

# Combined Railroad Crossing Elimination (RCE) Program & Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program

The Grant Application Bootcamp will be a combined offering for both grant opportunities.

## Agency

U.S. Department of Transportation,  
Federal Railroad Administration  
(FRA)

## Category

Passenger Safety, Improved Freight Transportation

## Eligible Applicants

**RCE:** Local governments, or a group of local governments, states, a group of states, federally recognized Indian Tribes, public port authorities, and metropolitan planning organizations.

**CRISI:** Local governments, or a group of local governments, states, a group of states, public agencies chartered by one or more states, Amtrak or other intercity rail passenger transportation agencies, Class II or III railroads, federally recognized Indian Tribes, any rail carrier or rail manufacturer in partnership with one of the above-referenced entities, University transportation centers engaged in rail research, and non-profit labor organizations representing employees of rail careers or contractors.

## Total IJA Funding

[\\$3 billion](#) (RCE) and  
[\\$5 billion](#) (CRISI)

## FY23 Grant Funding

TBD (FY22 funding levels were  
[\\$573 million](#) for RCE and  
[\\$1.4 billion](#) for CRISI)

## Match Requirements

Expected 20% match requirement for both programs, based on the FY22 Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs). Match requirements will be confirmed once the FY23 NOFOs are issued.

## Key Dates

**RCE:** The NOFO for this grant is expected in Summer 2023. The [FY22 NOFO](#) opened on July 6, 2022, and closed on October 4, 2022.

**CRISI:** The NOFO for this grant is expected in Fall 2023. The [FY22 NOFO](#) opened on September 2, 2022, and closed on December 1, 2022.

## Overview

The RCE program provides funding to improve American rail infrastructure to enhance rail safety, improve the health and safety of communities, eliminate highway-rail and pathway-rail grade crossings that are frequently blocked by trains, and reduce the impacts that freight movement and railroad operations may have on underserved communities. Similarly, the RCE program prioritizes projects that improve safety, economic strength and global competitiveness, equity, climate, and sustainability.

The CRISI Program provides funding to improve railroad safety, efficiency, and reliability; mitigate congestion at both intercity passenger and freight rail chokepoints to support more efficient travel and goods movement; enhance multimodal connections; and projects that lead to new or substantially improved Intercity Passenger Rail Transportation corridors. The CRISI program prioritizes projects that improve safety, support economic vitality, create good-paying jobs, increase capacity and supply chain resilience, apply innovative technology, and explicitly address climate change, gender equity, and racial equity.

## Key Funding Criteria

The key funding criteria vary for each program - please refer to the FY22 NOFOs for what is likely to be similar criteria for FY23.



## Opportunities for Climate and Racial Wealth Equity

Per the CRISI and RCE FY22 NOFOs, the Federal Rail Association (FRA) seeks to fund projects that address environmental justice, particularly for communities that disproportionately experience climate change-related consequences. In addition, the FRA aims to proactively address racial equity and barriers to opportunity, including automobile dependence.

## Eligible Activities (based on FY22 NOFOs)

**RCE:** Eligible activities include:

- Grade separation or closure, including through the use of a bridge, embankment, tunnel, or combination of the three
- Track relocation
- The improvement or installation of protective devices, such as signals, signs, or other measures that improve safety related to a separation or relocation project
- Other means to improve the safety and mobility of people and goods at highway-rail grade crossings (including technological solutions)
- A group of related projects described in the previous bullets that would collectively improve the mobility of people and goods
- The planning, environmental review, and design of an eligible project described in previous bullets

**CRISI:** Applicants will choose one track among five available tracks (Systems Planning, Project Development; Final Design/Construction; Research; Safety Programs and Institutes; and, Deployment of Magnetic Levitation Transportation Projects). Eligible activities include:

- Deployment of railroad safety technology, projects to address congestion or safety challenges affecting rail service, a rail line relocation or improvement project, the preparation of regional rail and corridor service and other modes, workforce development and training activities, research and development to advance and facilitate innovative rail projects, among others.

## Additional Information

Program information is available on the [RCE](#) and [CRISI](#) webpages.