

REBUILD ALABAMA ACT ANNUAL GRANT PROGRAM	
The Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant Program is an ALDOT administered transportation infrastructure grant program for projects of local interest created in the Rebuild Alabama Act of 2019.	
ELIGIBILITY:	
Any local public agency, county or municipality, is eligible to submit an application. Project applications may be submitted for improvements to any classified public road or bridge owned and maintained by the applicant that is open to public traffic. A sponsoring agency may only submit one project application per application cycle. Each county and municipality will be viewed as an individual sponsor, any application submitted by multiple sponsors will be deemed as the eligible submission for all sponsors.	
APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 14 th , 2022	
Applications shall be submitted to:	RAAGrantApp@dot.state.al.us
PROGRAM'S ANNUAL FUNDING LEVEL: \$10M	
The total funding to be allocated per year is \$10,000,000, with a maximum funding of \$250,000 to an individual project. Any overrun in total project costs above the amount awarded, shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring agency. Other funding sources to supplement RAA Annual Grant Program funds are not required, but projects containing a commitment to provide supplemental funding may be given favorable consideration. Annual Grant funds are available for selected projects for 1 year from the notice of award letter.	
ALLOWABLE WORK PHASES:	
Program funding is only available for eligible construction activities. No preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, utility relocation, construction engineering and inspection or materials testing costs will be eligible.	
MORE INFORMATION:	
https://www.dot.state.al.us/programs/RAAGrantProgram.html	

Rebuild Alabama Act Annual Grant Program Fiscal Year 2022 Program Guidelines

This document contains information regarding the Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022. The RAA Annual Grant Program is administered by the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT). Prospective project-sponsoring governmental agencies are encouraged to thoroughly review this document, as well as the FY 2022 RAA Annual Grant Program Application and FAQ document, when considering developing a project application.

A. ELIGIBILITY:

Any political subdivision of the State of Alabama (Municipal and County Governments) is eligible to apply for funding under the RAA Annual Grant Program.

Project applications may be submitted for improvements to any classified public road or bridge owned and maintained by the applicant that is open to public traffic.

The final eligibility of applications and proposed project activities will be determined by ALDOT upon evaluation of the application submitted.

B. COMPETITIVE SELECTION

RAA Annual Grant Program funds are awarded through a competitive project selection process.

C. PROJECT FUNDING:

The RAA Annual Grant Program was established by Legislative Act #2019-2. The program allocates no less than \$10 million annually to eligible projects as identified by ALDOT during a fiscal year.

The maximum funding provided to any project in FY 2022 will be \$250,000.00.

RAA Annual Grant program funding is only available for eligible construction activities. No Preliminary Engineering, Right-of-Way, Utility Relocation, Construction Engineering & Inspection or Materials Testing costs will be eligible.

RAA Annual Grant Program awarded funds will be issued to the sponsoring agency either (1) upon ALDOT's receipt of a Notice of Award from the sponsoring agency to the contractor, or (2) upon ALDOT's receipt of a Purchase Order (PO) from the sponsoring agency issued against a valid, eligible in-place bid contract.

RAA Annual Grant Program awarded funds cannot be transferred to another project and may only be used to fund improvements consistent with the intent of the original project application.

RAA Annual Grant Program funds may be combined with other funding sources when approved by ALDOT. In such cases, the more restrictive funding requirements may apply to all funds utilized. Note that RAA Annual Grant funding availability deadlines still apply when combined with other funding sources.

A sponsoring governmental agency may only submit one project application per application cycle. Each County and Municipality will be viewed as an individual sponsor. Any project submitted by multiple sponsors shall be deemed as the eligible submission for all sponsors.

Sponsors with an active award may not submit another application until the awarded project has been let to contract or a purchase order utilizing a valid, eligible in-place bid contract has been issued.

Other funding sources to supplement RAA Annual Grant Program funds are not required, but projects containing a commitment to provide supplemental funding may be given favorable consideration.

D. PROJECT PROGRESS:

RAA Annual Grant Program funds are available to sponsoring agencies for a period of one (1) year from the notice of award. Funding awarded to a sponsoring agency not either let to contract or a purchase order issued against a valid, eligible in-place bid contract within one year of the notice of award are subject to rescission.

Any overrun in total project costs above the amount awarded, shall be the responsibility of the sponsoring agency.

E. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS:

Projects must be let to competitive bid. In-place bids may also be utilized as long as those bids were awarded following all required competitive bid laws for eligibility. No other method of construction, such as force account is allowed.

Any costs incurred prior to issuance of a Notice of Award or a Purchase Order are not eligible.

RAA Annual Grant Program funds have reporting requirements. Recipients will be required to furnish any and all requested data to ALDOT or other specified or required entities necessary to satisfy any reporting requirements.

F. APPLICATION SUBMISSION & SELECTION

All applications **must be submitted electronically** no later than 5:00 pm on **January 14, 2022**. Applications should be sent to RAAgrantApp@dot.state.al.us as a .pdf (25 mb max per email, multiple emails may be sent if necessary) with “**FY 2022 RAA Grant Application – Sponsor Name**” in the subject line.

Rebuild Alabama Act Annual Grant Program Application Fiscal Year 2022



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

This document provides the format in which the required information is to be included in all applications seeking consideration for the Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant Program. Applicants may develop and prepare their own applications; however, the headings (A through G) shall be listed with supporting narratives/attachments included. Prospective project sponsoring governmental agencies are encouraged to review the *FY 2022 RAA Annual Grant Program Guidelines* when considering the development of applications. Sponsors will be required to submit the application electronically to the ALDOT Local Transportation Bureau no later than **January 14, 2022**.

A. Sponsoring local governmental entity

Sponsor Entity: _____
Mayor/Chairman: _____
Sponsor Contact: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Project Manager: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

- B. Briefly describe the proposed project improvements, identifying the points of origin, destination and all intermediate points of access. Detail the intended use of the project.
- C. Provide a detailed preliminary pay item estimate of the total project cost, the amount of RAA Annual Grant Program funds requested, and the amount and source of any other funds to be applied to the project.

- D. Identify any project phases that could adversely impact the project's progression. Note that these phases are not eligible for reimbursement.
 - a. Environmental and/or cultural resources
 - b. Right-of-way or temporary/construction easements
 - c. Utility relocations

- E. Describe the life expectancy of the project. Identify the agency responsible for maintenance, and the funding source for maintenance efforts.

- F. Provide any additional comments the sponsor wishes to be considered, including any letters of support from elected officials, local agencies, or property owners.

- G. Include any supporting photographs, maps, drawings, or plans necessary to support the project application (all in color and limited in size to 11" by 17").

All applications **must be submitted electronically** no later than 5:00 pm on **January 14, 2022**. Applications should be sent to RAAgrantApp@dot.state.al.us as a .pdf (25 mb max per email, multiple emails may be sent if necessary) with "**FY 2022 RAA Grant Application – Sponsor Name**" in the subject line.

The office of Local Transportation Bureau (LTB) will send a confirmation email once an application is received. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact LTB at 334-242-6020 to ensure receipt of the application.

Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the ALDOT Annual Grant Program? The ALDOT Annual Grant Program is an ALDOT administered transportation infrastructure grant program for projects of local interest created in the Rebuild Alabama Act of 2019.

What projects are eligible? Project applications may be submitted for improvements to any classified road or bridge open to public traffic.

Who may apply? Any local governmental entity (county or municipality) within the State of Alabama.

How much funding can be requested? The maximum awarded amount of funding per project is subject to change for any fiscal year. Please refer to the current fiscal year's project guidelines.

Can the total cost of a project exceed the maximum awarded amount? Yes, however any overruns in total project costs, above the amount awarded, shall be the responsibility of the sponsor.

Is a sponsor funding match required? There is no funding match required by the sponsor. However, projects containing a commitment to partial local funding will be given favorable consideration.

Will a sponsor have to pay any funds "up-front"? No, the ALDOT Annual Grant is not a "cost reimbursement program" and invoicing ALDOT will not be required. Awarded funds will be issued to the sponsoring agency either (1) upon ALDOT's receipt of a Notice of Award from the sponsoring agency to the contractor, or (2) upon ALDOT's receipt of a Purchase Order from the sponsoring agency issued against an in-place annual bid.

How many applications can I submit? Local project sponsors may only submit one application per application cycle. Once a project is selected, a local project sponsor may not submit another application until the awarded project has been let to contract or a purchase order issued against an in-place bid.

