State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) Incentive Program

FY 2026 Application

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) Incentive Program provides technical assistance and up to $125,000 in total funds per state each fiscal year to offset the costs of standardizing innovative practices. The program funds activities such as conducting internal assessments, initiating capacity building, developing guidance, drafting standards and specifications, organizing peer exchanges, and implementing system process changes. At the state level, the North Carolina Transportation Innovation Council (NC-TIC) determines which projects or activities to fund. For more information on the STIC Incentive Program, including eligibility requirements and past projects, please see FHWA's program guidance (https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/stic/guidance.cfm).

The application for FY 2026 funding is open until April 17, 2026.

You must complete this application once you start it. To see what is needed for the application, return to the NC-TIC webpage (https://connect.ncdot.gov/groups/NCSTIC) and look for the PDF version of the application (for reference only). Only applications submitted through this form will be evaluated.

Once the application closes, submissions will be evaluated by the NC-TIC. Applicants may be asked to present to the NC-TIC in June 2026. Awards will be announced in July 2026 with funding made available by October 2026.

Please note: the STIC Incentive Program requires a 20% non-Federal match from another funding source. You will be asked about the source for matching funds in the application.

Project Title and Applicant Contact Information

Project Title *

Requesting Unit *

Applicant Name *

Applicant Email *

EDC Innovation

If your proposed project relates to an Every Day Counts (EDC) initiative from FHWA, please identify which one.

For more information on the EDC initiatives, please visit FHWA's website (https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/everydaycounts/).

○ EDC-7 – Next-Generation TIM: Integrating Technology, Data, and Tracking

○ EDC-7 – Strategic Workforce Development

○ EDC-7 – Nighttime Visibility for Safety

○ EDC-7 – Integrating GHG Assessment and Reduction Targets in Transportation Planning

○ EDC-7 – Enhancing Performance with Internally Cured Concrete (EPIC2)

○ EDC-7 – EPDs for Sustainable Project Delivery

○ EDC-7 – Rethinking DBE for Design-Build

○ EDC-6 – Crowdsourcing for Advancing Operations

○ EDC-6 – e-Ticketing and Digital As-Builts

○ EDC-6 – Targeted Overlay Pavement Solutions (TOPS)

○ EDC-6 – UHPC for Bridge Preservation and Repair

○ EDC-6 – Virtual Public Involvement (VPI)

Project Abstract

Briefly describe the proposed work to be completed under this funding request, including its purpose and benefit to the State. It is important that your project abstract succinctly describes how funding through the STIC Incentive Program will be used to complete your project. Please limit your response to 300 words or less.

Project Abstract *

Please indicate whether the proposal is for a complete project or a phase of a larger project with prior investment. *

○ Complete project

○ A phase of a larger project with other funding/investment

Proposed Work

Describe the scope of work to be completed under this funding request, including how the proposed work will have a statewide impact in fostering a culture for innovation or in making an innovation a standard practice in North Carolina.

Only include work that is eligible for funding through the STIC Incentive Program. Please see FHWA's program guidance for eligibility requirements (https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/stic/guidance.cfm).

Proposed Work *

Tasks, Schedule, and Budget

Describe the individual tasks associated with the proposed project and the schedule and budget for each task. Up to ten tasks can be added to the form.

Incentive funding for eligible projects is for the Federal share of 80%, limited to $125,000 per STIC each year. The 20% non-Federal match may come from project sponsors or other allowable fund sources. **The budget for each task should be inclusive of all funding sources.**

Task 1 Description *

Describe the task.

Task 1 Schedule *

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 1 Budget *

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task? *

◯ Yes

◯ No

Task 2

Task 2 Description

Describe the task.

Task 2 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 2 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

◯ Yes

◯ No

Task 3

Task 3 Description

Describe the task.

Task 3 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 3 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

○ Yes

○ No

Task 4

Task 4 Description

Describe the task.

Task 4 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 4 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

○ Yes

○ No

Task 5

Task 5 Description

Describe the task.

Task 5 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 5 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

◯ Yes

◯ No

Task 6

Task 6 Description

Describe the task.

Task 6 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 6 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

○ Yes

○ No

Task 7

Task 7 Description

Describe the task.

Task 7 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 7 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

◯ Yes

◯ No

Task 8

Task 8 Description

Describe the task.

Task 8 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 8 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

○ Yes

○ No

Task 9

Task 9 Description

Describe the task.

Task 9 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 9 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Do you need to add another task?

○ Yes

○ No

Task 10

Task 10 Description

Describe the task.

Task 10 Schedule

Enter the estimated length of time (in months) that is needed to complete this task.

Task 10 Budget

Enter the estimated cost for this task as a dollar amount ($0.00).

Schedule and Budget Totals

Grand Total of All Estimated Task Schedules *

Enter the total estimated length of time needed to complete all tasks (in months). This is the total schedule.

Grand Total of All Estimated Task Costs *

Incentive funding for eligible projects is for the Federal share of 80%, limited to $125,000 per STIC each year. The 20% non-Federal match may come from project sponsors or other allowable fund sources.

Enter the total estimated cost for all tasks as a dollar amount ($0.00). This is the total budget **inclusive of all funding sources.**

Total Funding Requested

Total Funding Requested from the STIC Incentive Program *

Incentive funding for eligible projects is for the Federal share of 80%, limited to $125,000 per STIC each year. The 20% non-Federal match may come from project sponsors or other allowable fund sources.

Enter the total funding requested from the STIC Incentive Program as a dollar amount ($0.00). **This is the Federal share and must be no more than 80% of the total budget, not to exceed $125,000.**

[ ]

Required Non-Federal Match *

Please describe the non-Federal match (minimum 20% of the total budget), including the funding source and when the funding will be available. The Federal share is typically available in October.

[ ]

Will the project be able to advance if partial funding is awarded? *

This information will aid in the development of funding recommendations and provide the applicant the opportunity to fully complete individual components of the proposed project if the entire project is not funded.

( ) Yes

( ) No

Identify which components are critical to be funded in order to start the project or move it forward.

[ ]

Explain why the project would be unable to advance.

[ ]

Project Administration

Indicate whether the project is being administered by NCDOT, a metropolitan planning organization, a local government or a tribal government. This information is needed to determine to whom to allocate the funds if the project is selected for funding.

If the funding is to be allocated to an entity other than the State Department of Transportation, describe coordination with the State Department of Transportation, the ability to act on behalf of the applicant jurisdiction, and ability to meet Federal funding requirements. **If this information is not included in the application, the project will not be considered ready to advance.**

List the project administration entity. For an entity other than the State Department of Transportation, describe coordination with the state DOT, the ability to act on behalf of the applicant jurisdiction, and ability to meet Federal funding requirements. *

Additional Questions:

Will any additional funds, including the required match, be obligated and reimbursable for work performed within six months of the date the STIC Incentive Program funds are made available? Funding through the STIC Incentive Program is typically available in October. *

◯ Yes

◯ No

Estimated Obligation Date: *

[📅]