MASSACHUSETTS
Safe Routes to School
MASS.GOV/SAFE-ROUTES-TO-SCHOOL

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Grant Applications:

Q: Who should be filling out the application(s)?

A: The municipality should be the lead applicant for the Signs and Lines and Infrastructure Grants, but the school also needs to be a co-applicant. The school AND municipality need to work together.

Q: What are the minimum requirements for my school/municipality applying for a Signs & Lines or Infrastructure Grant?

A: The main requirements for SRTS grants:

1. The school must be an SRTS partner for at least *six months* before applying AND have implemented several SRTS Programs. (Examples of SRTS Programs are in the following online resource: What is SRTS?)
2. Due to a recent policy implemented at the state level, any municipality that is considered noncompliant with the MBTA Communities Act will not be eligible to receive any MassDOT funding, including Safe Routes to School funding.
3. *Municipalities must be at a minimum level of Tier 2 with the MassDOT Complete Streets Program. This means the municipality already has a Complete Streets policy and now has a prioritization plan. Involvement in Complete Streets not only shows an already established relationship with MassDOT and its processes, but also a commitment to making roadways safer for all modes of transportation.
4. *Municipalities that have already received funding for a previous SRTS project cannot reapply until the previous project is set to advertise in the application year (~4-5 years). This is to ensure the maximum opportunity to provide funding for as many municipalities as possible.

**These minimum requirements are only for the SRTS Infrastructure Funding Program*

Q: What types of projects are best for Signs & Lines?

A: The best projects for Signs & Lines are:

- Projects that can be completed in the same school year as the application year
- Projects with signs and pavement marking improvements estimated at $10K
- Projects within half a mile of the school entrance

Q: What type of projects are best for Infrastructure?

A: The best projects for Infrastructure are:

- Projects that will be scheduled out four to five years from the application year
- Projects with major improvements including sidewalks, bike lanes, shared-use paths, etc. totaling $250K to $2M
- Projects within two miles of the school entrance

- Projects that are NOT already in design or already have funding allocated

Q: If my application is selected, will I be receiving a check to fund my project?

A: No, each grant has a different funding process.

- For Signs & Lines grants, design services will be covered, but municipalities will need to complete the work. Once work is completed, the municipality will be reimbursed for construction costs (up to $10,000).
- For Infrastructure grants, the projects will be funded by MassDOT through Federal Highway Transportation Alternative (TA) funds and cover both design and construction costs. These projects will be programmed into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and follow all federal contracting guidelines/requirements.

Q: Where can I learn more?

A: We have a lot of great resources on the Engineering page of the SRTS website:

- The SRTS Signs & Lines Grant Program (with the most up-to-date guidance document and recording of the information session)
- The SRTS Infrastructure Grant Program (with the most up-to-date guidance document and recording of the information session)