

authority at the time of selection. The FTA does not provide pre-award authority for competitive funds until projects are selected and even then, there are Federal requirements that must be met before costs are incurred. For more information about FTA's policy on pre-award authority, please see the FY 2019 Apportionment Notice published on July 3, 2019 which can be accessed at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-07-03/pdf/2019-14248.pdf>.

b. Grant Requirements

If selected, awardees will apply for a grant through FTA's Transit Award Management System (TrAMS). Recipients of HOPE Program funding in urban areas are subject to the grant requirements of the Urbanized Area Formula Grant program (49 U.S.C. 5307), including those described in FTA Circular "Urbanized Area Formula Program: Program Guidance and Application Instructions" (FTA.C.9030.1E). Recipients of funding in rural areas are subject to the grant requirements described in the Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program (49 U.S.C. 5311), including those described in FTA Circular "Formula Grants for Rural Areas: Program Guidance and Application Instructions" (FTA.C.9040.1G). All recipients (urban and rural) must follow the Award Management Requirements as described in (FTA.C.5010.1E). Technical assistance regarding these requirements is available from each FTA regional office.

c. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise

The FTA requires that its recipients receiving planning, capital and/or operating assistance that will award prime contracts exceeding \$250,000 in FTA funds comply with the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program regulations (49 CFR part 26).

For more information on DBE requirements, please contact Scheryl Portee, the Office of the Chief Counsel, at 202-366-0840, email: scheryl.portee@dot.gov.

d. Standard Assurances

By submitting a grant application, the applicant assures that it will comply with all applicable federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, directives, FTA circulars and other federal administrative requirements in carrying out any project supported by the FTA grant. Further, the applicant acknowledges that it is under a continuing obligation to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement issued for its project with

FTA. The applicant understands that Federal laws, regulations, policies and administrative practices might be modified from time to time and may affect the implementation of the project. The applicant agrees that the most recent Federal requirements will apply to the project, unless FTA issues a written determination otherwise. The applicant must submit the Certifications and Assurances before receiving a grant, if it does not have current certifications on file.

4. Reporting

Post-award reporting requirements include the electronic submission of Federal Financial Reports and Milestone Progress Reports in FTA's electronic grants management system. Recipients of funds made available through this NOFO are also required to regularly submit data to the National Transit Database.

G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

For further information concerning this notice, please contact Mr. Charles Goodman via email at Charles.goodman@dot.gov; or by phone at 202-366-1944. A TDD is available for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing at 800-877-8339. In addition, FTA will post answers to questions and requests for clarifications on FTA's website at <http://transit.dot.gov>. The FTA staff will also conduct a webinar for potential applicants to learn more about the program and submittal process.

To ensure the receipt of accurate information about eligibility or the program, applicants with questions are encouraged to contact FTA directly, rather than through intermediaries or third parties.

H. Technical Assistance and Other Program Information

This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." The FTA will consider applications for funding only from eligible recipients for eligible projects listed in Section C. Complete applications must be submitted through GRANTS.GOV by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on May 4, 2020. For assistance with GRANTS.GOV please contact GRANTS.GOV by phone at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at support@grants.gov. Contact information for FTA's regional offices can be found on FTA's website

at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/about/regional-offices/regional-offices>.

K. Jane Williams,

Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2020-04250 Filed 3-2-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

[Docket No. MARAD-2020-0020]

Request for Comments of a Previously Approved Information Collection: United States Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Survey

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.
ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below is being forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comments. A **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following information collection was published on November 4, 2019.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before April 2, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John R. Ballard, (516) 726-5833, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point, NY 11024.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Alumni Survey.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0542.

Type of Request: Renewal of a Previously Approved Information Collection.

Background: The United States Merchant Marine Academy is an accredited federal service academy that confers BS and MS degrees. The Academy is expected to assess its educational outcomes and report those findings to its Regional Accreditation authority in order to maintain the institution's degree granting status. Periodic survey of alumni cohorts and analysis of the data gathered is a routine higher education assessment practice in the United States.

Respondents: Graduates of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Affected Public: U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Graduates.
Total Estimated Number of Responses: 600.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.
Estimated Time per Respondent: 0.25 Hrs.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 150.

Public Comments Invited: Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

(Authority: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.93)

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Dated: February 27, 2020.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

T. Mitchell Hudson, Jr.,

Secretary, Maritime Administration.

[FR Doc. 2020-04311 Filed 3-2-20; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-81-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Notice of Funding Opportunity for Department of Transportation's PIDP Under the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary of Transportation, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of funding opportunity.

SUMMARY: The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (NDAA) and the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 ("FY 2020 Appropriations Act" or the Act), authorized and appropriated \$225 million for the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) to make grants to improve facilities within, or outside of and directly related to operations of coastal seaports, inland river ports, and Great Lakes ports. This notice announces the availability of funding for grants under this program and establishes selection criteria and application requirements. The Act directed that at least \$200 million of the appropriated funds shall be for grants to coastal seaports or Great Lakes ports. Funds for the PIDP are to be awarded as discretionary grants on a competitive

basis for projects that will improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods into, out of, around, or within a port. All PIDP grant recipients must meet all applicable Federal requirements, including the Buy American Act. The purpose of this notice is to solicit grant applications for the PIDP.

DATES: Applications must be submitted by 8:00 p.m. E.D.T. on May 18, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be submitted through *Grants.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information concerning this notice, please contact the PIDP staff via email at *Ports@dot.gov*, or call Bob Bouchard, Director, Office of Port Infrastructure Development, at 202-366-5076. A TDD is available for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing at 202-366-3993. In addition, the Department of Transportation (DOT) may post answers to questions and requests for clarifications as well as information about webinars for further information at *www.maritime.dot.gov/PIDPgrants*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Each section of this notice contains information and instructions relevant to the application process for the PIDP discretionary grants, and all applicants should read this notice in its entirety to prepare eligible and competitive applications. Selection criteria have been modified since the FY2019 PIDP program.

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A. Program Description

1. Overview

The PIDP was established under 46 U.S.C. 50302, which authorizes the Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish a port and intermodal improvement program for improving the safety, efficiency or reliability of the movement of goods through ports and intermodal connections to ports. To carry out a project under this program, the Department may provide grants for port and intermodal infrastructure-related projects. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Pub. L. 116-94) appropriated \$225 million to the PIDP to make discretionary grants to improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods into, out of, around, or within coastal seaports, inland river ports, or Great Lakes ports.

The efficient movement of goods through ports and their intermodal connections depends on rural transportation networks. Consistent with the R.O.U.T.E.S. Initiative, the Department may consider how projects will address the challenges faced by rural areas under the PIDP.

2. Merit Criteria

This section of the notice describes the following three merit criteria that the Department intends to use to select FY 2020 PIDP awards:

(a) Effect on the Movement of Goods

Ports play a critical role in the movement of freight and goods throughout the country. As primary entry and exit points for imports and exports, ports are essential drivers of our economic growth and productivity. The international competitiveness of the United States' domestic industries, such as agriculture and energy, depends on safe and efficient cargo movements through our nation's coastal and inland ports, as well as their intermodal connectors. To prioritize investment in projects that support goods movement, the Department will evaluate the extent to which the project will improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods through a port or intermodal connection to a port.

(b) Leverage of Federal Funding

The Department is committed to supporting the President's call for more infrastructure investment. That goal will not be achieved through Federal investment alone, but rather requires