

Fiscal Year 2022-23

# Traffic Signal Technologies

## Grant Program

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**Frequently Asked Questions: July 20, 2022**



## Program Overview

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Act 54 of 2022 enacted on July 11, 2022 includes \$5 million to provide grants to municipalities to install and maintain traffic signal technologies. The Traffic Signal Technologies Grant (TSTG) program is a reimbursement grant program for municipalities that is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). The funding was added to the municipal traffic signal appropriation, which is also used to fund the Green Light-Go program. Therefore, PennDOT will administer the additional funds for traffic signal technologies similar to the Green Light-Go program. No matching funds are required for the TSTG program.

The total amount of grant funding available is approximately \$5 million. Applications will be accepted from September 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022.

For general information on the Traffic Signal Technologies Grant program, please contact the PennDOT program resource account at [RA-PDSignalFunding@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDSignalFunding@pa.gov).

## Eligibility:

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- 1. Who is eligible to apply?** *Municipalities are eligible applicants. This includes cities, boroughs, and townships with existing signals.*
- 2. Who completes and how do I get reimbursement for my projects?** *All projects will be led by the applicant. All required documentation is specified in the program guidance document which is available from the PennDOT Traffic Signal Portal: <https://www.dot.state.pa.us/signals/>. The grant funding is distributed on a reimbursement basis (e.g., disbursement occurs once applicant pays contractor and provides documentation of invoices and payment). The grant administration process, including invoice review and payment, is completed utilizing DCED's Electronic Single Application for Assistance (ESA) system.*
- 3. What prior PennDOT approval is needed prior to submitting an application?** *The pre-application [scoping form](#) must be completed and submitted to [RA-PDSignalFunding@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDSignalFunding@pa.gov) by September 23, 2022. The scoping form must be attached to the electronic grant application.*
- 4. Is there a local match requirement for the program?** *No matching contribution is required.*
- 5. How much funding is available for the program?** *\$5 million is available state fiscal year 2022-23. Act 54 set this up as a one-time program.*
- 6. Are multi-municipal projects/applications accepted?** *Yes. A lead agency must be identified and a letter from each of the participating municipalities must be provided with the application stating that the lead agency may submit the application.*
- 7. How many applications can I submit?** *The number of applications per applicant is not limited.*
- 8. Can more than one project type or improvements on more than one corridor be included in the application submission?** *A single application can either include one or more project types for one corridor or a single project type that covers multiple corridors. In other words, multiple corridors may be included in a single application if the same improvement(s) is/are proposed for all corridors.*

9. **What types of projects are eligible?** *Only traffic signal technologies at existing traffic control signals are eligible for this program. Please see the [program guidelines](#) for additional information.*
10. **Has PennDOT established funding priorities for the eligible projects?** *Priority will be given to projects which impact the most transportation system users at the lowest cost. For additional guidance, please see the scoring criteria in the [program guidelines](#).*
11. **Is there an award ceiling per project?** *No, there is no set award ceiling per project, but the funding program is competitive in nature. Applicants should decide on a project cost that they feel is competitive knowing funding for all eligible projects is capped at \$5 million. Applicants should also consider the timeline to complete the project.*
12. **Can Traffic Signal Technologies grant funds be used to replace antiquated flashing warning devices, such as school zone speed limit devices?** *No, only traffic control signals are eligible. Traffic control signals are those which alternately regulate traffic between stop-and-go conditions. Other types of electronically-powered traffic signals are flashing warning devices and are not eligible.*
13. **Can Traffic Signal Technologies grant funds be used to acquire right-of-way, such as for bringing curb ramps into compliance or for locating traffic signal poles?** *No. All work must occur in existing right-of-way. Poles and ADA ramps are not eligible expenditures.*

## Application Requirements

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1. **Does PennDOT require an electronic submission of the application materials or is a hard-copy submission acceptable?** *Applications may only be submitted electronically to the Department as indicated in the Pennsylvania Bulletin announcement. Hard-copy submissions will not be accepted. If someone is either having issues submitting or needs assistance, please email [RA-PDSignalFunding@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDSignalFunding@pa.gov).*
2. **How detailed should the plans and cost estimate be for the project?** *The cost estimate should be as detailed as possible and applicants should provide quotes from vendors/contractors if available. A cost estimate guide is now provided on the Green Light-Go Program page to better assist with project estimates.*

## Program Schedule

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1. **What is the application period?** *The application timeframe will begin September 1, 2022 and remain open until September 30, 2022.*
2. **When can the funding be used?** *Previous work completed cannot be submitted for reimbursement. Work completed prior to the effective date of the reimbursement agreement is not eligible for reimbursement.*
3. **When does the project need to be completed?** *Construction must be completed by May 2025. PennDOT cannot grant extensions past this time, because the appropriated funds will lapse on June 30, 2025.*

## Project Delivery

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1. **Are Traffic Signal Technologies grant projects subject to prevailing wage?** *Green Light-Go projects must comply the act of August 15, 1961 (P.L.987, No.442), known as the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act if the project is considered a “public work.” Generally, construction, demolition, alteration and repair work, other than maintenance work, done under contract and paid for in whole or in part out of the funds of a public body with an estimated cost in excess of \$25,000 are considered a public work. Section [§9203 of the Vehicle Code](#) (75 Pa.C.S.) increases the threshold to \$100,000 for locally funded projects and includes certain types of funding that is considered local funding. Traffic Signal Technologies grant funding is not included in that list, so the normal prevailing wage threshold applies.*