



KDOT Access, Innovation, and Collaboration (AIC) Program FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Below are some of the common questions with answers regarding the AIC Program.

ELIGIBILITY

Who is eligible to apply for funding through this program?

Eligible applicants include any transit provider operating within the state of Kansas; local governments; tribal nations; non-profits operating a public transportation service; or other public/private partnerships.

What projects are eligible for AIC funding?

AIC funding is made up of multiple types of program funds with varying project eligibility requirements. KDOT can fund several projects of varying sizes and types. Eligible projects consist of, but are not limited to, the following categories:

- Bus replacement, rehab, or purchase
 - Statewide bid
 - Procured locally (with KDOT oversight)
- Bus-related equipment
- Bus facilities
- Innovative transit-related programs
 - Capital expenses
 - Operating costs
 - Maintenance costs
- Transit-related planning studies

FUNDING

When will awards be announced?

Awards will be announced in the summer of 2021.

When will funds become available?

Due to the flexible nature of the AIC Program and its multiple funding sources, funding availability will depend on the project types and their direct funding source. More details can be provided during the 1-on-1 meetings for applicants that submit a Project Concept Form.

How much funding is available?

For the 2021 Call for Projects, we are announcing \$15 million available to award a variety of transit-related projects and programs.

Is there a funding minimum or maximum for proposed projects?

There is no minimum or maximum award amount.

Is a Local Match required?

Yes, project applicants are expected to provide proof that they can provide a 20% local cash match for participating costs. Local match may be reduced to 10% if the project relates to planning efforts within the Regional Business Model and/or the Regional Coordinated Plans.

Is the additional 10% in funding only for facilities or shared programs, but not for vehicles or equipment?

Generally, the additional 10% has gone to facilities and shared-use programs, but other project types are eligible for additional funding if the project relates to planning efforts within the Regional Business Model and/or the Regional Coordinated Plans.

If we have funds for the local match, do we still need to have a letter of support?

Yes, a letter of financial support for the local match must be submitted with your AIC Application and is always required for funding in KDOT Public Transportation Programs.

A letter of financial support is not required for the Project Concept Form.

Will this grant be made available in future years?

Yes, pending available funding types and amounts, the AIC Program will be available in future years.

PROJECT CONCEPT FORMS & APPLICATIONS

When is the Project Concept Form due?

Project Concept Forms are due Friday, April 2, 2021. Please email your completed forms to Jon.Moore@ks.gov.

Are Project Concept Forms required to be eligible to submit an application?

No, Project Concept Forms are not required but they are highly recommended to help project sponsors prepare eligible and competitive applications.

Can one (1) Project Concept Form be submitted for multiple projects?

Yes, if the projects are closely related (example: radio equipment and security cameras for vehicle fleet). We recommend a single form be submitted for projects that are not closely related (example: bus facility project and pilot program for regional route).

When is the Application due?

Applications are due Friday, June 11, 2021.

Do we need to submit more than one quote or just the one we would like to go with on our project?

Do not reach out to suppliers or vendors for a quote. For the purpose of the Project Concept Form, please provide an estimated amount you anticipate the project to cost.

For the purpose of the AIC Application, please gather as much detailed information as possible.

KDOT staff and our consultant team will assist with procurement after an award is made. We will then determine the appropriate procurement process.

How do we know prices to include for vehicle enhancements if we don't go through the procurement process until after the awards are announced?

Do not reach out to suppliers or vendors for a quote. You should develop an estimate for pricing before applying. KDOT staff can provide some guidance during the 1-on-1 meetings for applicants that submit a Project Concept Form.

The amount of award will determine the appropriate procurement process. KDOT staff and the consultant team will help with this determination post-award.