

Arkansas Department of Transportation

# **RULES FOR TRANSPORTATION-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SECTION 1</b>	Regulatory Authority .....	1
<b>SECTION 2</b>	Purpose .....	1
<b>SECTION 3</b>	Procedures .....	2
<b>SECTION 4</b>	Selection Committee .....	2
<b>SECTION 5</b>	Scoring Criteria .....	2
<b>SECTION 6</b>	Award Process .....	3
<b>SECTION 7</b>	Reporting Requirements.....	3

## **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)**

**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

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The 91<sup>st</sup> 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)

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- ☐ 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**

- Provide a brief description of the transportation-related research:
- Does the proposed project provide for a cost-effective benefit from the research?  
If so please provide an estimate of the cost-effective benefits of the transportation-related research:



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

- Does the proposed project provide for economic development? If so, please set forth the economic development anticipated from the transportation-related research
- In a brief narrative, describe the proposed project in detail, including how the project meets the objectives of one or more project category. The narrative should contain short, concise statements. (Limit to no more than 1,500 characters)(attach a separate sheet as necessary)

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

**Project Information**

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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				
9				
10				
11				
12				
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**

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(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](mailto: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.

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE-MAKING

### ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Arkansas State Highway Commission intends to implement Regulations for an application and award process for the Transportation-Related Research Grant Program and that the thirty (30) day Notice period for receipt of comments begins this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February.

All interested persons will be given an opportunity to provide comments on the issues related to the above-stated matter. To obtain a copy of the proposed rules, you may access them online at [http://www.ardot.gov/public\\_comment/2018/trrgp.aspx](http://www.ardot.gov/public_comment/2018/trrgp.aspx) or contact Gill Rogers at 501.569.2108 or by email at [Gill.Rogers@ardot.gov](mailto:Gill.Rogers@ardot.gov).

Any written comments on the proposed rules may be submitted to Mr. Rogers via email or regular mail at ARDOT, Attn: Gill Rogers, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261. Comments received after the expiration of the thirty (30) day comment period on March 12, 2018 will not be considered. A public hearing will be held at the Arkansas Department of Transportation on March 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at 10324 Interstate 30, Little Rock, AR 72209.