



RAIL

MOVING AMERICA FORWARD



FRA CRISI & Rail Funding Opportunities

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FRA Office of Railroad Development

[CRISI FY 2023-FY 2024 NOFO](#)



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration

April 4, 2024



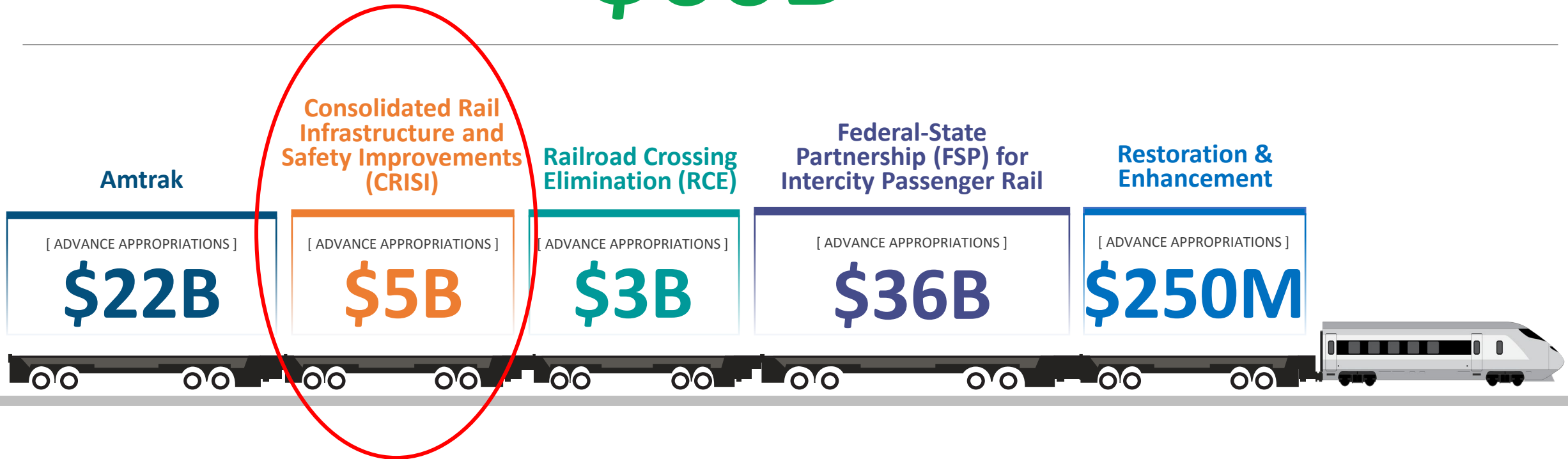
FRA Funding Programs & Best Practices

Rail Funding Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

[ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS]

From FY22-FY26

\$66B in total funding





CRISI – Program Overview

GRANT PURPOSE

- To fund projects that improve the safety, efficiency, and/or reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail systems

CRISI – Recent & Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Appropriations (B)



	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
Appropriation	\$1.5	\$1.5	\$1.2	\$1	\$1

Status of Funding Opportunities

Year	Available Funding (M)		Status
FY22	\$1,425	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Awards announced September 2023
FY23-24	\$2,478	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOFO release time frame is end of March 2024

CRISI – Program Overview

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS – FY23-24

- A State (including the District of Columbia) or group of States.
- An Interstate Compact.
- Public agencies or publicly chartered authorities established by one or more States.
- Political subdivision of a State.
- Amtrak or other intercity passenger rail carrier.
- **Class II or III railroads and associations that represent a Class II or III railroad, and any holding company of a Class II or III railroad**   INCLUDED IN ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS
- Any rail carrier or equipment manufacturer in partnership with at least one state entity, public agency, and/or local government.
- **Federally recognized Indian Tribe.**
- The Transportation Research Board (TRB) together with any entity with which it contracts in the development of rail-related research, including cooperative research programs.
- A university transportation center engaged in rail-related research.
- A non-profit labor organization representing a class or craft of employees of rail carriers or rail carrier contractors.

