



## Safe Streets and Roads for All Public Safety Agency Webinar Q&A

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USDOT hosted two FY 2025 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) webinars geared towards Public Safety Agencies, specifically tailored towards EMS agencies and 911 centers, in March 2025. The webinar recordings are located on the [SS4A Webinar Webpage](#).

The estimated \$1 billion SS4A funding will provide resources for regional, local, and Tribal initiatives focused on preventing roadway deaths and serious injuries. Public Safety Agencies have an opportunity to secure grants for planning and demonstration projects as well as implementation projects.

The webinar sessions explored how Public Safety Agencies can apply for SS4A funding independently or collaborate with local, regional, health, planning, or transportation partners. Rural communities are especially encouraged to apply for funds to address roadway safety. The webinars included examples from successful SS4A applicants who shared insights and helpful tips in applying for SS4A grant funds

### Questions and Answers from the Public Safety Webinar Series

#### General SS4A Program Questions:

##### **What is the anticipated timeline for the Fiscal Year 2025 NOFO release?**

The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) was released on March 29, 2025. The application deadline for all SS4A grant applications is Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 5:00 PM ET. Awards will be announced no later than 270 days following publication of the NOFO.

##### **How many application rounds will there be this year?**

There is one application round for all SS4A grant applications during FY 2025.

##### **If our Safety Action Plan won't be completed until July 2025, should we apply for a Planning and Demonstration Grant or an Implementation Grant?**

To apply for an Implementation Grant, your Safety Action Plan must be complete by June 26, 2025, the application deadline. If your Safety Action Plan is not complete by that time, we encourage you to apply for an SS4A Planning and Demonstration Grant.

##### **If our community received a grant previously, are we disqualified from applying again?**

No. Being awarded in prior SS4A years does not disqualify you from future application cycles.

##### **Does the funding have to be reimbursement based? Can it be drawn down all at once?**

SS4A grants are reimbursement based. There is currently no option to draw all the funds upfront.

##### **Are applicants required to use a grant writer? And if a grant writer is used, are those eligible costs for reimbursement if awarded a grant?**

Applicants may choose to hire an external grant writer – it is up to each individual applicant to determine how they will complete their application. Any costs incurred outside of the awarded grant's period of performance are not reimbursable. This means that costs associated with a grant writer or consultant to support application development are not eligible for reimbursement.

### **Can a single County apply on behalf of multiple counties, or must it be a formal council of governments?**

Yes, a single County may apply on behalf of a group. You just need some form of agreement in place. What that looks like (MOU, JPA, etc.) is up to you.

### **Would an agency organized under a joint powers agreement (JPA) be considered multijurisdictional?**

Most likely, yes, especially if all entities in the JPA are public agencies (e.g., counties, cities, MPOs). When applying, it's recommended to include the JPA agreement in your optional documentation so it's clear who is involved.

### **Can SS4A fund projects that are already designed and ordered, but not yet implemented or is it for strictly new projects?**

Yes, the grant can fund projects that are already designed and ordered, that have not yet been implemented.

If your project hasn't started yet but is referenced in an eligible Safety Action Plan, it is eligible for Implementation Grant funding. Just remember that all work must be completed within five years of the grant agreement being executed.

### **Are recurring costs for software/technology, such as CAD, covered by grant funds throughout the full period of performance, or are eligible costs restricted to implementation, training, and integration of those software/technology programs?**

Eligible costs for SS4A Grants may include implementation, training, integration, and certain recurring costs of software, equipment, and technology that occur within the executed grant agreement's period of performance.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to develop a sustainability plan to cover any ongoing costs once the grant's period of performance (maximum of five years) ends. Applicants are encouraged to clearly outline how the investment will support roadway safety during the grant period and how you plan to maintain the effort long term.

### **Public Safety Agency Specific SS4A Questions:**

#### **Could Public Safety Agencies bundle their application as part of the same Safety Action Plan? For example, could a 911 center bundle a grant application with public works, police, and EMS as part of their Safety Action Plan?**

Yes. Bundling and collaboration across agencies are highly encouraged.

#### **Can this grant be used for emergency equipment that a Public Safety Agency uses to save lives related to roadway crashes? For example, would 911 telecommunications training or communication center technology upgrades or Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) be eligible?**

Possibly. The project must be directly tied to transportation safety. General equipment requests or general training are not eligible activities. However, if the training or equipment upgrade are noted in your eligible Safety Action Plan and will clearly improve your ability to respond to crashes or roadway incidents, it may be eligible. We recommend clearly stating how the equipment or training connects to your Action Plan and how it ties back to the transportation aspect of post-crash care.

#### **Would radio infrastructure or fire station alerting that will reduce dispatch times be considered as long as it is part of an approved Safety Action Plan?**

Possibly. The project must be directly tied to transportation safety. It's important to explain what will change, why the upgrade is needed, and how it will improve emergency response related to roadway incidents in your application narrative.

For example, if the new system will reduce dispatch times for traffic incidents or improve coordination across jurisdictions, that connection should be clearly outlined in your application. As with all SS4A-funded activities, the project must align with and support your Comprehensive Safety Action Plan.

## **If our local transportation department already has an SS4A Planning Grant, what's the value of a separate SS4A grant?**

Every project funded through the SS4A program must be tied to a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. If your Public Safety agency wants to pursue additional planning or demonstration projects, you'll need to ensure those activities are reflected in the Safety Action Plan, either by updating an existing Safety Action Plan or contributing to the development of the previously awarded SS4A Planning Grant.

A separate SS4A Planning or Demonstration Grant can be valuable for adding components like supplemental data analysis, pilot trainings, or quick-build projects specific to your agency's goals. You can include multiple projects in a single application, but everything you propose must connect back to the Safety Action Plan. The same is true for Implementation Grant projects; they must directly support strategies outlined in the Safety Action Plan.