



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

**Space Transportation Infrastructure  
Matching  
Grants Program**

**Application Open Submission Period**

**Questions and Answers  
March 20, 2012**

**Federal Aviation Administration  
Office of Commercial Space Transportation**

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Grants Program  
Application Open Submission Period**

**Federal Register Notice Posted – Thursday, March 9, 2012**

**Questions and Answers**

**\*\* New Questions and Answers are in RED \*\***

Thursday, March 15, 2012:

1. If a private entity wanted to submit for a Space Transportation Infrastructure Matching (STIM) Grant, is it allowable that the matching portion of the STIM Grant be paid for in full by the private entity? Would like some clarification on the 10% private funding.
  - A. Per the legislation, and as stipulated in the Federal Register Notice:
    - i. "The FAA/AST may make project grant awards to "sponsors", per 51 U.S.C. 51102. Per 51 U.S.C. 51101(6), a "sponsor" is a public agency that submits an application for a project grant/ Per 51 U.S.C. 51101(5), a "public agency" is a State or agency of a State, a political subdivision of a State, or a tax-supported organization."
    - ii. Private entities will not be awarded STIM Grants; however, a public agency may be awarded a grant on behalf of, in partnership with, or representing a private entity. That public agency would be subject to the terms and conditions, as well as assurances, a STIM Grant award might contain.
  - B. The authorization legislation states that Federal monies may fund up to fifty percent (50%) of the total project cost in conjunction with state and local funding. The authorization legislation also requires a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the total project cost come from private funding. With this being said, if the private entity may chose to provide the entire match for the STIM Grant.
2. If an effort was started prior to the award of a STIM Grant, can that project be eligible for a STIM Grant?
  - A. The funding for the STIM Grant is made on fiscal year cycles. This being said, if a project has been started within the fiscal year of the submission and award, the project may be eligible. For example, with the Federal Register Notice that was published on March 9, 2012, the fiscal year for this effort is FY2012. If a project was started in February of 2012, or even in July of 2012 – both of which could be before the awards may be made – these projects could still be

considered. If a project was started in August of 2011, this project was not started within FY2012, and could not be considered.

3. How much funding is being allocated to the STIM Grants Program for FY2012?
  - A. At this time, it is not clear what amount, if any, will be allocated for the FY2012 STIM Grants Program. Please read the Federal Register Notice, dated March 9, 2012, regarding this.
  - B. FAA/AST is trying to be proactive so that we can disperse funds in a timely and efficient manner, should there be funding available. It is our hope that this will not deter applicants.

NOT SPECIFICALLY ASKED, BUT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST, SO BEING INCLUDED HERE FOR REFERENCE:

1. Were there grant awards given in FY2011, and if so to whom and how much?
  - A. Yes, FAA/AST did award grants in FY2011. A total of \$500,000 was allocated for STIM Grants, and this was awarded to three different projects:
    - i. Virginia Commercial Space Flight Authority / Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport – Physical Security and Remote Monitoring Surveillance System - \$125,000
    - ii. East Kern Airport District – Supplemental Environmental Assessment - \$125,000
    - iii. New Mexico Spaceport Authority – Roll-Back Vehicle Integration Facility - \$249,378
  - B. Yes, FAA/AST did award grants in FY2010. A total of \$500,000 was allocated for STIM Grants, and this was awarded to four different projects:
    - iv. New Mexico Spaceport Authority – Automated Weather Observing System - \$43,000
    - v. Alaska Aerospace Corporation – Rocket Motor Storage Facility - \$227,195
    - vi. Jacksonville Aviation Authority – Spaceport Master Plan - \$104,805
    - vii. East Kern Airport District – Emergency Vehicle - \$125,000

Monday, March 19, 2012:

1. We were advised that a new grant for infrastructure has been issued, however the link seems to point to the 2011 Grant??
  - A. A Federal Register Notice for the Space Transportation Infrastructure Matching (STIM) Grants Program was published on Thursday, March 9, 2012. The link for this notice can be found in the following locations:

- a. The main page of Office of Commercial Space Transportation website:  
[http://www.faa.gov/about/office\\_org/headquarters\\_offices/ast/](http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ast/)
  - b. The Government Printing Office's website for the Federal Register (you can select "2012", then "March", then "Thursday, March 9"):  
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collection.action?collectionCode=FR>
- B. Please note, these grants are not for infrastructure in general terms. Per the authorization legislation, the STIM Grants Program is intended to "ensure the resiliency of the space transportation infrastructure of the United States."