

## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program

FY 2025 STEP RFP Training

# #EndTheStreakTX End the streak of daily deaths on Texas Roadways.

#### **Today's Agenda**



- Welcome Larry Krantz, STEP Program Manager
- Opening Remarks Letty Von Rossum, BTS Director
- Locating the RFP
- STEP Program Background
- STEP Program Operational Philosophy
- How to build STEP Enforcement Zones Luis Zayas, DPS-HSOC
- Changes for FY 2025
- FY 2025 RFP Process Schedule
- 2-hour TCOLE-accredited workshop available for building grants

#### **Purpose of this training**



- Familiarize all potential STEP subgrantees with FY 2025 RFP document
- Discuss changes to the RFP process from previous years
- Provide a broad overview of grantor expectations of STEP agencies

#### FY 2025 STEP RFP



- FY 2025 STEP-Comprehensive (STEP-COMP)
- FY 2025 STEP-Commercial Motor Vehicle (STEP-CMV)
- Coming in January
  - Recruiting for FY 2024 STEP-Click-It-Or-Ticket (STEP-ClOT)
    - Enforcement during Memorial Day
  - Recruiting for FY 2024 STEP-Operation: Slowdown (STEP-OpSlow)
    - Enforcement in mid-late July
- Coming in June
  - Recruiting for FY 2025 STEP-Impaired Driving Mobilization (STEP-IDM)

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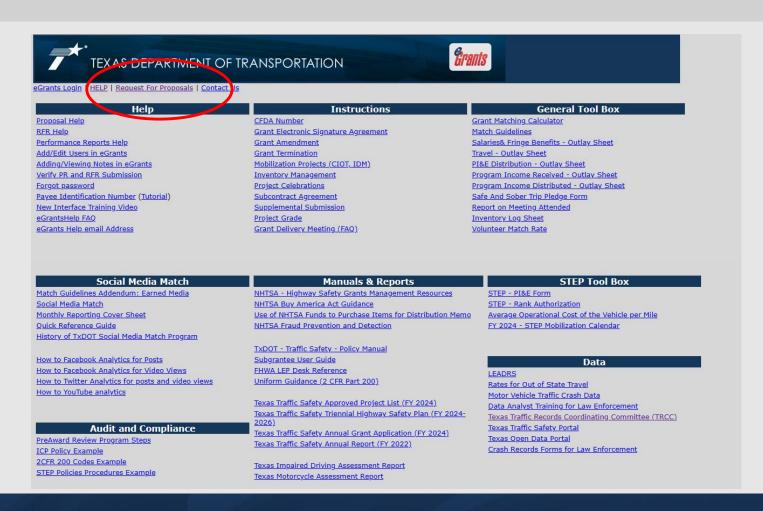


## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: Locating the STEP RFP









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eGrants Login | HELP | Request For Proposals | Contact Us

#### 2025 Traffic Safety Request for Proposals

#### **General Traffic Safety Grants**

- FY 2025 Request For Proposal (RFP) notice for General Traffic Safety Grants was published in The Texas Register at https://www.sos.state.tx.us/texreq/
- · RFP for General Traffic Safety Grants is available by clicking on FY 2025 General Request For Proposals
- RFP period for General Traffic Safety Grants starts November 10, 2023, and ends January 04, 2024, and proposals must be completed and submitted using TxDOT Traffic Safety eGrants system no later than 5 p.m. CST, January 04, 2024.

#### **Traffic Safety Program Needs**

The "Program Needs" section of the RFP contains a "Performance Measures" table that outlines goals and strategies for each of the Traffic Safety Program areas.

#### **High Priority Program Needs**

TXDOT seeks Proposals in all program areas; however we are particularly interested in Proposals that address specific needs as listed in RFP section "Program Needs, High Priority Program Needs."

#### **Proposal Questions**

- \* All proposal-related questions must be submitted via email to TRF\_RFP@txdot.gov by 12:00 p.m. CST on November 29, 2023
- \* Email subject lines must begin "RFP Question: " followed by a specific topic
- \* A question-and-answer document will be posted by December 04, 2023
- \* Telephone inquiries are not accepted

#### Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Traffic Safety Grants

- · RFP for STEP Traffic Safety Grants is available by clicking on FY 2025 STEP Request For Proposals
- RFP period for STEP Traffic Safety Grants starts November 18, 2023, and ends January 04, 2024, and proposals must be completed and submitted using TxDOT Traffic Safety eGrants system no later than 5 p.m. CST, January 04, 2024.
- For STEP proposal-related questions, please contact Police Traffic Services Program Manager at Larry.Krantz@txdot.gov, or contact your Traffic Safety Specialist.





