



### **MEMBER ALERT**

**To:** ABA Operator Members

**From:** Peter J. Pantuso, CTIS  
President & CEO

**Date:** December 10, 2009

**RE:** DHS Announces Over \$11.5 million Available for FY 2010 Bus Security Grants

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has announced the availability of \$11.52 million in intercity bus security grants. DHS has begun accepting applications for this latest round of security grant funding for the motorcoach industry through the government's grant solicitation website, [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Since 2003, DHS has awarded nearly \$83 million in grant funds to secure motorcoach operations. This grant funding is a direct result of ABA's continued lobbying efforts on Capitol Hill and with the DHS and its agencies on the ongoing need for enhanced security in the motorcoach industry. As you may recall, earlier this year the Administration zeroed out this grant funding for FY 2010.

The FY 2010 Intercity Bus Security Grant Program is designed to enhance the protection of high-risk and high-consequence motorcoach company assets by providing funding for targeted antiterrorism training for key personnel, emergency preparedness exercises, the use of visible and unpredictable deterrence tools, and passenger security awareness campaigns. Allowable expenses for these funding priorities include the conducting of training workshops, hiring training consultants to conduct security workshops, making vehicle and facility security enhancements, installing emergency communication technology, and conducting coordination activities with emergency responders.

Program eligibility and funding capacity are determined through a two-tiered system.

- To qualify for the \$6.3 million available to Tier I carriers, operators must have in-service fleets of more than 250 over-the-road-buses, operators must also either provide fixed route service to any one of the 64 urban areas, defined by DHS as FY 2010 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdictions, or provide a minimum of 50 charter trips annually to any of the defined UASI areas.
- To qualify for the \$5.2 million available to Tier II carriers, operators must either provide fixed route service to any one of the 64 urban areas, defined by DHS as FY

2010 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdictions, or provide a minimum of 50 charter trips annually to any of the defined UASI areas.

The FY 2010 grants will be awarded through a competitive selection process, with grant applications due by 11:59 PM ET on February 12, 2010.

As in FY 2009, DHS has included specific instructions for how to prepare the applications within the grant guidance. A copy of that guidance and the accompanying application instructions has been posted to ABA's website, <http://www.buses.org/securitygrants> and ABA is happy to assist operators in navigating through that guidance. ABA has worked hard to ensure that these funds are available to our members - in fact, during the last installment more than 51 ABA members were successful in receiving 88 percent of the grant monies. We strongly encourage you to apply for these very important funds as soon as possible. You can apply online by going to <http://www.grants.gov/search/basic.do> and typing in the "CFDA number" 97.057. All grants must be completed and submitted online by 11:59 PM ET on February 12, 2010.

As in FY 2009, a security plan/vulnerability assessment is a requirement before utilizing grant funds for other security projects. Tools to complete a security plan can be found at <http://www.tsa.gov/join/grants/ibsgp.shtm>.

DHS will also host several conference calls to answer operator's questions regarding the grant applications. Additional questions may be directed to DHS at [askcsid@dhs.gov](mailto:askcsid@dhs.gov) or (800) 368-6498, as well as [ASK-GMD@dhs.gov](mailto:ASK-GMD@dhs.gov) and (866) 927-5646. The special conference calls will occur on the following dates:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>CALL-IN NUMBER</b>	<b>PASSCODE</b>
December 8, 2009	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
December 15, 2009	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
December 22, 2009	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
December 29, 2009	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
January 5, 2010	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
January 12, 2010	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
January 19, 2010	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
January 26, 2010	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
February 2, 2010	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433
February 9, 2010	1:00-2:00 pm EST	877-988-9660	6827433

As a reminder, it is necessary to obtain a DUNS number and to register with both [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and the Central Contract Registry (CCR), [www.ccr.gov](http://www.ccr.gov) to create an account in order to complete and submit your application online. The registration process can take up to 3 weeks for first time registrants. All applications must be submitted online.

Please contact Brandon Buchanan with any questions that you may have regarding this alert or the grants at (202) 218-7227.