in grant writing for these programs, and whether these funding sources are the best fit for your project and agency. However, we are not able to provide specific writing advice or recommendations. To schedule a consultation, please email: active.insights@state.co.us. *Notes about this offering:* As deadlines approach, staff availability and open consultation slots become increasingly limited. Please consider requesting time early in your brainstorming or drafting process, and well before any deadlines approach. If consultation demand exceeds staff availability, we will provide consultation for proposals on a first come, first served basis prior to program deadlines.

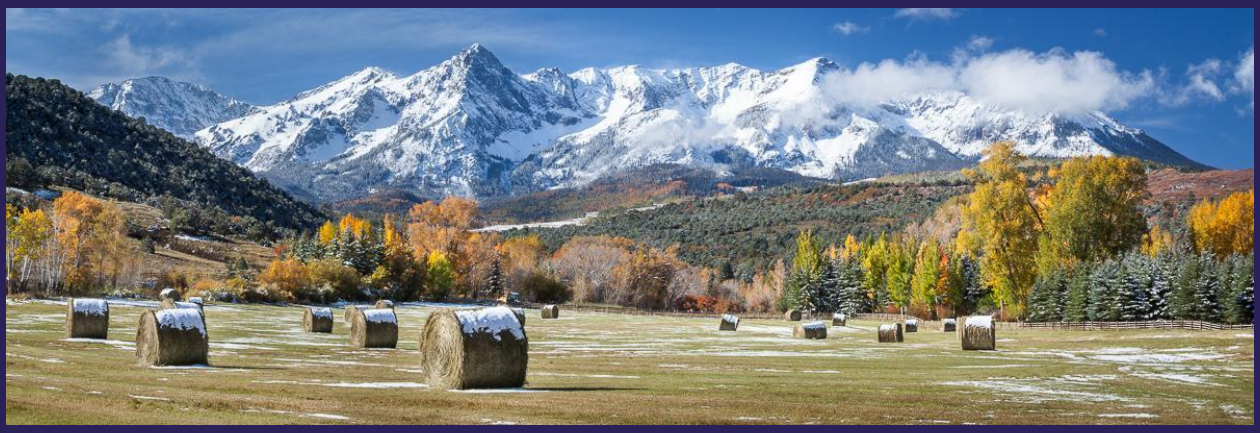
What's Next

Please submit this complete form via this link. Post submission, you will receive feedback no later than January 15, 2027. A reminder that earlier submissions of LOIs will receive comments quicker, allowing you more time to integrate comments and feedback. Reviews will determine whether:

- The applicant has the authority to contract with the State.
- The LOI form is filled out correctly and includes all required elements.
- The project falls into one or more of the eligible project categories.
- The applicant is eligible to be a federal grant recipient. If your agency is currently ineligible under either category listed below, please ensure they are resolved prior to the February 19, 2027 application deadline. Because resolving these issues can take time, we strongly encourage starting the process promptly.

- Federal regulations prohibit CDOT from awarding federal funds to any entity that has been excluded, suspended, or debarred from receiving federal contracts. Prior to review, CDOT will verify the entity's eligibility in the federal SAM.gov system.
- Applicant does not currently have any other projects with CDOT that are on the United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) inactive projects report.

- The project could be completed within four years of awarding.
- The project could be completed within the schedule and budget as proposed. If you have over extended or underestimated the scheduling or requested far too much or far too little funds based on the described scope, we will provide you with constructive feedback for consideration.



Scenic Byway, San Juan Skyway. Photo by Cameron Miller.

Applicant & Project Overview

Contact

Agency name (formal)

Mailing address

Application primary contacts table

	Grant Writer	Project Manager
Name		
Title		
Phone		
E-Mail		

Quick Project Summary

Project Name

Requesting Grant amount:

$

Select Primary Project Category:

Primary Project Category

Quick Project Overview (no more than 3 sentences)

Endorsement/Commitment

Applicable Laws: By completing and submitting this LOI, you acknowledge your agency's Chief Elected Official (Mayor or County Commission Chair) or City/County Manager or equivalent, has certified they support this grant request to be submitted for funding and will follow all State fiscal policies, and State and Federal regulations (including the Americans with Disability Act) for your entire project, if awarded.

Preparedness

Project Management

Who will primarily lead the work for this project on a daily basis, if selected?

How many years of experience do they have managing CDOT grant funded projects?

Will the same person lead this work during the entire life cycle of the project?

Due to fiscal spending requirements, if your proposed project is not in the top of your priority list to fully fund and complete within four years, please do not submit a LOI to this call. Of all transportation projects your community is pursuing or considering, where does this fall in the priority list?

Please add a link to an available prioritized transportation project list that has been approved by your agency's leadership or commission. If you do not currently have an approved prioritized list, share a staff prioritized list based on your local planning efforts highlighting this proposed project.

Schedule

Have you already begun this project? If yes, where are you in the project lifecycle?

Please share the proposed or expected project schedule in the table below. Include if these dates are flexible or firm, based on other funding deadlines and/or construction commitments.

Schedule Table

Date Estimate	Project Phase	Status: Flexible or Firm?
		Status
		Status
		Status
		Status
		Status

Project Elements

One project may have multiple, distinct elements that together achieve one common outcome for a specific community. If the elements of your application do not contribute to a common outcome, they need to be submitted in separate applications.

Safe Routes to School projects must include an educational component. Please list this in the table below.

What are the major elements included in this project?

Elements Table

Element	Description
Ex: Sidewalks	*Re-construction of ADA compliant sidewalks for 1 mile*
Ex: E-Bike Program	*Integrating a 3-year safety awareness program into the Physical Education curriculum of Middle Schools C and D.*

Financial Management

Reimbursement based grants may require the grantee to hold multiple months of incurred costs (e.g. construction payments) before reimbursements are completed.

Are you financially prepared for this? ◯ Yes ◯ No

Budget Table

Please provide a project budget and funding sources in the table below. For each funding source, note any spending deadlines and whether the funds are secured, pending approval, or are conditional.

Total Project Cost: $

Amount	Source	Status:	Deadline
$	Requesting Grant amount	Pending	
$		Status	
$		Status	
$		Status	
$		Status	
$		Status	

Total Amount: $ 0.00

Note: Total Amount is auto-calculated from the amounts entered in the budget table. Ensure the total amount equals the Total Project Cost provided above.

Match

Auto-calculated 20% match (of grant requested amount): $ 0.00

Are you eligible for and requesting a match waiver? ◯ Yes ◯ No

Seeking Infrastructure Funds

If you are seeking funds only for programmatic work, please skip this next section of questions. If you are seeking grant funds to pay for the construction of an infrastructure project, please share your level of confidence of known engineering elements below.

1. Who are the land owners of the project site? Does it touch CDOT's right of way?

2. Will your project have any potential impacts to the environment or historic sites? Share what those potential or known impacts may be. For example: will you add more impermeable surfaces? Is this an area with a historically preserved school building? Has this area ever flooded?

3. Tell us about any utilities located in this area. If your project will impact utilities.

4. Did you estimate the cost impacts in the project budget and schedule for any historic preservation, environmental mitigation efforts and/or required relocation/protection/subsurface utility engineering (SUE) work? If yes, please explain.



South Platte River Trail near 16th in Denver. Photo by Stephen Martinez.