



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

JAMES S. SIMPSON
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

September 28, 2011

Dear Prospective Applicant:

On behalf of Governor Chris Christie, I am pleased to announce the Fiscal Year 2012 New Jersey Department of Transportation's federal-aid Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS).

The objectives of the SRTS Program are:

- To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- To facilitate the development and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of New Jersey's primary and middle schools (Grades K-8).

Projects must be located within two miles of any school that serves students in grades K-8. Funding for the FY 2012 SRTS Program will be available for the construction of infrastructure projects only. Infrastructure projects may include the installation of sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes, multi-use paths, traffic calming, etc.

The SRTS non-infrastructure program that was a part of the SRTS grant initiative in prior years will no longer be funded as a Local Aid grant program. Under a new effort, the program has now become a statewide education and encouragement program administered by the Department through the Transportation Management Associations (TMAs).

Information on both the infrastructure and non-infrastructure programs can be found at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/srts.shtm>

For FY 2012, Urban Aid Communities, as determined by the Department of Community Affairs, and municipalities containing Schools Development Authority (SDA) Districts, as outlined by the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, may apply for design as well as construction funds through the SRTS Program.

Please be aware that funds for the SRTS Program projects are provided on a reimbursement basis only. In addition, the award of SRTS grants will be contingent upon the recipient's ability to comply with all applicable federal financial management, project implementation, and oversight regulations. Before applying, applicants should assess their capability to comply with state and federal requirements for procurement of materials and services, accounting practices, easement acquisitions, environmental regulations, and applicable design standards. Applicable federal codes include, but are not limited to, U.S. Code Title 23-Transportation and 49 CFR-Transportation, Parts 18 and 19.

Additionally, all municipalities and counties that accept federal or state grants are required to comply with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standards and Guidelines and the provisions of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Applications must be completed and submitted on or before December 30, 2011 utilizing the Department's on-line electronic grants administration system, SAGE. For information on accessing SAGE, please see the Local Aid web site at:

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/>.

I encourage you to share this announcement with all school administrators, other governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations within your municipality.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to improve the safety of New Jersey's school children. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

James S. Simpson
Commissioner

c Municipal Clerk
Municipal Engineer
County Engineer