800 - Sponsor Certification

In this Section

810 – Purpose and Limitations
820- Completing the Certification

General Overview (7/1/13)

Title 49, United States Code, section 47105(d), allows the Secretary of Transportation to require certification from the sponsor that that attests they will comply with statutory and administrative requirements in carrying out a project under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). FAA policy places the primary responsibility for complying with AIP requirements on the Sponsor. In 1990, the FAA established specific certifications for critical phases of an AIP funded project. Collection of this information falls under OMB control number 2120-0569.

Limitations of Use

Users of this guide shall note the supplemental information provided in this guidance does not establish additional requirements for participation in the AIP. The obligation for any required action addressed within this guidance originates within applicable Federal directives such as United States Code (USC), Public Law (PL), Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and official FAA policies.
810 – Purpose and Limitations

Purpose of Certification

(4/14/14)

Sponsor certifications serve as a means to focus the sponsor's attention on critical obligations and responsibilities they incur during various phases in an AIP project. The intent of these certifications is to enhance a sponsor's knowledge of their obligations as well as ensure their compliance with their obligations.

Sponsor certifications do not establish obligations of a Sponsor. It is the acceptance of the grant agreement and the associated grant assurances that establish the requirements and obligations addressed by any given sponsor certification.

The terms and conditions of the grant agreement, including the grant assurances, serve as the legal binding document that obligates the sponsor to AIP policies, regulations and standards. The sponsor certifications are an additional measure intended emphasize the obligations that have incurred.

FAA Policy

(4/14/14)

FAA places primary responsibility for compliance with AIP requirements on the Sponsor. FAA relies on sponsor self-certification to assure compliance with select AIP requirements.

The FAA’s acceptance of a sponsor certification does not preclude the FAA from reviewing appropriate documentation for the purpose of validating the certification. The FAA retains the authority to conduct thorough reviews of sponsor documentation to verify the accuracy of any certification statement.

Limitations

(4/14/14)

The use of Sponsor certifications is limited. The FAA cannot accept Sponsor certification for such items as modification of FAA standards, construction safety and phasing plans, airport layout plans, environmental studies, Buy American compliance, etc.
820- Completing the Certification

Timing of Sponsor Certification (4/29/14)

Starting in 2014, applicable sponsor certifications must be submitted to the FAA prior to issuance of a grant offer. The FAA project manager will attach these signed certifications to the grant offer. The certification statements become a part of the grant agreement.

At this time, the official certification statements are as follows:

- Selection of Consultant
- Project Plans & Specifications
- Equipment/Construction Contract
- Construction Final Acceptance
- Drug-Free Workplace
- Real Property Acquisition (Land)

Due to ongoing revisions to these forms, the certification statements are not available online. Contact your assigned project manager for the most current Sponsor certification.

Completing the Certification (7/1/13)

Each certification statement contains response options within the text of the statement that require action from the authorized person making the certification. The Sponsor must make a choice by circling the appropriate response or lining through the incorrect response. If a “No” box is checked, the sponsor must provide an explanation for the negative response. The FAA project manager will return incomplete certifications to the sponsor for corrective action.

False Certifications (7/1/13)

Sponsors should apply appropriate diligence in completing each certification statement. Certifications deemed false or incorrect can result in the FAA declaring associated costs ineligible under the AIP. Knowingly submitting false statements may subject the sponsor to penalties per 49 USC §47126.