



## Apply for a Rail Transit Safety Education Grant from Operation Lifesaver

**Application Deadline: April 22, 2019**

[Operation Lifesaver, Inc. \(OLI\)](#), in partnership with the [Federal Transit Administration](#), is pleased to announce its Call for Applications for 2019 Rail Transit Safety Education Grants.

Transit agencies may apply for **up to \$20,000** for education and public awareness initiatives regarding driver, bicyclist, and pedestrian safety in and around rail transit systems. A total of \$175,000 in grant funding is available.

A **non-federal match of at least 25 percent** of the total project cost is required. The initial grant payment will be for 75 percent of the total award, with the remaining 25 percent available once the final project report is submitted.

Projects must serve a demonstrated safety need and be completed by December 31, 2019 (materials created with grant funds may continue to be used after the grant has concluded). All materials created as part of the project must be **reviewed and approved by OLI** and made available for download on OLI's website at the conclusion of the grant. For examples of prior grant activities and guidance for developing successful rail safety education campaigns, see Operation Lifesaver's report, [Best Practices for Rail Transit Safety Education](#).

All grant applications must be submitted by an Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator, transit agency officer, or official representing a government agency that provides transit service. If a transit agency or government agency is the applicant, the application must include a letter of support from the OL State Coordinator. All applications must be submitted in the Common Grant Application online program: [www.commongrantapplication.com](http://www.commongrantapplication.com).

### **Evaluation Criteria and Scoring**

Grant applications are evaluated on a competitive basis. Each application can score a possible 100 points, as follows:

- **Defined Safety Need:** Up to 10 points
- **Target Audience for Project:** Up to 10 points
- **Project Plan:** Up to 25 points. The Project Plan shall include: (1) a clear project goal, (2) listing of project activities; and (3) timeframe for carrying out the project. Please note that any new materials created for the project will be co-branded with OLI and will require review and approval.
- **Project Budget:** Up to 15 points. Budget shall list funding sources for project activities and elements, in-kind matching funds, and other items. Points are awarded based on completeness and specificity of budget submittal.



- **Non-federal Match:** Up to 10 points. Scoring is based on amount of non-federal matching funds (including in-kind service) above the required 25 percent.
- **Communications Plan:** Up to 10 points
- **Evaluation Plan:** Up to 15 points. Scoring is based on grant seeker's description of how project will be evaluated, including meaningful metrics for measuring effectiveness and determining whether the project met its goal.
- **Rail Safety Week:** Five (5) points will be awarded if the project will be utilized during Rail Safety Week, September 22-28, 2019

*Operation Lifesaver's mission is to end collisions, deaths and injuries at highway-rail grade crossings and on railroad tracks and transit systems. With programs across the U.S. and a nationwide network of volunteers, OLI educates the public about staying safe near railroad tracks and at crossings.*