



Government of the District of Columbia
Department of For-Hire Vehicles



NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (“NOFA”)

FY 2021 Centralized Dispatch for Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) Taxis Under Transport DC

The Government of the District of Columbia, Department of For-Hire Vehicles (DFHV), is soliciting applications from eligible DFHV licensed taxicab companies (Taxicab Companies) to be a part of DFHV’s FY 2021 Centralized Dispatch Project Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) Taxi Service under Transport DC.

The application submission deadline is **September 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**

FOR A FULL SCOPE OF WORK, PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, AND APPLICATION, VISIT DFHV’S WEBSITE TO REVIEW THE REQUEST FOR APPLICATION.

Summary of Program:

The purpose of this opportunity is to create a central point of access for passengers in wheelchairs (one call or one click) and WAV taxi drivers under the Transport DC program, as well as a single party that is responsible for all aspects of WAV taxi rides including booking, dispatching, customer service and driver management. DFHV desires for wheelchair users to experience reasonable wait times and have a consistent experience every time they book a WAV taxi ride. DFHV desires that drivers of WAV taxis are connected to a steady pipeline of WAV trips. DFHV seeks a centralized dispatcher to administer and implement the project; provide oversight and management, a call center and app or website and dispatchers; recruit and pay WAV drivers and provide experienced staff trained for this specialized and critical transportation service. This initiative will start in the Transport DC program, and the successful applicant will need to include other DFHV and District-sponsored programs and private pay requests from the general public for WAV taxi services by Quarter 3 in FY 2021.

The selected applicant and the services provided to all passengers must at all times comply with the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, Title 31: Taxicabs and Public Vehicles for-Hire in its entirety with an emphasis of Chapter 18. Wheelchair Accessible Paratransit Taxicab Services; Title 31: Taxicabs and Public Vehicles for-Hire, Chapter 9 Insurance Requirements for Public Vehicles-For-Hire in its entirety with a special focus on Applications and Scope pertaining to WAV vehicles; and Title 31: Taxicabs and Public Vehicles For-Hire, Chapter 31-16. Dispatch Services and District of Columbia Taxicab Industry CO-OP.



Financial/Reimbursement Structure:

The maximum amount reimbursable to the centralized dispatch grantee for each successfully completed Transport DC trip is \$50; The total value of the grant is not to exceed one million, three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,350,000) for completed trips including up to \$100,000 for startup and implementation.

Eligibility: DFHV licensed taxicab companies that have current and valid operating authority and meet all the requirements to be a Transport DC provider. Eligible taxi companies can partner with technology companies in applying.

How to Apply: Visit DFHV's Zoomgrants portal: [Click Here](#).

RFA Release Date: The RFA will be available on August 21, 2020 on the DFHV website. To access the RFA click on [DFHV's Grant Webpage](#).

Application Deadline: Friday, September 21, 2020, 5:00 p.m. EST.

Pre-Application Conference: Applicants interested in learning more or who would like to ask questions about the RFA are strongly encouraged to participate in the information session scheduled on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 10 a.m. The session will be held virtually and interested applicants can join via the WebEx information below.

WebEx Info for Pre-Application Conference on August 27, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Meeting number: 160 713 6810

Join by Computer

Password: 12345

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=ma5941171058da0224763a9ee47d9be3a>

OR

Join by phone

1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number (US/Canada)

+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

Access code: 160 713 6810

Period of Award: The performance period is October 1, 2020 up to September 30, 2021 for FY 2021. DFHV may elect to continue funding for an additional period of up to three years. Continuations would be determined based upon satisfactory program performance, grant compliance, operating authority status, and the availability of funding.

Selection Process: DFHV will select one or more grant recipients through a competitive application process. All eligible and complete applications will be forwarded to a review panel to be evaluated, scored, and ranked based on the selection criteria listed in the RFA.



Reservations: DFHV reserves the right to issue addenda and/or amendments subsequent to the issuance of the grant announcement or any NOFA or RFA, or to rescind any innovation grant announcements, NOFA or RFA. *All grant awards are subject to funding availability.*

D.C. Government and DFHV Operating Status

On March 11, 2020, Mayor Muriel Bowser declared a state of emergency and a public health emergency for the District of Columbia due to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

On March 13, 2020, the Mayor adjusted the District of Columbia Government's operating status beginning Monday, March 16, through Tuesday, April 24, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

On June 22, 2020, Mayor Bowser announced Phase Two would begin June 22, 2020, allowing certain businesses to reopen and activities to resume under specified conditions outlined at coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo.

DFHV remains operational, with most DFHV staff teleworking.

DFHV is in close communication with the Office of the Mayor, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and WMATA regarding the fluid situation of COVID-19 and operating status.

THE DC MAYOR, DC HEALTH OR OTHER AGENCIES MAY CHANGE THE OPERATING STATUS OF THE AGENCY AND GRANT PROGRAMS AS THE SITUATION EVOLVES.

All DFHV applicants who participate in applying for grants serving the general public must comply with Mayor Bowser's COVID-19 Stay at Home or Re-Opening Orders pertaining to the public health emergency. To ensure each applicant has access to Mayor Bowser's COVID-19 Recovery Plans, visit: coronavirus.dc.gov.

For additional information regarding this announcement, please contact: Wendy Klancher, Senior Policy Advisor at wendy.klancher@dc.gov or Michael Tietjen, Chief Performance Officer at Michael.Tietjen@dc.gov.

