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State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY
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February 6, 2024

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Safety, Office of Highway Safety to accept and expend \$497,374.00 new (405e) program funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Federal Grant Program for providing grants to State and local law enforcement along with media campaigns with a focus on eliminating the number of deaths on NH roadways caused by distracted driving effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approvals through September 30th, 2024. 100% Federal Funds.

405e Funds are to be budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024 in the following account:

02-23-23-231010-75XX0000 Dept. of Safety, Office of the Commissioner – NHTSA.Distracted Driving

Funds will be allocated as follows:

| Class | Description | SFY24 Current | Requested Action | SFY24 Adjusted Authorized |
|------------|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 000-403787 | Federal funds | \$ - | (\$ 497,374.00) | (\$ 497,374.00) |
| | Total Revenue | \$ - | (\$ 497,374.00) | (\$ 497,374.00) |
| 029-500290 | Intra-Agency Transfers | \$ - | \$ 400,750.00 | \$ 400,750.00 |
| 040-500800 | Indirect Costs | \$ - | \$ 12,124.00 | \$ 12,124.00 |
| 041-500801 | Audit Fund Set Aside | \$ - | \$ 500.00 | \$ 500.00 |
| 102-500731 | Contracts For Program Services | \$ - | \$ 84,000.00 | \$ 84,000.00 |
| | Total Expenses | \$ - | \$ 497,374.00 | \$ 497,374.00 |

EXPLANATION

This request is being made due to the OHS receiving 405e "Distracted Driving" funding for the first time from NHTSA, and a new Accounting Unit (A/U) is needed to manage the revenue and expenses.

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Page 2 of 2

These funds are necessary to use to be able to increase the visibility of law enforcement on New Hampshire roads to help reduce overall crashes and the resulting injuries and or deaths associated with distracted driving. These distracted driving funds will also support messaging to inform the motoring public of the dangers associated with driving while distracted to help change this negative driving behavior.

In 2021, New Hampshire distracted driving/inattention contributed to over 15% of crashes. However, non-fatal crash data and distracted driving fatality data may be under reported as there are many crashes that occur on New Hampshire roads with no other reason or explanation for the crash other than the vehicle left the road. Some of these crashes have occurred on a straight road, and a clear summer day with no explanation of how the crash occurred.

Class 029 – Intra-Agency Transfers to provide funding for grants to sub-grantees within the Agency.

Class 040 – Indirect Cost as allowable for Contracts for Program Services.

Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside to comply with RSA 124:16 that requires all agencies which receive federal funds to set aside a percentage (0.1%) of the federal revenue amount received to pay for financial and compliance audits.

Class 102 - Contracts for Program Services to provide funding for grants to sub-grantees.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support the programs.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert L. Quinn
Commissioner of Safety



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.
Washington, DC 20590

September 29, 2023

The Honorable Chris Sununu
Governor of New Hampshire
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), enacted as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58), reauthorized the State Highway Safety Program (23 U.S.C. 402), the National Priority Safety Programs (23 U.S.C. 405), and Racial Profiling Data Collection grants (Section 1906 of Pub. L. 109-59, as amended). On September 15, I wrote to notify you of New Hampshire's qualification for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Sections 405 and 1906 grants.

I am now pleased to inform you that New Hampshire's application for FY 2024 highway safety grants is approved for the Section 402 program and for the additional programs, as noted in the enclosure, up to the authorized not-to-exceed award amounts. Additional award documentation will be provided to your Governor's Representative for Highway Safety.

No apportionment or allocation of funds is being made at this time. As FY 2024 funds are appropriated by Congress, amounts will be added to New Hampshire's account in the agency's Grants Tracking System, and we will notify your highway safety personnel in accordance with past practice. However, in order to avoid any delay in executing State highway safety programs, your highway safety office is encouraged to use existing balances while awaiting receipt of FY 2024 funds.

Use of funds for these grant programs is governed by applicable statutory provisions and implementing regulations and other Federal laws and regulations, as well as any terms and conditions imposed in other grant documents. Also, please note that approval of this annual grant application does not constitute approval of the specific projects contained in the application. Please accept my continued thanks for the important work you and your highway safety officials do to save lives and make our roads safe.

Sincerely yours,

Ann Carlson
Acting Administrator

Enclosure

**Approved FY 2024 Grants and Authorized Award Amounts
for New Hampshire
(Under Section 405 and Section 1906 Programs)**

| Grant | Authorized Not-to-Exceed Award Amounts (Subject to Appropriations) |
|---|---|
| Section 405(b) Occupant Protection | \$377,435.56 |
| Section 405(c) State Traffic Safety Information Systems | \$427,361.31 |
| Section 405(d) Impaired Driving Countermeasures | \$1,507,453.11 |
| Section 405(e) Distracted Driving (Laws) | \$249,396.46 |
| Section 405(e) Distracted Driving (Awareness) | \$247,978.39 |
| Section 405(f) Motorcyclist Safety | \$46,434.42 |
| Section 405(g) Nonmotorized Safety | \$252,201.85 |