

Questions and Answers for

Availability of Grant Funds (AGF)
for FFY 2020 State Traffic Safety Information System Improvements Grant,
Section 405(c) Funding
as of March 4, 2020

Questions were lightly edited for readability, formatting, and anonymity purposes.

Q 1. What is the maximum that we are allowed to apply for?

A 1. Up to the \$1.3 million that is available through the AGF.

Q 2. Just finished reading the AGF, 2020 Strategic Plan, and 2019 Assessment. It appears that the AGF is asking for proposals that allow us or a consultant working for us to improve the state's crash reporting database. For example, there are 6 state data systems that the state utilizes in this area:

1. Crash
2. Driver
3. Vehicle
4. Roadway
5. Citation and Adjudication and
6. Injury Surveillance/EMS

The only one we contribute to is #1 - Crash

The State created a **2019 Traffic Records Assessment** and they appear to want applicants to meet one unmet recommendation from the Assessment. In the 2019 Assessment, under the Crash database they suggest:

1. Improve the applicable guidelines for the Crash data system that reflect best practices identified in the Traffic Records Program Assessment Advisory.
2. **Improve the interfaces with the Crash data system that reflect best practices identified in the Traffic Records Program Assessment Advisory; and**
3. Improve the data quality control program for the Crash data system that reflect best practices identified in the Traffic Records Program Assessment Advisory

The only one we even intersect with appears to be their crash database. And if we apply we should work out a proposal to #2 - Improving the Interface. The "interface" in relationship to our crash data would be improvement of OUR database so that it better interfaces with the State's Crash database.

A 2.

- An AGF response could allow for a government entity or another eligible respondent to conduct a project on its own, or it could involve a government entity or other eligible respondent subcontracting to a contractor/consultant to conduct some or almost all of the project. Or a combination of the two approaches.
- An AGF response must seek to achieve the grant program's intent as described in the AGF overview section on page 1 of the AGF. It is possible a project proposed by a local or regional government or other eligible respondents could be determined during the review process to not achieve the program's intent. This conclusion could also be reached by the ETRCC or others during later review of the proposed project.
- Police departments feed data into the citation system as well as the crash system.
- In regards to the AGF requirement that a proposed project must address **at least one** unmet recommendation from the 2019 Traffic Records Assessment for Massachusetts, please considering reviewing this document referenced in the AGF before responding: Traffic Records Program Assessment Advisory, 2018 Edition. This document can be requested at brook.chipman@mass.gov.

Q 3. Are members of the Massachusetts TRCCs able to respond to this AGF?

A 3. Yes, though if they and/or anyone from their TRCC member entry submit a response to the AGF, they or anyone from their TRCC member entry cannot serve on the AGF review committee nor participate in the expected vote on proposed projects/awards at the Executive-level TRCC meeting scheduled for April 29, 2020.

Q 4. Members of the ETRCC that are from TRCC entities with projects being reviewed by the ETRCC on April 29 can't participate in the expected vote on proposed projects/awards, right?

A4. Yes, to avoid a conflict of interest situation.

Q 5. Reviewing the AGF for 405C funding and see "Only units of state and local government or not-for-profit organizations in Massachusetts with a public purpose are eligible to apply for this funding. Private sector organizations are not eligible to receive this funding". This is not new text but since this AGF is now going through a different review procedure, I wanted to make sure that state universities of higher education fit in this category

A 5. Yes, for the purposes of this AGF, state universities of higher education are covered by the state government reference.

