



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Veterans' Affairs

700 Summer St NE
Salem, OR 97301-1285

SERVING
OREGON VETERANS
SINCE 1945

January 14, 2014

The Honorable Sen. Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Rep. Tina Kotek, Co-Chair
State Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Re. Ten Day Notification Letter in Support of Request for Federal Grant Application Approval

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

The Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) requests approval to apply for a Federal Department of Veterans Affairs' Grant for Transportation of Oregon Veterans in Highly Rural Areas.

1. The source of the grant: US Department of Veterans Affairs, Funding Opportunity Number: VA-HRTG-2014
2. Maximum amount requested will not exceed \$500,000.00
3. Access to care for Veterans that are in highly rural areas continues to be an issue across the United States. The VA has established this program to address the issue of access to care.
4. The grant was announced December 3, 2013 and the deadline is February 3, 2014. ODVA intends to file on January 27, 2014, to qualify for technical assistance from the Federal Department of Veterans Affairs.
5. No state match is required in support of this grant request.
6. No requirements for additional ODVA FTE are anticipated.

ODVA seeks to leverage innovative approaches to transport veterans to VA Medical Centers, and to otherwise assist in providing transportation services in connection with the provision of VA medical care to highly rural veterans. This grant will assist ODVA to develop creative ways to leverage existing resources to meet veteran transportation needs, as well as find creative financing through existing federal monies (VA mileage, grants, pilot projects, etc.) to establish a consistent and efficient veteran medical transportation system in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Cameron Smith
Director

