

Maryland Job Access Reverse Commute Program (MD-JARC)

MD-JARC Program

This grant program, modeled after the former Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant program by the same name, is designed to connect targeted populations with employment areas whereby have experienced significant growth by providing transportation services.

Maryland State Legislature: HB 1468 (2018)

Grant Funding

- A total of \$2 million over a five-year period is allotted for this program. No more than \$400,000 per year will be available for grants.
- Each year, 70% of the funds (or \$280,000) will be provided for use in the urbanized areas and 30% (or \$120,000) in the rural areas.
- Minimum request: \$10,000 per application

Grant Funding Period

- Funding became available October 1, 2018
- First grant cycle is a three-year program: FY2020, FY2021 and FY2022 and will begin July 1, 2019
- Second grant cycle will be for a two-year program for FY2023 and FY2024

Program Evaluation

- In accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, The General Assembly, a report will be submitted to the Governor.
- The report will evaluate the effectiveness of the program
- The report is due on or before December 1, 2021

Financial Responsibility



Cash Match Requirement

- Operating Grant = 75/25

Administrative Fee Cap

- No more than 10% is the cap for administration fees

Project Term

- Regardless of funding, the JARC project must be implemented and the services must be provided for more than three (3) years.

Eligible Recipients

Eligible recipients include:

- Private Nonprofit Organizations
- Local Governments
- Locally Transit Systems
- One or more employers

Targeted Demographics

Target Population

- Reside in low-income areas as determined by MDOT MTA,
- Limited or no access to the use of a personal vehicle, and
- Reside in areas with limited access to fixed route transit service

Target Employment Area

- An area that has experienced a significant growth in employment opportunities in specified sectors.

Sample Projects

- Extension of service hours on local fixed route systems
- Vanpool services (e.g. subsidy program)
- Employer-provided transportation services
- Demand-response/Deviated Fixed Route

Unacceptable Projects

- Ridematching services
- Commuter Assistance Programs
- Mobility Management
- Carpool services
- Volunteer Driver programs
- For-hire or Transportation Network Services

Grant Solicitation Process



- A statewide solicitation for grant applications is being conducted in cooperation of the MPOs/RCBs.
- The grant application was prepared by the MDOT MTA Office of Local Transit Support (OLTS).
- Four application meetings were held around the State during the beginning of February.

MPO/RCB Endorsement



Only projects endorsed by the appropriate MPOs will be considered. In addition to the MDOT MTA OLTS, each application will be submitted to one of the following MPOS:

- **Baltimore Region – Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC):** Annapolis, Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard Counties.
- **Lower Eastern Shore – Tri-County Council of the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland (TCC-LES):** Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties.
- **Southern Maryland – Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland (TCC-SMD):** Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties.
- **Upper Eastern Shore – Maryland Upper Shore Transit (MUST):** Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, **Queen Anne's** and Talbot Counties
- **Western Maryland – Tri-County Council for Western Maryland (TCC-WMD):** Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties.
- **Non-Urbanized Washington Region – Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG):** Frederick, Montgomery and Prince George's Co.

Program Advertisement

Prior to the regional meetings, program was:

- Advertised on the TAM and MTA websites.
- Notices were sent to all the MPOs/RCBs, Economic Development Agencies, Maryland Department of Commerce, Chambers of Commerce.
- Notice of solicitation was forwarded to each of the local governments, locally operated transit systems and non-profit organizations that currently receive MDOT MTA funding.

Grant Timeline

- February 1: Grant Application Release
- February: Outreach and Regional Meetings
- March 29: Grant Applications Due to MPOs/RCBs for endorsement
- May 10: Endorsed Grant Application Due to MDOT MTA
- June: Award Letters Sent to grantees
- July 1, 2019: Start Date for Awarded Projects



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