#### **FY 2025 STEP RFP Timeline**



- RFP period open until 5 p.m. (CDT) Thursday, January 4, 2024
  - Do not wait until the last minute
- Budget negotiations and modifications will begin March 20
- Budget negotiations end April 10
- Operational plan development and approval ends Sept. 30
- FY 2025 begins Oct. 1, 2024



- TCOLE-accredited courses via Texas LEL Program:
  - STEP grant building and administration
  - Traffic enforcement strategies and engagement concepts
  - Officer safety
  - Full list of courses at <u>www.buckleuptexas.com</u>





## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: "The Big Picture"

#### **STEP Program Basics**

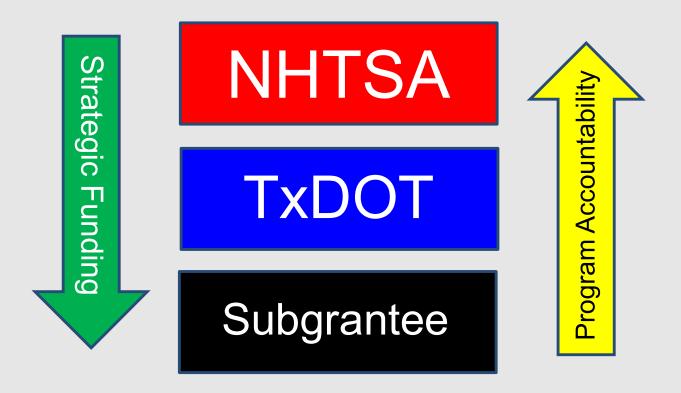


- Voluntary
- Visible
- Verifiable

#### **Texas' Traffic Safety Program**



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#### **TxDOT Goals and Strategies**



- Promote Safety: Champion a culture of safety
  - Reduce crashes and fatalities by continuously improving guidelines and innovations along with increased targeted awareness and education
- Deliver the Right Projects: Implement effective planning and forecasting processes that deliver the right projects on-time and on-budget
  - Use scenario-based forecasting, budgeting, and resource management practices to plan and program projects.
  - Align plans and programs with strategic goals
- Foster Stewardship: Ensure efficient use of state resources
  - Operate efficiently and manage risk

#### **Behavioral Traffic Safety Program Areas**



- 01 Planning and Administration (PA)
- 02 Alcohol and other Drug Countermeasures (AL)
- 03 Emergency Medical Services (EM)
- 04 Motorcycle Safety (MC)
- 05 Occupant Protection (OP)
- 06 Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety (PS)
- 07 Police Traffic Services (PT)

- 08 Speed Control (SC)
- 09 Traffic Records (TR)
- 10 Driver Education and Behavior (DE)
- 11 Railroad / Highway Crossing (RH)
- 12 Roadway Safety (RS)
- 13 Safe Communities (SC)
- 14 School Bus Safety (SB)

#### **STEP Program Strategic Goal**



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- Goal: Reduce transportation-related injuries and deaths
- Strategy: Engage and partner with law enforcement to reduce crashes through the creation safer driving environments on Texas roadways
- Methods:
  - Encourage proactive and productive High-Visibility Engagement (HVE)
     between law enforcement and traveling public
  - Encourage law enforcement participation and support of TxDOT campaigns
  - Introduce and encourage the use of data in LE operations
  - Provide relevant and timely training opportunities

#### **Developing, Operating and Evaluating a Data-Driven Program**



- Project Outputs + Strategic Deployment = Outcomes
  - What are the program outputs?
    - General Subgrantees: Training, Education, Messaging
    - STEP Subgrantees: Motor-vehicle stops

#### **Developing, Operating and Evaluating a Data-Driven Program**



- Project Outputs + Strategic Deployment = Outcomes
  - What are the program outputs?
    - General Subgrantees: Training, Education, Messaging
    - STEP Subgrantees: Motor-vehicle stops
  - What is the strategy guiding project deployment?
    - TxDOT identifies Priority Communities (PC's) with data, analysis tools
    - STEP Subgrantees directed to engage public in/about high-crash areas

#### **Developing, Operating and Evaluating a Data-Driven Program**



- Project Outputs + Strategic Deployment = Outcomes
  - What are the program outputs?
    - General Subgrantees: Training, Education, Messaging
    - STEP Subgrantees: Motor-vehicle stops, community engagement
  - What is the strategy guiding project deployment?
    - TxDOT uses data to identify, recruit LEAs in Priority Jurisdictions
    - STEP Subgrantees directed to engage public in high-crash areas
  - How did the combination of outputs and strategic deployment achieve the desired outcomes in Priority Communities?
    - How will STEP projects achieve the maximum positive results?

