Michigan Mobility Funding Platform 2025 One-Time Mobility Fund Frequently Asked Questions

My company received an MMFP grant in the past, are previous grant recipients eligible to apply?

Yes. Previous recipients are eligible as long as they otherwise meet the eligibility criteria listed here.

Is a research institute, like a university, eligible to apply for the funding, or is it limited to small businesses?

This grant opportunity is limited to small businesses. If a startup or small business is interested in working with a university, they are able to apply and, if awarded, could be reimbursed for costs/fees/membership to the university as an eligible operating expense.

Can I schedule a meeting with OFME to discuss my project before applying?

I am unable to schedule calls with all those interested in this grant program but am happy to answer specific questions via this form.

Our company is NOT located in Michigan, can we still apply?

The grant does not require your business be located in Michigan as long as are operating your pilot in Michigan. Please review the eligibility requirements here, notably the eligible geographic parameters.

Our project includes both testing and a real-world deployment, are we able to submit multiple applications?

Yes, but it is preferred you submit a single application vs an application for each portion of the project when possible if your total request is under the $500,000 limit.

Example — one application outlining a single $200,000 project with $50,000 testing at MCity then $150,000 towards a real-world deployment phase of the project. This allows us to better see the full vision towards long-term success vs a single 2-6 month testing project in a silo.

If the projects are truly unrelated then you should submit separate applications.

Submit questions to this form.
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Updated 2/28/2025

Are these reimbursement-based grants?

Yes, these are reimbursement-based grants

How should I explain that my company was disproportionally impacted by COVID-19? Do I need any specific evidence to justify this impact?

We do not need small businesses to explain individual impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their business. We have developed the geographic parameters for eligibility to support justification of COVID-19 impact. All qualified zip codes matching ANY single one of the geographic parameters qualifies based on that location being disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please see this webpage to find links to verify eligibility based on geographic location.

Note: geographic location can be either the location of your business (business address) OR the location of the project or pilot (test site address, pilot location).

What are the eligible fuels under this grant for new or converted on and/or off-road vehicles?

No restrictions on fuel type BUT battery electric and hydrogen to better align with the State Strategy which is factored into scoring

Is there a scrappage requirement?

No.

Is public access required?

Direct access, no. But ideally demos to the public would be feasible if requested. Test site projects would be in closed/controlled environments, real-world deployments would be pilots in the public right of way.

Can applicants get reimbursed for work already completed?

 No.

Is leasing vehicles eligible? Are there any lease provisions?

Yes, leasing vehicles is not considered a capital expenditure. No, there are no lease provisions.

Are trucks class 1-8 eligible?

Any mode of mobility is eligible. Including all classes of vehicles.

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Updated 2/28/2025

What are the eligible fuels under this program? (Battery Electric, CNG, Hydrogen Diesel?)

No restrictions on fuel type BUT battery electric and hydrogen to better align with the State Strategy which is factored into scoring.

Can funds be stacked with other local/federal/state funding?

No other federal funds can be leveraged for on top of this opportunity.

How are "capital expenditures" defined, as referenced under Qualified Expenses? How is CapEx different from operating expenses?

CapEx is different from operating expenses (OpEx) because CapEx assets are expected to generate long-term benefits. OpEx are costs that have a shorter-term benefit, such as rent, utility bills, and office supplies.

An example would be that we could cover the cost to lease a vehicle for you to use for testing for the duration of your project (short-term benefit) but not the cost to purchase one (long-term benefit). These funds are also able to offset the costs of operating including human capital meaning you could invoice for hours dedicated to a project based on an agreed upon hourly rate for specific employees working on the project.

What are examples of CapEx? (examples only, if you have a specific item you'd like to check please submit via questions form)

- Buildings
- Equipment
- Vehicles
- Technology
- Furniture and fixtures
- Land
- Research and development (R&D)
- Intellectual property, such as patents and copyrights

Should I talk to a test site before submitting my application? How can I get in touch with a test site?

Yes! The application does require a letter of support from the test site as well as information about your budget which will likely include fees from specific test sites to use their facilities. Please use the links provided on this page to learn more about specific test sites and connect with them.

Does eligibility for this fund require a test site or a municipality partnership already to be in place?

The application does require a letter of support from either the municipality you're operating within (if a real-world deployment) OR the test site you're working with (if test site grant). A partnership does not have to be formalized ahead of the grant application or award but the letter of support should convey that the potential partner (test site, municipality, or others) are intending to partner should the project be funded. The application should list all partners and list their involvement in the project.

Potential government partners could be OFME, MDOT, any other state agency (EGLE, LEO, LARA, etc.), city or county-level organizations, or regional government-adjacent organizations such as SEMCOG.
Submit questions to this form. Updated 2/28/2025
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Can this funding be used by government entities to hire technical assistance consultants to help communities come into compliance with the self-evaluation and transition plan requirement(s) under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act?

No, this funding is intended to support small businesses and the flow of funds must be directly to small businesses.

Is the cost of EV charging an eligible expense for a project using an electric vehicle?

Yes.

What agency will be administering the grant?

The Michigan Office of Future Mobility & Electrification (OFME), a part of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) deploys the grant with support from a third-party administrator, NextEnergy.

Can two small businesses collaborate for this opportunity? And if so, would the contracting mechanism be subcontractor for one from the other?

Yes. One small business would need to be the "lead" on the application and if the application is funded, that small business would contract with OFME's third-party administrator and receive funds. The formal relationship between the two small businesses would need to be established amongst themselves.

Are you planning to have any information sessions?

Yes, details regarding information sessions can be found on the grant webpage.

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