Operating Grant Questions

Received by 6/3/22

**Question**: When is the earliest that the funds will be disbursed to qualifying grantees?

**Answer**: Once a submitted application has been reviewed, qualified applicants will receive written notification. The goal is to get award letters out and begin getting the contracting process with grantees for the Fall. There may be conditions that need to be met by the grantee.

**Question**: Can an organization use multiple livery services as qualifying partners for the grant?

**Answer**: Yes. An organization can use multiple livery services as qualifying partners.

**Question**: Are non-profit organizations such as a 501c that provide rides for the elderly, eligible for the grant?

**Answer**: Yes, in certain cases. Non-profit organizations that meet transportation needs of cities and towns are eligible for the grant

**Question**: Is the purchase of a new computer system an eligible expense? Website creation?

**Answer**: No, these are not eligible expenses

**Question**: Can funds be used to buy an updated phone, dispatch or security system?

**Answer**: No, these are not eligible expenses

**Question**: Can grant funds be used for a temporary staff position to coordinate trip requests/dispatch between individuals and taxi service?

**Answer**: Yes. Grantees may be allowed up to 5% of their grant request for documented new administrative expenses directly to overseeing the grant.

**Question**: Can we submit one application for grant funds to implement partnerships with more than one taxi service in order to reach a broader service area?

**Answer**: Yes. The funds can be used to implement partnerships with more than one taxi provider.

**Question**: Can funds be used for Uber/Lyft transportation services?

**Answer**: No. Uber/Lyft are not eligible for this grant.

**Question**: How important is it for applicants to have an existing contract with a taxi company?

**Answer**: You do not need to have an existing contract but you should indicate which companies you plan to work with. There is post-grant reporting required so you can update MassDevelopment as you go forward.

**Question**: We provide non-emergency patient rides in different parts of the state.  Would we be able to use the funds for more than one location and thus more than one taxi company?

**Answer**: Yes. An organization can use multiple livery services as qualifying partners.

**Question**: Are the funds disbursed in one lump sum or reimbursed through the submission of invoices per taxi ride?

**Answer**: Grant funds are provided up front, then report, repaying unused grant funds after a period of time.

**Question**: If we wish to propose partnerships with multiple taxi/livery providers, how would we do that?

**Answer**: The applicant can list the taxi/livery providers they plan to work with, along with the contracts they have entered into, and describe how the partnerships would work. Note that there is post-grant reporting to MassDevelopment and unused funds must be returned.