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## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: Operational Philosophy

#### "Proactive Safety"



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- Proactive STEP operations
  - Use data to identify where, when crashes, crimes occur in close proximity and establish high-visibility presence in those areas
  - Seek to create a non-permissive environment for *violations vs. violators* 
    - When possible, move with traffic vs. using fixed location
    - Focus on violations that contribute to crashes in that jurisdiction
      - Intersection-related (improper turns, lane changes, fail to stop/yield)
      - Speed-related (unsafe for conditions, fail to control, over limit)
      - Impaired/Distracted
      - Unbelted or improperly secured occupants

#### **STEP Operational Concepts**



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- Leverage additional resources provided by STEP toward reducing crashes in historically high crash areas through deterrence, not punishment
- Make at least a minimum number of documented, verifiable vehicle stops within or in-route to or from high-crash areas (Enforcement Zones) identified by subgrantee agency and approved by TxDOT
- Engage the media and the public with a positive message about safety



## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: Strategic Engagement

#### **STEP Program Messaging**

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 We are partnering to focus this program's engagement efforts on areas in our community where crashes have hurt and killed friends and loved ones.

There has not been a day without at least one fatality on Texas roadways

since Nov. 7, 2000



#### STEP Public Education and Information (PI&E) resources





Move Over or Slow Down

View the campaign »



College and Young Adult Impaired Driving

View the campaign »



**Faces of Drunk Driving** 

View the campaign »



Be Safe, Drive Smart.

View the campaign »



Back to School

View the campaign »



Football Season

View the campaign »



**Holiday Season** 

View the campaign »



Teen Click It or Ticket

View the campaign »



Drive a Safe Speed

View the campaign »



**Labor Day** 

View the campaign »



**Child Passenger Safety** 

View the campaign »



Click It or Ticket

View the campaign »



https://www.txdot.gov/safety/ traffic-safety-campaigns.html

#### STEP Public Education and Information (PI&E) resources



Home / Stay safe / Traffic safety campaigns

#### Move Over or Slow Down



The side of a highway may be a complex environment, but it's also the daily work space for law enforcement, first responders, and roadside construction and maintenance workers. Texas drivers can do their part to keep these workers safe by following the state's "Move Over or Slow Down" law.

The Move Over or Slow Down law, which traditionally has required drivers to yield to police, fire and emergency vehicles, has been expanded over the years to provide the same protection for TxDOT work crews and other roadside workers.

This law requires drivers to move over a lane or slow to 20 mph below the posted speed limit when approaching emergency vehicles, law enforcement, tow trucks, utility service vehicles, TXDOT vehicles or other highway construction or maintenance vehicles using visual signals or flashing lights activated on the roadside. On roadways with posted speed limits of 25 miles per hour or less, drivers must reduce their speed to 5 miles per hour (Texas Transportation Code 545.157).

Drivers who fail to give emergency and work crews space to safely do their jobs can receive a ticket with a fine of up to \$200. If there is a crash that causes injury to a worker, drivers can be fined up to \$2,000.

TxDOT's TV and radio public service announcements, digital ads, and outreach efforts are helping to raise awareness of the Move Over or Slow Down law.

#### **Downloads** Radio PSAs

Move Over or Slow Down (<u>English</u>
 ∠, <u>Español</u> ∠)

#### Video PSAs

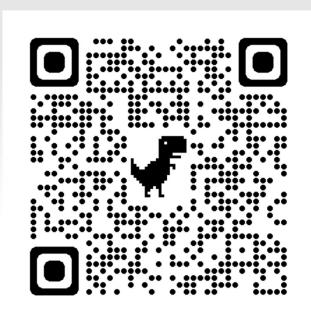
Move Over or Slow Down ( English, Español)

#### Print

- Info card
- Poster
- Social media ad

#### Regulatory

 Highway maintenance and service vehicle lighting standards



https://www.txdot.gov/safety/traffic-safety-campaigns.html



## Strategic Traffic Enforcement Program: Operational Guidelines

#### **STEP Operational Guidelines**



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• The primary role of officers working STEP is to perform probable-cause motor vehicle stops and conduct any further activities related to those stops. Any time spent on non-STEP-related activities such as taking dispatched calls, responding to crashes or assisting other officers in any capacity should be noted on the officer's Daily Activity Report (DAR) and not submitted as reimbursable time.

