WSDOT Airport Aid Grants

IACC Conference - 2022

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Washington's Aviation System

- 132 public-use airports

- 64 airports included in Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) National Plan of Integrated Airports System (NPIAS)

  - Eligible for annual entitlement funding and discretionary / state apportionment grant funding from the Airport Improvement Plan (AIP)

  - Eligible for state (WSDOT Airport Aid Program) grant funds

  - Some airports are eligible for airport loan funds – Community Aviation Revitalization Board (CARB)

  - Required to adhere to FAA Advisory Circulars (technical requirements)

- 68 airports are Non-NPIAS

  - Ineligible for AIP grant funds

  - Eligible for WSDOT Airport Aid Program grant funds

  - Eligible for airport CARB loan funds

Federal Funding of Airports

NPIAS airports are divided into two categories; Primary and non-Primary

Primary Airports

- Larger airports - typically receive $1M entitlement funds annually
- Normally support commercial air passenger service and some level of air cargo
  - Can receive passenger facility charge (PFC) funds for each passenger
  - PFC Program allows the collection of fees up to $4.50 for every eligible passenger
- Some primary airports also receive cargo entitlement funds. Minimum threshold is 100,000 pounds landed weight annually.

Non-Primary Airports

- Receive annual Non-Primary Entitlement (NPE) funds from the FAA of $150K

Entitlement funds can be saved up to four years for a larger project

WSDOT Aviation will typically match FAA funding up to 5% depending on availability of state funds. Airport sponsor is responsible for the remaining 5%.

Non-NPIAS Airports Funding

Non-NPIAS airports comprise the majority of the state's airport system

Non-NPIAS Airports

- May receive up to 95% of project costs from a WSDOT Airport Aid grant
- Airport sponsor is responsible for remaining 5%
- Do not have to comply with, but encouraged to work toward FAA standards

State and Local Planning

State

- WSDOT Aviation conducts several recurring planning studies and occasional unique studies:

  - Statewide Aviation System Plan – approximately every 5-7 years

  - Statewide Pavement Condition Study – approximately every 3-5 years

  - State DBE Disparity Study – approximately every 3 years

  - Statewide Aviation Economic Impact Study – approximately every 5-7 years

Local

- An airport's primary planning tool is an Airport Master Plan which includes an airport layout plan (ALP - civil engineering drawings)

- Airport Master Plans are typically updated every 5-10 years depending on the level of change occurring at the airport

- Airport Master Plans conduct an inventory, develop a forecast and produce a project list to guide airport development to meet future aviation demand. The project list establishes the basis for the airport's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Capital Improvement Plan

- WSDOT Aviation manages the annual submission of airport CIPs and works with each airport and the FAA to refine the projects

- Projects are submitted online through the Airport Information System (AIS) database

- The CIP list, once vetted and approved, becomes the basis for airport grants and airport loans

- CIPs cover a five-year period beyond the current budget year. The first two years are locked, meaning no changes unless there are extraordinary circumstances.

- The remaining three years are open for airport edits and changes. This also allows the FAA flexibility to reschedule project years to line up with FAA Discretionary and State Apportionment funding availability.

WSDOT's Airport Aid Grants

- **Airport Aid Grant**
- **Airport Transformation Grant**
- **Sustainable Aviation Grant**

Airport Aid Grant Program

What is the Airport Aid Grant Program?

Annual grant program awarding state funds to public-use airports with a focus on preservation of airports.

- Funding:
    - ~~$.11~~ $.18 per gallon tax on general aviation fuel
    - $15.00 aircraft registration fee
    - Aircraft excise tax
    - Approximately ~~$1.3 - $1.4~~ $2.3 - $2.4 million available
    - Maximum grant award $750,000 (RCW 47.68.090)

Airport Aid Grant Program

- Who can apply?
  - Any city, county, airport authority, political subdivision, federally recognized Indian tribe, public corporation, or person(s) that owns and operates, a public-use airport included in the Washington Aviation System Plan (WASP)

- Schedule:
  - Odd years – Solicit applications March/April - awards after July 1
  - Even years – Solicit applications February/March - awards mid May

