

2024 ORANGE COUNTY EMSD GRANT PROGRAM



AT A GLANCE

SERVICE AREA:

All 34 Orange County cities and the County of Orange

FUNDING:

\$8.5 million in local funds

WEBSITE:

www.octa.net/emsd

GENERAL INQUIRIES:

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Fact sheet as of 05/28/24

OVERVIEW

The OCTA Board of Directors (Board) is scheduled to consider the release of the 2024 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (EMSD) Program Call for Projects. EMSD is intended to support the needs of seniors beyond traditional public transportation, and for individuals with disabilities beyond that required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Up to \$8.5 million in local funds is available to program in FY2024/25, FY2025/26, or FY2026/27 (ending June 30).

PROGRAM GOALS

- 1) Improve the mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities in Orange County;
- 2) Support local agencies and non-profits providing specialized service within their communities;
- 3) Augment the OCTA Senior Mobility Program (SMP), OC ACCESS and OC Bus fixed-route service;
- 4) Provide seamless service through improved first and last mile connections;
- 5) Incorporate and encourage technology-based solutions to improve mobility options;
- 6) Promote non-profit and public agency outreach to senior and disabled patrons with an emphasis in reaching disadvantaged, underrepresented, and/or diverse communities to ensure that services are meeting their needs; and
- 7) Prioritize funding for agencies that collaborate which is demonstrated by:
 - partnering together to create efficiencies and lower operating costs for service, and/or
 - increasing vehicle revenue hours beyond the minimum 10 hours

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Private non-profit organizations
- Public agencies where no private non-profits are readily available to provide the proposed service (a public hearing is required as documentation)

ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES

- **Capital Projects** - At least 55% or \$4.7 million (minimum) of the funds awarded will be used for ADA accessible vehicle and related equipment purchases and leases.
- **Operating Projects** - The remaining 45% or \$3.8 million (maximum) may be used for mobility management type projects or operating assistance type projects.
- A complete list of eligible activities can be viewed in the guidelines.

LOCAL MATCH REQUIREMENTS

- A 10% local match is required for capital, which includes the purchase and lease of vehicles and equipment and small capital purchases. The 10% match also applies to the operating – mobility management category.
- A 20% local match is required for the operating – operating assistance category.



Orange County Transportation Authority

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FUNDING PRIORITIES

Funding priorities are listed in order of priority. The list will be used to set funding priorities consistent with FTA 5310 requirements of at least 55% of the funds being used for "traditional" capital projects and no more than 45% of the funds being used for operating projects.

- 1) Capital
- 2) Operating (Existing Services Only and Mobility Management)

PROVISIONS OF USE

- All projects must be included in the Orange County Public Transit-Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan available at: <http://www.octa.net/pdf/HumanServicesTransportation.pdf>
- Applicants must have management oversight and control over the operations of contracted service and purchased/leased equipment
- Grantees are responsible for the proper use, operating costs, and maintenance of all vehicles and project equipment, and must be prepared to comply with all applicable regulations and requirements.
- The maximum request amount is **\$1,500,000** per applicant to ensure an equitable distribution of funds

GUIDELINES WORKSHOP AND APPLICANT OFFICE HOURS

OCTA will host a guidelines development and information workshop on April 17, 2024, at 1:30 PM to discuss updates that have been incorporated into the program and to receive feedback from stakeholders on how to continue streamlining the entry and process of applying to and securing funds. Please RSVP at <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/1a5b5417-f4a8-4c24-ac50-e12777fe8919@1e952f6c-c8fc-4e38-b476-ab4dd5449420> by April 16, 2024. Additional information can be found on the program's webpage at www.octa.net/emsd.

OCTA will host EMSD applicant office hours in early June. Please complete the interest form on the program webpage for updates on program office hours.

APPLICATION BASICS

Online applications for the EMSD program are due on June 27, 2024, no later than 4:00 PM via an agency specific folder through a SharePoint site that can be obtained through either the programs webpage at www.octa.net/emsd or by emailing octaemsd@octa.net. Applicants may submit applications electronically **ONLY**. Late applications will not be accepted, so please ensure that you have obtained access to your unique folder and have uploaded all required documentation ahead of the application deadline. We suggest asking for access to your folder as soon as possible and uploading your documents at least 48 hours ahead of the submittal deadline to allow for time for troubleshooting if necessary.

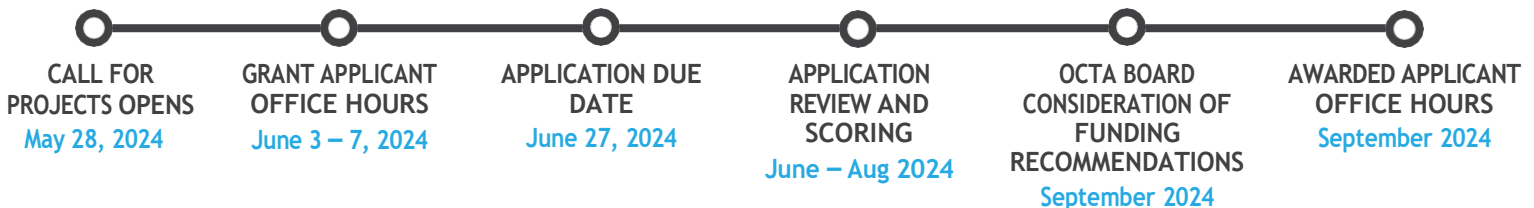
A completed application will contain the following documents:

- 1) Completed capital and/or operating application
- 2) Non-profits must submit a private non-profit status inquiry
- 3) Local cities and county agencies must submit documentation of a public hearing
- 4) Resolution from governing body or similar confirming match commitment and legal authority to submit
- 5) Any other required documents and/or attachments, such as most recent financial statement/single audit, documentation of reduced service, etc.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding, so please ensure that submittals contain all of the required documentation.

EMSD Grant Document Downloads: Application materials will be posted on the EMSD webpage at www.octa.net/emsd.

KEY PROGRAM MILESTONES*



*Please note the schedule above is subject to change.