

# S | S Safe Streets and Roads for All

## 4 | A (SS4A) Program Facts



The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)** program provides grants to local, regional, and Tribal communities for implementation, planning, and demonstration activities as part of a systematic approach to prevent deaths and serious injuries on the nation's roadways.

This roadway safety program was created by the **Biden-Harris Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**. It provides \$5 billion over 5 years to fund community-led projects that address the preventable crisis of deaths on our nation's roads, streets, and highways through safer people, roads, and vehicles; appropriate vehicle speeds; and improved post-crash care.

The SS4A program funds two types of grants:

- **Planning and Demonstration Grants** for Comprehensive Safety Action Plans, including supplemental safety planning and demonstration activities to inform an Action Plan. These can help build a pipeline of projects for future funding.
- **Implementation Grants** to implement strategies or projects identified in an existing Action Plan.

**SS4A is exclusively designed to help local communities.** DOT offers extensive technical assistance to potential applicants, especially first-time federal funding applicants.

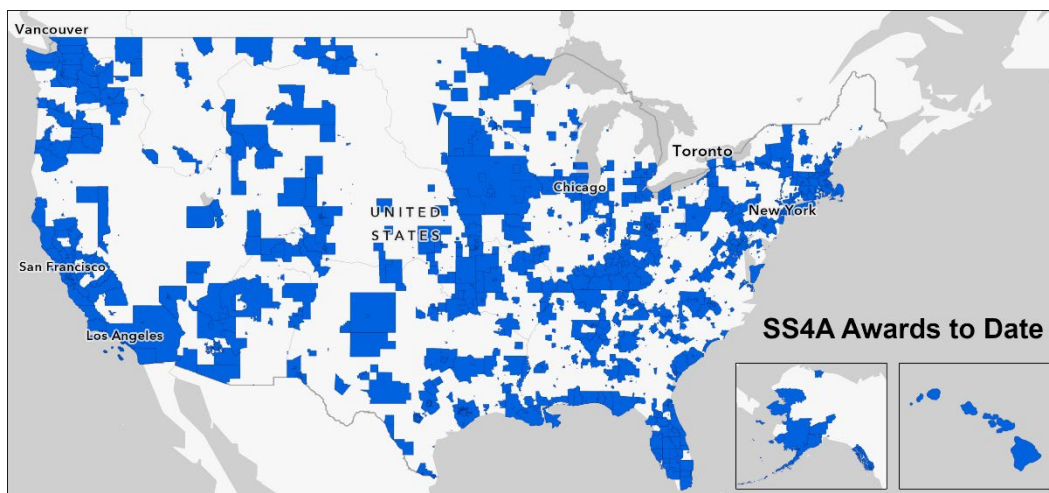
For more information, use the QR code above or visit the [SS4A website](#).

## SS4A grants are already making an impact nationwide

- In the first three years of funding, USDOT awarded **\$2.9 billion** to over **1,600 communities** across **all 50 states and Puerto Rico**.
- SS4A funds to improve roadway safety planning have been awarded to communities that comprise about **77% of the nation's population**.
- Awarded funds go to localities that make up **70% of all roadway fatalities**.
- Projects and activities will significantly **improve safety for all people using the road** in those communities, including drivers, passengers, pedestrians, bicyclists, people using transit, and people with disabilities.

Awards reach communities of all different sizes and safety needs:

- **Rural communities** comprise around half of all grant award recipients to date.
- 816 communities (44% of award recipients) have **populations under 50,000**.
- **64 Tribal communities** were awarded SS4A funding.
- About 50% of award recipients are **new direct Federal funding recipients to USDOT**.
- Around 60% of funds will **benefit underserved communities**, providing equitable investment to places that need funding the most.



## SS4A amplifies our impact by working across government and with external partners

The SS4A program collaborates within USDOT, and with outside organizations that are committed to roadway safety, to disseminate program information and build capacity to help communities apply for grants and successfully implement grant activities.

- Coordinated technical assistance and promotion efforts focus on advancing roadway safety in rural areas, Tribal communities, and places in the Thriving Communities network. **In the past three years, USDOT staff directly reached communities in every state.**
- USDOT works with **trusted non-governmental organizations and partners** that understand communities' roadway safety challenges and needs. These partners include organizations such as the Local Infrastructure Hub, National Complete Streets Coalition, National League of Cities, National Association of County Engineers, National Safety Council, League of American Bicyclists, Vision Zero Network, Rural Partners Network, Smart Growth America, Urban Sustainability Directors Network, and Emergency Medical Services groups, and events like the National Transportation in Indian Country Conference.

## SS4A helps applicants compete for funding based on merits, not technical capacity

Applying for Federal discretionary grants is new for some communities—many of which may not have a team of grant writers on their staff. The SS4A program works with applicants throughout the evaluation process to ensure that they have complete and accurate information and are not disqualified due to an administrative error during the submission process.

- In preparation for the third funding year (FY24), **SS4A provided a courtesy pre-application screen to 111 Action Plans** to help them determine whether they were eligible to apply for an Implementation Grant. Many that found out they were ineligible for Implementation Grants applied to develop an Action Plan instead.
- In the second and third funding years (FY23 and FY24), SS4A conducted **follow-up outreach to over 1,200 communities** to provide opportunities to address missing application elements and program requirements. As a result, **nearly all eligible applications are complete and fully evaluated.**
- For those who are unsuccessful, SS4A offers a detailed debrief to help applicants develop more successful applications in future rounds. SS4A has conducted hundreds of **debriefs with applicants**, and many have re-applied and received awards in subsequent years.

After awards are made, the SS4A program continues to help communities be successful in developing, executing, and administering grant agreements.

- A streamlined grant process was developed to help finalize and sign grant agreements as quickly as possible, even for communities that have never received grant funding from USDOT. Approximately **97% of the 511 FY22 award recipients and 57% of the 620 FY23 award recipients have executed grant agreements** in place and initial **funding amounts obligated.**
- A **Technical Assistance Center** was established to support grant recipients with training and technical assistance, including how to comply with Federal requirements and how to develop Comprehensive Safety Action Plans. Visit the [Technical Assistance Center website](#) for more information.
- A **Community of Practice** was created to help grant recipients learn from each other across the 1,000+ communities that have received awards to date. [Learn more about the Community of Practice.](#)

## Future funding opportunities

The FY25 SS4A Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is expected to be announced before the end of March 2025. Approximately \$2 billion will be made available in future funding rounds (FY25 and FY26).