Airport Aid Grant Program

- Eligibility requirements:
  - Airport Information System (AIS) annual data review and update completed by December 31st of preceding calendar year
  - Project must be included on the Airport Layout Plan (ALP)
  - Project must be submitted in the State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP)

- Matching funds:
  - Non-NPIAS airport sponsors: 5% minimum
  - NPIAS airport sponsors: ½ local match to federal grant funds

- What strings are attached to grant funds?
  - Chapter 468-260 WAC Airport Aid Program Grant Assurances

Airport Aid Grant Program

- Allocation of Airport Aid Grant Funds:

Type of Airport	Type of Project		
	Pavement 65-75%	Safety 15-25%	Maint, Security & Planning 10%
NPIAS General Aviation airports with <20 based aircraft, and ALL non-NPIAS airports (55% of total)	36-41%	8-14%	6%
All Other (45% of total)	29-34%	7-11%	4%

Applying for WSDOT Airport Aid

Airport Aid application tips:

- Submitting the application –
    - Submit application in the **original fillable .pdf format as an email attachment** (do not alter the form, do not add or delete pages, etc.)
    - Attach supporting documentation as separate file(s)
    - Submitted by authorized representative of airport sponsor (i.e., person who would be executing a grant agreement)
- Supporting documentation – Bids, details/costs of administrative items, consultant scope of work, consultant fee spreadsheet, etc.
- Application checklist – Review the completed application before submitting to WSDOT Aviation using the application checklist as a guide

Upcoming 2023 grant program:
- Applications solicited March & April 2023
- Anticipate approx. $2.4 million to be awarded
- Award notifications mid July 2023

Airport Transformation Grants

- NEW!!! Beginning in 2022 - 10% of Airport Aid grant program funding will be targeted to projects supporting the transformation of Washington's public-use airports to be more environmentally sustainable.

- Projects may include, but are not limited to:
  - Sustainable aviation fuel storage
  - Electrification of ground support equipment
  - Electric aircraft charging infrastructure
  - Airport clean power production
  - Electric vehicle charging stations whose infrastructure also supports ground support equipment and electric aircraft charging

- Submit [Airport Transformation Grant Supplemental Application Form](#) with Airport Aid Application

Sustainable Aviation Grants

- NEW!!! Beginning in 2022
- Substitute Senate Bill 5975 – Move Ahead Washington – Directs WSDOT to establish a sustainable aviation grants program for airports
- Supports the adoption of energy efficient and clean energy airport infrastructure to reduce harmful aviation-related emissions, and transition airports to more environmentally sustainable operations.
- Projects may include, but are not limited to:
    - Sustainable aviation fuel storage
    - Electrification of ground support equipment
    - Electric aircraft charging infrastructure
    - Airport clean power production
    - Electric vehicle (EV) charging stations or fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) stations (hydrogen) whose infrastructure may also support ground support equipment and/or electric aircraft charging

Sustainable Aviation Grants

- Anticipate approximately $1 Million annual funding by legislature

- WSDOT to submit prioritized list of recommended projects to legislature December 1

- Evaluation criteria – 100 Max Points

    - Project helps the airport become more environmentally sustainable -15

    - Project supports future sustainable aviation technologies and/or Advanced Air Mobility -15

    - Project reduces dependence on fossil fuels -15

    - Project increases the airport's ability to produce sustainable energy or reduces reliance on grid infrastructure -15

    - Demonstrated need for project -10

    - Project reduces or offsets greenhouse gas emissions -10

    - Local matching funds provided (No matching funds are required for the grant, however providing local matching funds will increase the overall points earned for the application) - 10

    - Readiness to proceed - 10

Sustainable Aviation Grants

How to apply:

- Complete the [Sustainable Aviation Grant Program Application Form](#) (Rev. 9/2022) including Project Data Sheet and Supplemental Application form for each project seeking funding
- Refer to the [Airport Aid Application Checklist](#) (Rev. 3/2019) for potential supporting documentation to submit with your application
- Sign and submit [Airport Aid Grant Assurances](#)
- Applications for 2023 funding due October 31, 2022

Questions?

For More Information

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