

Application Instructions
Fiscal Year 2026

Applications for FY 2026 Iowa DOT annual aviation grant programs are due no later than 4:00 p.m. Thursday, **May 15, 2025**. Public-owned airports are eligible to apply for vertical infrastructure and airport improvement projects. All necessary application forms can be found at: <https://iowadot.gov/aviation/airport-managers-and-sponsors/State-Funding/Airport-State-Funding-Application>.

Complete applications* that include the authorized signature of the airport sponsor should be emailed to shane.wright@iowadot.us. **No late applications** will be considered. Aviation staff will review the applications and prioritize projects based on the following criteria: airport role as identified in the 2020 Iowa Aviation System Plan, justification for the project, type of project, percent of local support, and whether the airport has multi-jurisdictional support.

A completed application package includes the following documents:

1. Funding Application Checklist and Funding Application Summary Sheet (Form 291114) – Use the checklist to ensure that all necessary information is included. The Funding Application should include current sponsor contact information, a short recap of desired projects in FY 2025 in priority order, and signature of the airports sponsor.
2. Project Data Sheet (Form 291115) – Complete one sheet for each project. Attach drawings and additional pages as needed to provide a **thorough** description and justification of the project so that the project is clearly understandable.
3. 5-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)(Form 291112) – If you already submitted a CIP with the federal pre-application, update to include requests for state funded projects.
4. Airport sponsor resolution or documentation from the sponsor that endorses the project and verifies availability of local matching funds. **Plan meetings to ensure they take place prior to the application deadline.** Reminder - Costs incurred prior to full grant execution are not eligible for reimbursement
5. Verification of planning (Airport Layout Plan for new construction, security plan for security projects, pavement maintenance program for pavement projects).
6. Verification that the city and/or county has an airport zoning ordinance. Include copy if it is not available on the airport page on the Iowa DOT website: <https://iowadot.gov/aviation/airport-information>
7. Minority Impact Statement required by 2008 Iowa Acts HF 2393.
8. Federally obligated airports are required to verify that their airport's based aircraft information has been updated and confirmed since December 1, 2024 at www.basedaircraft.com. Non-federally obligated airports must supply a list of based aircraft "N" numbers with their application.

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Airport State Funding

Application Instructions Continued

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Airport Improvement Program

Airport development projects: Eligible projects generally include planning and improvements related to enhancing airport safety, capacity, security and environmental concerns. Projects are eligible for up to 85% state share; however, local participation will be considered when prioritizing projects. Projects for new development must be shown on an airport layout plan. Examples of eligible projects:

- runway, apron and taxiway construction and rehabilitation
- airfield drainage
- airfield lighting and signing
- navigation and communication aides
- taxiways to hangar development areas
- planning such as airport layout plans (ALPs), master plans, land use and zoning, and multi-jurisdictional feasibility studies
- security related projects such as lighting and access control
- fuel facility installations and upgrades
- land acquisition
- obstruction removal (make sure your approaches are clear 20:1)
- airport entrance signage (match 50% up to \$30,000 state share)

Air Service Development: Participation in the Air Service Development (ASD) program is limited to airports designated as commercial service airports in the Iowa Aviation System Plan that are currently receiving scheduled Part 121 domestic or Part 135 commuter service. Eligible projects may be funded up to 80 percent when funding is available for the program. Applications and instructions specific to the ASD program will be e-mailed to commercial service airports at the same time as the Airport State Funding Application.

Immediate Safety Enhancements (ISE): Applications are accepted throughout the year for when timely infrastructure repairs and equipment replacement makes it impractical to wait for the annual application process for other aviation grants. Goals of the program are to keep airports safe and operational when unforeseen and unbudgeted issues arise that require immediate attention. ISE grants which are subject to funding availability and will pay for 70% of a project, up to a maximum of \$10,000. Each project application must justify an immediate need to keep the airport safe and operational. Eligible projects include repairs for immediate safety enhancement like pavement blow ups, tree or obstruction removal, pot holes, and sink holes. In some situations, the repair or replacement of certain essential communication, lighting, and navigational systems including unicom, PAPIs/VASIs, rotating beacons, windsock poles, and lighting system regulators may be eligible. Airports are encouraged to contact the Mike Marr (Airport Inspector) at 515-239-1468 or michael.marr@iowadot.us prior to obtain a full program description prior to applying. The form is available on the Aviation website: <https://iowadot.seamlessdocs.com/f/291119ImmediateSafetyEnhancementsISEApplication>

Wildlife Mitigation: Applications for funding are accepted throughout the year to provide assistance to airport sponsors in mitigating and removing wildlife from airports to reduce the potential for wildlife strikes. State share is 85% of the project costs. The form is available on the Aviation website: <https://iowadot.seamlessdocs.com/f/ApplicationforWildlifeMitigation>

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Land Use and Comprehensive Planning: If the city and county have older ordinances or do not have airport zoning, grants are available to assist sponsors in developing or updating current airport zoning ordinances. An agreement must be in place prior to planning activities taking place; however, there will be no reimbursement for costs until the new ordinance is enacted. Submit land use and zoning requests during the annual application process.

Windssocks: Windssocks are available to public use airports at any time by contacting Spencer Vaughn at 515-239-1168 or via email: spencer.vaughn@iowadot.us.

Vertical Infrastructure Program

Commercial Service Vertical Infrastructure (CSVI): Eligible projects include construction and major renovation of terminals, hangars, and maintenance buildings at commercial service airports. Applications for FY 2026 should be for specific projects that the airport will initiate in FY 2026. The form is available on the Aviation Bureau website: <https://iowadot.gov/aviation/airport-managers-and-sponsors/State-Funding/Airport-State-Funding-Application>

General Aviation Vertical Infrastructure (GAVI): Projects are eligible for up to 85% state share. Local participation will be considered when prioritizing projects. Eligible projects include construction and renovation of airport terminals, hangars, and maintenance buildings. GAVI grants are available only to general aviation airports. Routine maintenance of buildings and minor renovation projects are not eligible. Both new and rehabilitation projects will be considered each year. Include specific justification, such as a documented waiting list, with the application. The form is available on the Aviation Bureau website:

<https://iowadot.gov/aviation/airport-managers-and-sponsors/State-Funding/Airport-State-Funding-Application>

Maximum funding per project for FY 2026: new construction \$300,000 and rehabilitation \$125,000.