U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announces Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) opening on grants.gov

**MILESTONE**

1. Register your county with the System for Award Management (SAM)
   Applicant will be assigned a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) upon registering at SAM.gov

2. Register with grants.gov and create a profile for your county
   Grants.gov will send a registration email once your profile is created

3. Develop a thorough and complete grant application addressing all NOFO requirements
   - Pay particular attention to all merit and statutory criteria, ensuring all are addressed in a way that results in a high rating as outlined in the NOFO
   - Formulate a compelling project narrative using data that outlines why your project should be funded
   - Utilize technical assistance opportunities and consultants wherever possible

4. Submit your county's completed application to grants.gov
   Verify agency receipt using grants.gov tracking number

**MILESTONE**

5. Begin grant pre-obligation period
   Successful applicants must work with USDOT to complete the required documentation, including NEPA and Terms and Conditions, before funds can be obligated

6. Begin reporting requirements submission
   Financial and programmatic data and compliance information must be regularly reported and may be collected via progress reports, site visits or audits

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**MILESTONE**

- **PHASE I**
  TIMEFRAME: UP TO 1 MONTH

- **PHASE II**
  TIMEFRAME: 1-2 MONTHS

- **PHASE III**
  TIMEFRAME: 4-6 MONTHS

- **PHASE IV**
  TIMEFRAME: 6-14 MONTHS

- **PHASE V**
  TIMEFRAME: VARIES BASED ON GRANT OBLIGATION PERIOD

- **PHASE VI**
  TIMEFRAME: UP TO 1 YEAR

**NOTE:** These are general steps through which federal competitive grant funds for transportation may be awarded. It is imperative to read NOFOs in full to understand unique criteria and application instructions tied to different grant programs.