

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

### 2019 Call for Projects

If you have questions about the CMAQ application process, scoring criteria, or anything else related to the CMAQ Call for Projects, please check below to see if it has already been asked. We plan to update this list on a regular basis. If you don't find your question below, don't hesitate to give us a call at 314-421-4220 or 618-274-2750 or email us at [cmaq@ewgateway.org](mailto:cmaq@ewgateway.org).

#### **Q1: I do not see a number for logging back into the STP-S or CMAQ application.**

There is no project record number associated with the application as in prior years. This year, the application for both CMAQ & STP-S must be downloaded and completed on the applicant's computer.

#### **Q2: Can CMAQ funds be used to purchase police vehicles, or for municipal vehicles like garbage trucks or maintenance vehicles?**

The CMAQ program supports the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure. Highway funds including CMAQ cannot be used to fund general government operations, including the acquisition of vehicles that perform such general functions, e.g., police and firefighting.

#### **Q3: When is the next TAP funding round?**

EWG has programmed all the TAP funds allocated to the region through the current federal transportation law which ends in 2020. Unfortunately, EWG will not hold another round of solicitations until the program is reauthorized by Congress.

#### **Q4: What is the difference between submitting a project as STP-S Traffic Flow vs. CMAQ?**

While the types of projects will likely be similar, the particular nature of the project may lead a sponsor to submit in one program rather than the other. For instance, while the focus of the CMAQ program is on reduced emissions, the focus of STP-S Traffic Flow is on system reliability/reduced delays, with emissions still accounted for, but given a smaller share of points. Additionally, a greater range of factors are taken into account with STP-S Traffic Flow, allowing a project to receive points for non-traffic flow aspects included in their project, such as improved safety, multimodal improvements, or freight significance. Any new roads or added through-lanes are ineligible for CMAQ funds, but eligible for STP-S.

**Q5: Can federal funds be used for local match?**

Federal funds are generally not allowed to be used for local match, with the exception of funds from Federal Land Management Agencies (such as the Forest Service or National Park Service) or HUD Community Development Block Grants. In all cases, confirm with MoDOT or IDOT prior to using any federal funds as local match.

**Q6: If your project includes sidewalk slab replacements, does that trigger Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance on the entire sidewalk within the project limits?**

Make sure to draft the scope of work so that it specifies what will be constructed. All new sidewalk must be ADA compliant. If the scope includes repairs to sections of sidewalk along the limits then ADA mandates that all the sidewalk be made ADA compliant. This will make your project costs escalate due to potential right of way acquisition.

**Q7: Are ADA transition plans required to submit an application?**

The ADA requires public agencies with 50 or more employees to have an ADA transition plan. EWG does not require a transition plan to apply for funds.

**Q8: What is the minimum amount of information that should be submitted with a preliminary application?**

Enough information must be provided for EWG reviewers to understand the project's scope, schedule, and financial plan. This information is all included in the application itself. However, the more information you provide in your preliminary application, the better able EWG will be to provide detailed comments.

**Q9: What is the amount of the project funding cap for CMAQ and STP-S?**

There is not a cap on the amount of CMAQ funds that can be requested by an individual project. For STP-S, a project in IL can request up to 20% of the adjusted construction funds available, while in MO, a project can request up to 15% of the total federal funds available. For the 2019 STP-S Call for Projects, the IL cap is \$1,334,000 and the MO cap is \$7,125,000.

**Q10: What is the current link to MoDOT LPA Basic Training?**

Missouri project sponsors are required to have an agency staff member who is certified under MoDOT's LPA Basic Training program. This training offers information on the Local Public Agency process. MoDOT has recently updated the link to this online training. Please use the new link: <https://www.modot.org/lpa-basic-training-class-link>.

**Q11: Where can I find out more information about ADA requirements?**

FHWA offers a Question and Answer on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). You can review this information at the following link:

[https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/programs/ada/ada\\_sect504qa.cfm](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/civilrights/programs/ada/ada_sect504qa.cfm).

**Q12: When are funds CMAQ funds available?**

Illinois: preliminary engineering funds are available in FY 2020, right-of-way in FY 2021, and construction/construction engineering in FY 2021 or FY 2022.

Missouri: preliminary engineering funds are available in FY 2020, right-of-way in FY 2021, and construction/construction engineering in FY 2021 (\$1 million or less federal) or FY 2022.