Transportation Collaboration Grant FY2023 FAQ

1. Who is eligible to apply for the new transportation collaboration grant?

Per Ohio Revised Code Section 3317.072, a city, local or exempted school district may apply for the Transportation Collaboration Grant funding. Educational service centers are not eligible to receive grant funding allocation(s). However, they may partner with an eligible applicant.

2. When do we need to submit the information?

Submit PDF copies of the completed application narrative, appendices and budget documents by 4:59 p.m. EST Friday, Sept. 30, 2022. New and renewal applications must be submitted by the time and date specified above in CCIP. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

3. If a school district collaborates with another district, who will receive the funds?

Any city, local or exempted school district that applies for a new transportation collaboration grant can be awarded up to $10,000 for efforts that lead to shared resource management, routing consolidations or other activities to reduce transportation costs. Only the applying partner in a single collaboration project may receive the award if they meet the appropriate criteria. If more than one partner applies for the same collaboration project, only the first application received will be considered for grant funding.

4. Can our school district reapply for the grant?

Yes, only if the district was awarded for the transportation collaboration grant in the 2022 school year. Renewal applications are due for the 2022-2023 school year by Sept. 30, 2022. Please apply for the renewal on the appropriate application titled “RENEWAL Transportation Collaboration Grant FY2023.”

5. Can this grant money be applied toward the purchase of a new school bus, or other transportation vehicles?

No, the intent of this grant is to reduce operating costs. This grant may be used to purchase materials and services that enable the grantee to address their identified quality criteria. Examples of permitted and not permitted uses include the following:

Permitted uses include
• Shared resource management
• Routing consolidation
• Regional collaboration
• Other activities that have the potential to reduce transportation operating costs

Not permitted uses include
• Facility construction costs
• Repair or maintenance of school transportation vehicles
• Payment in lieu of transportation services
6. Would the consolidation of transportation positions within an individual district qualify for the collaboration grant?

   No. There must be collaboration between two or more partners.

7. Can a school district that was awarded the transportation collaboration grant in school year 2022 apply for a new transportation collaboration grant in school year 2023?

   Yes, however the collaboration project must be different than the previous year’s collaboration. Only one of the collaborative partners will be considered for funding.

8. Can a school district participate in more than one collaboration agreement.

   Yes, but the collaborating partners must be different. A district would be eligible to receive more than one grant allocation if multiple collaboration projects are submitted and meet all the criteria. For this purpose, if more than one partner applies for the same collaboration project, only the first application received will be considered for grant funding.