CRISI – Program Overview

CRISI – Program Overview

ELIGIBLE PROJECT CRITERIA

- **Wide Range of Rail Capital Projects**
 - Congestion mitigation
 - Ridership growth facilitation
 - Enhancements to multimodal connections
 - Improvements to short-line or regional railroad infrastructure
- **Railroad Safety Technology**
- **Track, Station, and Equipment Improvements for Intercity Passenger Rail**
- **Grade Crossing Improvements**
- **Rail Line Relocation and Improvement**
- **Regional and Corridor Service Planning and corresponding Environmental Analyses**
- **Safety Programs and Institutes**
- **Research**
- **Workforce Development and Training**

New Eligibilities for FY22-26:

- Measures that prevent trespassing
- Preparation of emergency plans for hazardous materials transported by rail
- **Rehab or procurement of locomotives, provided that such activities result in a significant reduction of emissions**

CRISI Locomotive Rehab and Replacement Provision

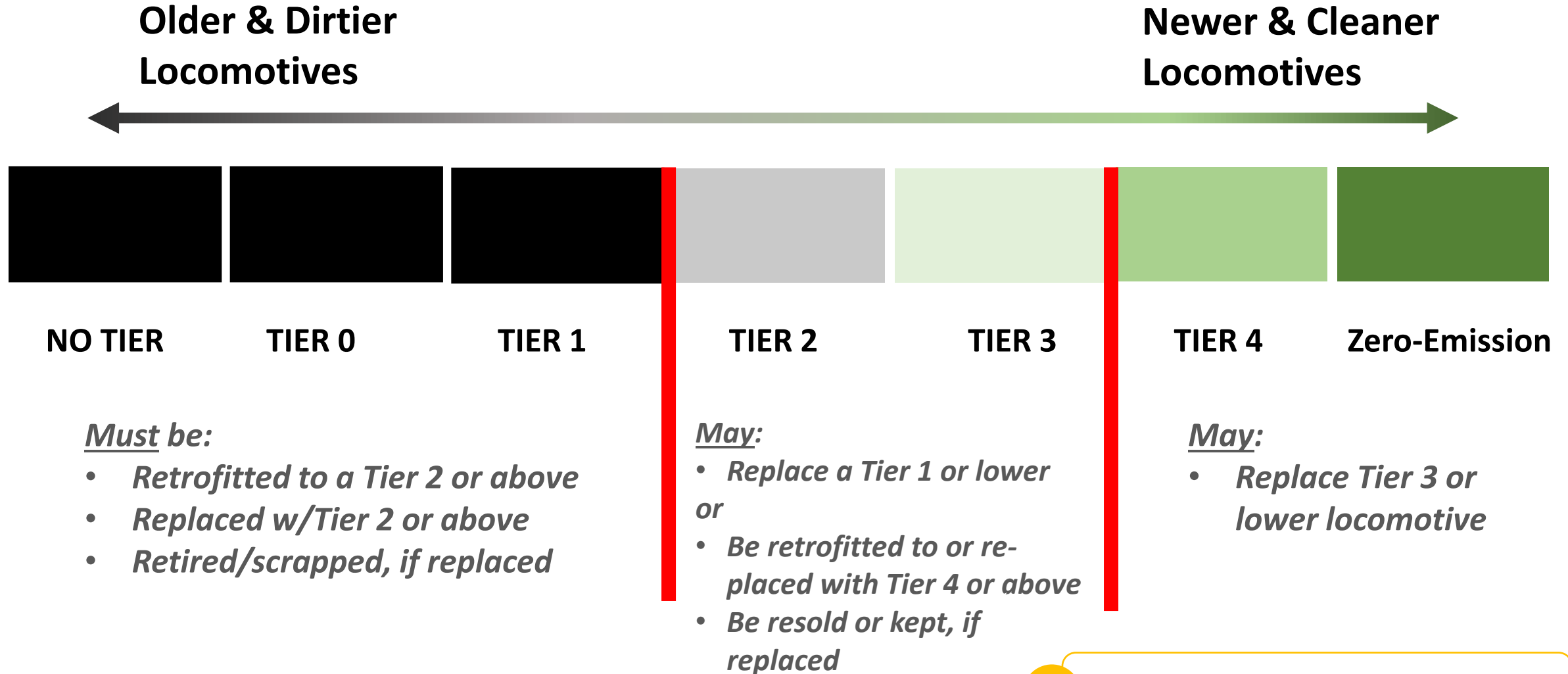
Provision Details

IIJA amended the CRISI program to contain the following provisions for grants affecting locomotives (49 U.S.C. 22907(c)16):

(16) Rehabilitating, remanufacturing, procuring, or overhauling locomotives, provided that such activities result in a significant reduction of emissions



