



Preliminary Application Montana Essential Freight Rail Loan Program

The preliminary application demonstrates project concept and readiness. The information requested below will be used to assess proposals. This and other information will be required for final loan approval. Applicants should respond as completely as possible, but are not asked to invest in detailed project planning and development at the initial stage.

Section I. Applicant information

Date: _____

Legal name of applicant organization: _____

Project manager/contact: _____

Contact e-mail: _____

Applicant address: _____

City / state / zip: _____

Phone: _____

Applicant is a: Railroad Company City Government County Government
 Rail Authority Port Authority

Section II. Project description

A. Estimated timeline

Date construction is expected to commence: _____

Estimated completion date: _____

B. Attach a detailed description of the project and the proposed use of the loan funds including location and a diagram of the project if applicable. List the attachments here: _____

C. Attach project budget information. List budget attachments here: _____

D. Sources of funds

Amount from fund \$ _____

Amount from other sources \$ _____

Total project cost \$ _____

Briefly describe other sources of funds. _____

Section III. Benefits of the project

A. Describe general benefits and savings that will be created by the project: _____

B. Describe how the project will: promote economic development and Montana competitiveness; preserve rail or enhance rail service to Montana communities and rural areas; enhance safety and the environment. _____

C. Describe any known environmental impacts of the project: _____

Section IV. Repayment, match, and security

A. Describe the proposed method of repayment. Attach financial information, an operating plan, or business plan that demonstrates repayment ability: _____

B. Describe projected revenues for at least the proposed loan term and attach documentation of projected revenues and methodology: _____

C. Rehabilitation and improvement projects require a 30% loan-to-value match. New construction projects require a 50% loan-to-value match. Attach documentation of matching funds or in-kind match, and list them here: _____

D. Describe the collateral proposed to secure the loan and attach proof of value (if other than investments to be made): _____

Section V. Certification and understandings

The applicant understands, represents, and agrees that:

- A. All information contained above and attached hereto is true and complete. There is no intent to deceive or defraud the program, the state, or any project participant.
- B. The state may not process incomplete applications.
- C. Compliance with federal, state, local, and tribal laws and regulations is a basic requirement of loan eligibility.
- D. MDT will assess the feasibility of continued rail facility use and traffic volumes.
- E. An independent feasibility study may be requested by MDT.
- F. Financial statements may be required of applicants to help assess project viability.
- G. MDT reserves the right to determine the interest rate.
- H. Loan approval is subject to full application. Project assessment will include environmental review.
- I. Final approval of loan contracts is the responsibility of the Montana Transportation Commission.

Officer's signature: _____

Name and title: _____

Organization: _____

Telephone number: _____

Date: _____

Submit applications electronically to:

hfoosum@mt.gov

Or by mail to:

Montana Essential Freight Rail Loan Program

Chief, Multimodal Programs Bureau
Rail, Transit and Planning Division, Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620-1001