

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT



JOSH STEIN GOVERNOR KRISTIN WALKER STATE BUDGET DIRECTOR

January 28, 2025

To: Senate Appropriations Committee on General Government and Information Technology,

House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on General Government,

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on General Government, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations,

Fiscal Research Division

From: Kristin Walker Lustun Waller

Subject: State Technical Assistance and Matching Program (STAMP) Legislative Report

S.L. 2023-134, Sec. 23.2 appropriated \$10 million from the Federal Infrastructure Match Reserve to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) to assist state agencies in applying for federal funding opportunities made possible by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (P.L. 117-58), the Chips and Science Act of 2022 (CHIPS) (P.L. 117-167), and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) (P.L. 117-169).

This appropriation provided:

- 1) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for technical assistance to aid state agencies applying for federal grants, including hiring time-limited positions or third-party contractors or consultants.
- 2) Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for state matching funds to meet match requirements.

As of December 2024, North Carolina's State and local governments and businesses received over \$17.9 billion in formula and discretionary funds through IIJA, IRA, and CHIPS programs. To date, OSBM has expended close to \$4.7 million in technical assistance and provided \$3.2 million in state matching funds. As required by S.L. 2023-134, Sec. 23.2(c), this report provides details on the allocation of these funds.

State Technical Assistance and Matching Program (STAMP)

In late 2023, OSBM introduced the <u>STAMP program</u>, releasing guidelines on how to apply for the technical assistance and matching funds authorized in S.L. 2023-134.

Technical Assistance

On December 1, 2023, OSBM opened applications for STAMP-Technical Assistance (STAMP-TA). Through STAMP-TA, agencies can apply for two types of technical assistance:

- 1. In-house Support, i.e., funding for agencies to hire time-limited positions or third-party contractors, and
- 2. OSBM-provided Support, i.e., direct support from a consulting team hired by OSBM to provide technical assistance.

OSBM compiles and reviews In-house Support applications every month and OSBM-provided Support applications on a weekly basis. Table 1 summarizes STAMP-TA funds allocated from December 15, 2023, to January 15, 2025, for time-limited positions.

Table 1: STAMP-TA Time Limited Position Allocations

	Agency	Request Title	Allocation	Positions
1.	Environmental Quality	Integrated Federal Funding Opportunity Management	\$250,000	2.00
2.	OSBM	Federal Funds Analyst	\$450,000	1.00
3.	UNC-Wilmington	NSF Innovation Engine Project Management and Investigator	\$206,000	2.00
		TOTAL	\$906,000	4.00

Table 2 summarizes STAMP-TA funds allocated since December 15, 2023, for third-party contractors or consultants.

Table 2: STAMP-TA Third-Party Contractor/Consultant Allocations

	Agency	Request Title	Allocation	Contractor/Consultant
1.	Commerce	Gathering Resources for Offshore Wind	\$67,500	DARE Strategies
2.	Commerce	Office of Science and Technology Pitchbook License	\$30,000	Pitchbook
3.	OSBM	State Technical Assistance and Match Program – OSBM Provided Support*	\$3,591,216	Deloitte
4.	East Carolina University	EPA Pollution Prevention Grant Writer and Reviewer	\$3,000	Altaclair Consulting
5.	Natural and Cultural Resources	Appalachian Regional Commission ARISE Grant Writer	\$20,000	Sound Diplomacy
6.	North Carolina State University	IRA Clean Energy Tax Credit Consultant	\$65,000	KPMG
		TOTAL	\$3,776,716	

^{*}As of January 2025, Deloitte supported 11 engagements across seven state agencies, helping to secure over \$420 million in competitive grants and to draw down \$208 million from EPA's Home Energy Rebates Program.

State Matching Funds

OSBM launched the STAMP state matching funds (STAMP-SMF) component on January 4, 2024. OSBM reviews applications on the 15th of every month. Table 3 summarizes STAMP-SMF funds allocated since December 15, 2023.

Table 3: STAMP-SMF Allocations

	Agency	Engagement Title	Allocation
1.	Public Safety / Insurance	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant	\$500,000
2.	NC A&T State University	University Transportation Center Grant	\$750,000
3.	Public Instruction	Clean Heavy Duty Vehicle Grant	\$1,684,628
4.	Transportation	Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Grant	\$225,000
		TOTAL	\$3,159,628

As required by S.L. 2023-134, the descriptions below provide application submission and award details for each of the four agencies that requested funds from OSBM to meet IIJA, CHIPS, and IRA state match requirements.

State Match Engagement 1

State Agency: Public Safety / Insurance - Office of State Fire Marshal (Sub-awardee)

Federal Agency: Homeland Security - FEMA

Grant Title: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant

Type of Grant: Competitive

Description: Under BRIC Building Code Plus-Up, a state may carry out eligible building

code adoption and enforcement activities such as: Implement adoption and/or implementation of codes that reduce risk; Enhance existing adopted codes to

incorporate more current requirements or higher standards; Develop

professional workforce capabilities relating to building codes through technical

assistance and training.

Amount Applied for from \$2,000,000

Federal Program:

State Match Required: \$625,000 State Match Provided by \$500,000

OSBM STAMP:

Amount Awarded: \$2.000.000*

State Match Engagement 2

State Agency: NC A&T State University

Federal Agency: Transportation

Grant Title: University Transportation Center (UTC) Grant

Type of Grant: Competitive

Description: The UTC Program is for eligible nonprofit institutions of higher education to

establish and operate University Transportation Centers that advance

^{*}Award remains in a "selected for further review" status by FEMA.

transportation expertise, provide for a critical multimodal transportation

knowledge base outside of the US DOT, and address critical workforce needs.

Amount Applied for from \$3,000,000

Federal Program:

State Match Required: \$1,500,000 **State Match Provided by** \$750,000

OSBM STAMP:

Amount Awarded: \$3,000,000

State Match Engagement 3

State Agency: Public Instruction

Federal Agency: Environmental Protection Agency
Grant Title: Clean Heavy Duty Vehicle Grant

Type of Grant: Competitive

Description: EPA's Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program provides grant funding to

replace existing non-zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles, support zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, and to train and develop

workers. \$8,680,000

Amount Applied for from

Federal Program:

State Match Required: \$4,776,676 **State Match Provided by** \$1,684,628

OSBM STAMP:

Amount Awarded: \$8,680,000* *Award remains in a "tentative" status by EPA.

State Match Engagement 4

State Agency: Transportation Federal Agency: Transportation

Grant Title: Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving

Transportation (PROTECT) Grant

Type of Grant: Competitive

Description: The PROTECT Discretionary Program helps make surface transportation more

resilient to natural hazards, including climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters through support of planning activities, resilience improvements, community resilience and

evacuation routes, and at-risk costal infrastructure.

Amount Applied for from \$1,803,600

Federal Program:

State Match Required: \$451,000 State Match Provided by \$225,000

OSBM STAMP:

Amount Awarded: \$1,803,600

We look forward to continuing to support state agencies in applying for these generational federal funding opportunities through the STAMP program. Please direct any questions regarding the STAMP program and information shared in this report to federalfundsnc@osbm.nc.gov.

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