

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Q. With respect to trail development, are there resources we can use to find out what we need to do to meet the Federal Accessibility and Safe Trails requirements?

A. See the RTP Guide “Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance” section. There are many resources available for design guidance and best practices.

FHWA provides guidelines for Accessibility here:

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails/guidance/manuals.cfm

The [Architectural Barriers Act \(ABA\) Standards for Outdoor Developed Areas](#) applies to projects on Federal lands or constructed by a Federal agency.

The Pennsylvania Land Trust has published a very useful guide for Universal Access Trails and Share Use Paths available for viewing or download here:

<https://conservationtools.org/guides/115-universal-access-trails-and-shared-use-paths>

Q. If applicant is proposing to buy equipment what address should they provide?

A. Applicant may provide the address where the equipment will be stored. The organization office will be provided in the applicant info section.

Q. Does SEQRA apply to the purchase of equipment?

A. SEQRA applies to all RTP projects. A project strictly for the purchase of equipment is a Type II SEQRA action. All applicants should answer the SEQRA questions appropriately based upon their proposed project and submit the requested forms, which will result in an appropriate SEQRA determination.

Q. Does applicant need to submit maps, if applying only for equipment purchase?

A. All applicants must submit a map and site plan. If the proposed project is strictly for the purchase of equipment, please submit a map of the trails on which the equipment is to be used.

Q. Does the applicant need to list any permits on the SEQR form if they are replacing equipment in kind?

A. This depends on if any permits are required. If, for instance, a permit is required from DEC, then that may be stated. The RTP application does require a signed statement

from any jurisdictional agencies that the use of the equipment is permitted. (See [“Application Requirements” – “Purchase or Lease of Equipment” section of RTP CFA Guidance](#))

Q. How do the several phases of the RTP program (i.e. design, etc.) apply to equipment purchases? Do they need to list all of them?

A. A project which includes *only* the purchase of equipment does not require design or right-of-way phases. All funds should be listed in the construction phase.

Q. What are the rules for “Buy America” if they are purchasing used grooming equipment?

A. The same Buy America rules apply for both used and new equipment. Please contact your [OPRHP Regional Grants Administrator](#) if you have questions.

Q. Do the “Buy America” regulations apply to leased equipment?

A. “Buy America” only pertains if the iron/steel, manufactured product, or construction material is permanently incorporated in the project. As long as the lease does not contain an option to purchase, then “Buy America” does not pertain to a leased or rented equipment.

Q. What Land owner permissions are required for equipment purchase-only projects?

A. A signed [Landowner Permission Attestation](#) is required with the application. This is available at: <https://parks.ny.gov/grants/consolidated-funding-app.aspx>

Q. Is a project solely for land acquisition eligible?

A. Yes. This is an eligible project type under RTP. Please see the RTP CFA materials under “Eligible RTP Projects” and “Application Requirements” and for more detailed information on the requirements for acquisition of real property see the RTP Guide “Right-of-Way Phase” and “Acquisition of Property” sections.

Q. Is the construction of an equipment storage barn an eligible project?

A. The construction of trailside facilities is an eligible project category. However, all RTP projects must be open and accessible to the public. So, a private storage barn that is locked and not accessible to the public would not be eligible for RTP funding.