EPA Tiers for CRISI “Significant Reduction in Emissions” Eligibility





FY 2022 CRISI Awards & Lessons Learned



CRISI – FY 2022 Overview

9/25/23

Selections
Announced



\$1.4B

Awarded



70

Projects



35

States

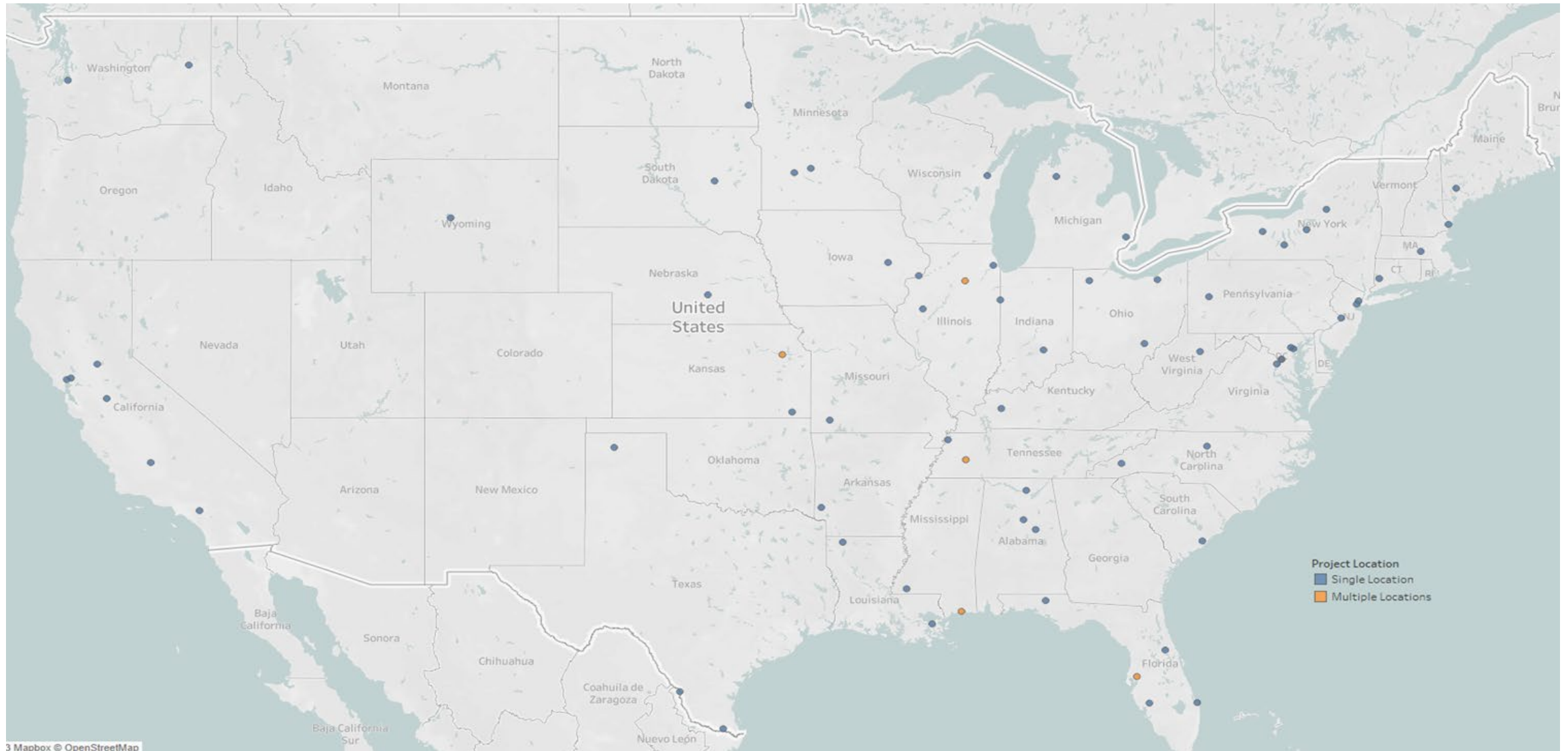


Short line Snapshot

- 47 short line beneficiary projects totaling over \$700M
- Under the new eligibility for overhaul/procurement of locomotives, 43 short line locomotives will be dramatically improved or replaced with major environmental and performance benefits



CRISI- FY 2022 Selected Projects



FY22 Grant Cycle Lessons Learned

CRISI-Specific Takeaways

- The CRISI program is as competitive as ever
 - Follow the required format for the **Project Narrative, Statement of Work, and BCA**
 - Clearly explain your project's **purpose and need**
 - Break down multiple **funding sources**
- A **Benefit-Cost Analysis** is required for every submitted project—even Workforce Development!
 - Economists verify assumptions and calculations
 - Provide unlocked Excel sheets
- **Project readiness** is key – submit projects that are ready to advance quickly
- **Agreements**
 - Financial commitments
 - Host Railroad agreements



[Frequently Asked Questions about Rail Improvement Grant Conditions \(49 U.S.C. § 22905\(c\)\(1\)\)](#)



NOFO Questions:

FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov



CRISI Webinar:

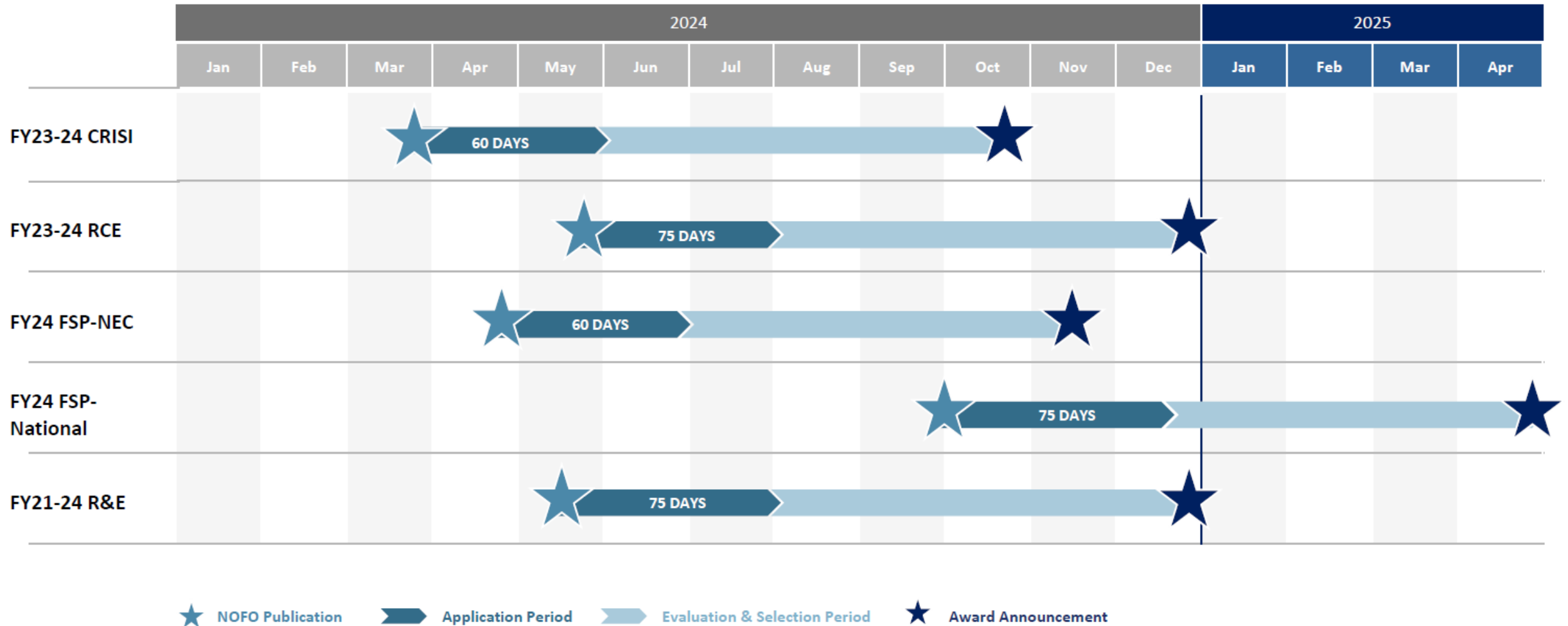
4/9 2:00-3:30 PM EST





What's Next?

CY 2024 FRA Discretionary Grant Calendar



NOFO CYCLE STAGES ARE ESTIMATED FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, AND NOT EXACT DURATIONS OR DATES. CHANGES MAY OCCUR, AND FRA WILL UPDATE ACCORDINGLY.



Grant Resources



Interactive Grants Tool

Helps grantees learn about FRA Discretionary Grant Programs and Eligibilities, by project sponsor and project type.

Note: *The tool does not determine eligibility for grant programs and is meant for informational purposes only. Interested parties should refer to the specific program legislation to determine eligibility.*



fra.dot.gov/GrantsTool



FRA Technical Assistance for Grantees

In-Person/Virtual Training

FRA conducts workshops virtually and in-person at various industry conferences throughout the year to educate grantees about the application and program/project delivery process, including at:

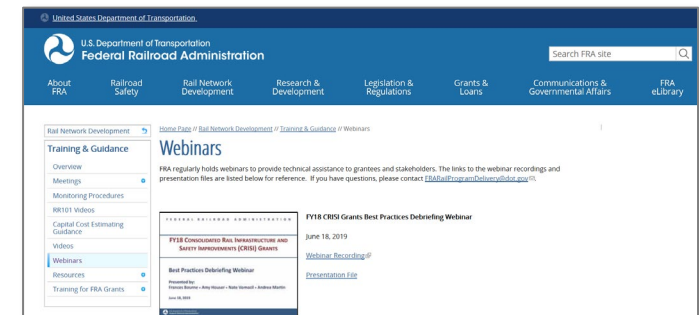
- AASHTO
- ASLRRA
- APTA



On-Demand Training

FRA's [Training and Guidance](#) webpage has a wealth of videos and [webinars](#) on topics such as:

- Lessons learned
- Cost estimating
- Environmental streamlining
- Grade crossing project planning tools
- Grant application process





**SAVE THE
DATE!**

When: July 30-31, 2024

Where: Washington Marriott at Metro Center

- ✓ Meet FRA staff
- ✓ Foster workforce development and collaboration
- ✓ Build a learning culture within today's rail industry
- ✓ Support RRD's mission to partner to advance effective rail investments

FRA RAIL

PROGRAM DELIVERY WORKSHOP

JULY 2024 | WASHINGTON, DC

Registration and agenda coming soon!

railroads.dot.gov/rail-network-development/training-guidance/meetings/workshops



Contact Us

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Connect with us at [USDOTFRA](#)



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Grant NOFO Questions

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