How long is the funding available? Funds are available for 1 year from the notice of award. Funds awarded but not let to contract or had a purchase order issued against an in-place bid within 1 year are subject to rescission. If a project is in danger of exceeding the 1-year funding deadline, an extension request must be submitted by the sponsor and approved by ALDOT prior to the expiration of the funding deadline.

Who is responsible for preliminary engineering? The sponsor will be responsible for the cost of all required preliminary engineering activities in accordance with ALDOT requirements at no cost to the project. This shall include but is not limited to costs associated with preparing the application, project development, environmental clearances, plan development, and contract letting. Furthermore, the sponsor is responsible for any environmental assessments, clearances, and permitting which may be required. Projects including preliminary engineering will be held to the funding deadlines established in the Annual Grant Program Guidelines.

Must a project be on a certain Functional Classification of roadway? No. Project applications may be submitted for any classification of road or bridge open to public traffic.

Will projects requiring right-of-way or easements be considered for award? Yes. Any application for project improvements that will require the acquisition of right-of-way or easements must be disclosed in the application. Non-adverse conditions (donation, value findings, etc.) should be documented with the application in the form of letters of support from the affected property owners. Applications that require significant and/or adverse right-of-way acquisition should be delayed until the subject right-of-way has been obtained.

Projects requiring right-of-way or easement acquisition will be held to the funding deadlines established in the ALDOT Annual Grant Program Guidelines.

Failure to disclose required right-of-way in the project application may be grounds for rescission and reallocation of awarded project funds.

Who is responsible for right-of way or easement acquisition? The sponsor will be responsible for the cost of all right-of-way and easement acquisition in accordance with program requirements at no cost to the project. The nature of any required right-of-way or easements should be disclosed in the application.

Will projects requiring permitted work on property owned by another entity be considered for award? Project improvement activities should only occur on property owned or on easements obtained by the sponsor. Applications involving work on property owned by another entity will generally not be considered unless the affected property owner is ALDOT. Any proposed work on ALDOT right-of way shall have the written support of the local ALDOT Region Engineer submitted with the application.

Failure to disclose necessary permitted work in the project application may be grounds for rescission and reallocation of awarded project funds.

Who is responsible for obtaining necessary permits? The sponsor will be responsible for acquiring necessary permits at no cost to the project.

Will projects requiring utility relocations be considered for award? Yes, however, any utility relocation costs will be the responsibility of the applicant and will not be an eligible cost to the project. Projects including utility relocations will be held to the funding deadlines established in the Annual Grant Program Guidelines.

Any utility relocations shall be identified in the project application. Failure to disclose required utility work / relocations in the project application may be grounds for rescission and reallocation of awarded project funds.

Who will let the project to contract? The sponsoring governmental agency will be responsible for letting projects locally via competitive bid. In-place bids may also be utilized as long as the bids were awarded following all state and federal competitive bid laws. No other method of construction, such as force account will be allowed.

Can a sponsor use an in-place annual bid to purchase materials and use their own forces to place the material? Yes, but only the cost of the materials that were purchased through the in-place annual bid would be eligible for reimbursement. The cost of the sponsor's forces (labor and equipment) would not be eligible for reimbursement under this program.

Who is responsible for construction engineering and inspection? The sponsor will be responsible for the construction engineering and inspection (CE&I), as well as the testing and inspection of materials as required by ALDOT specifications.

How does the ALDOT Annual Grant Program affect other Federal/State Funded Programs? Projects identified to receive other sources of Federal and/or State funds may be supplemented with annual grant funds (where allowed by ALDOT). If Annual Grant Program funds are combined with federal funds, the more restrictive federal requirements shall apply to the Annual Grant Program funds as well.

Due to the funding restrictions placed on Annual Grant projects, what potential issues should be taken into consideration when developing applications.

- Right-of-way acquisition or easement/permitting
- Utility / service relocations
- Cultural resources
- Environmental impacts
- Fiscal capability and the sponsoring agency's ability to provide funds to cover overruns and/or total project costs in excess of the award.

How do I apply? Local project sponsors may apply for annual grant funding by submitting a complete and accurate project application. Detailed Annual Grant Program Guidelines and an Annual Grant Application can be found on the Annual Grant webpage: <https://www.dot.state.al.us/RAGrantprogram/>

Who will select projects for funding? Applications will be accepted, reviewed, and awarded by ALDOT through a competitive selection process.

When will applicants know they have a project selected for funding? All local project sponsors shall be notified in writing consistent with the deadlines established for each round of allocation.