#### **STEP Operational Guidelines**



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- Officers working STEP must witness the violation for which they stop a vehicle. Officers may not be dispatched or otherwise directed to violators, including through the use of spotters, unless previously authorized by TxDOT.
- STEP officers may not claim arrests and arrest time for stops not made by officers working STEP enforcement, from crash incidents, or from officers outside their department regardless of their STEP status. However, officers not working STEP may transport offenders arrested by officers working STEP

#### **STEP Operational Guidelines**



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- A minimum number of documented vehicle stops must be made during each hour of enforcement so that enforcement efforts are consistent throughout the assigned shift. All stops must be initiated in or in-route to or from agencydesignated Enforcement Zones. The minimum number of stops required depends on the grant type:
  - STEP-COMP: 2.5 documented vehicle stops per hour required (at least written warning)
  - STEP-CMV: 1 documented vehicle stop per hour required (at least written warning)



## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: Building Enforcement Zones



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## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: Changes to RFP Process

#### **Changes for FY 2025 STEP RFP Process**



- Must be submitted by Jan. 4, 2024 deadline:
  - Initiated proposal with completed budget
  - Agency information and questionnaire
  - Answer Policy and Procedure question
  - Enter FY 2025 crash baseline and target data
  - \*Enforcement Zones not required at this time. Will be added later\*
    - You will be able to submit your proposal without zones

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#### **Changes for FY 2025 STEP RFP Process**



- Between Jan. 4 and March 20, 2024:
  - Proposal budgets will be reviewed, possibly adjusted based on:
    - Funding baseline determined by crash data
    - Current executed amount for FY 2024
    - Past expenditures
    - Past and current performance
      - Is the agency addressing the crash types with STEP enforcement?
      - Is the agency meeting required ASI requirements?
      - Is the agency submitting adequate documentation?

#### **Changes for FY 2025 STEP RFP Process**



- April 10, 2024 and August 31, 2024:
  - Enforcement Zones developed and uploaded for approval
    - Texas LELs will be conducting multiple workshops to assist
- Sept 1 Sept 30, 2024:
  - Enforcement Zones evaluated and approved or returned for modifications
  - Electronic signature process begins after zones approved



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### Selective Traffic Enforcement Program: Training Available

- TCOLE-accredited courses via Texas LEL Program:
  - STEP grant development and administration
    - Initiate and complete a proposal in 2 hours
    - Learn what's expected in "STEP 101"
  - Traffic enforcement strategies and engagement concepts that support STEP operations
  - Officer safety
  - Full list of courses at <u>www.buckleuptexas.com</u>





- TCOLE-Accredited Training Courses via IADLEST
- Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS)
  - Build and develop agency analytical capabilities
  - Develop and implement agency-specific enforcement strategies
  - Force multiplication
- Large Truck & Bus Enforcement Training
  - For all officers
  - Recommended for all CMV subgrantees



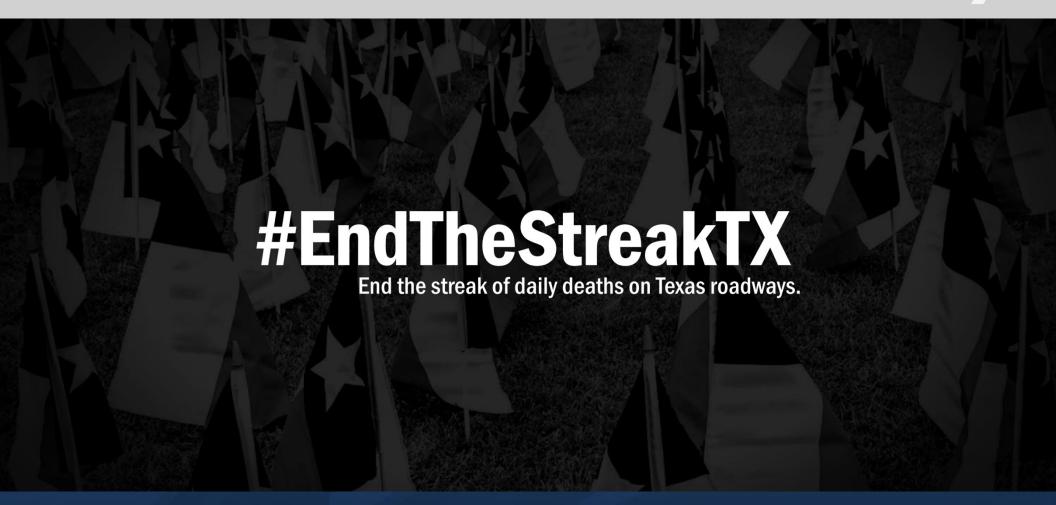
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- TCOLE-accredited CR-3 (Crash Reporting) Refresher
  - Offered by TxDOT's Crash Data Analysis team
  - Interactive training
  - Offered by appointment





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November 15, 2023