

Grant Award Summary

2018-19 WI DOT BOTS Seatbelt Enforcement Taskforce Grant

Grant Type: Grant Continuation

Grantor: Bureau of Transportation Safety (BOTS)

Grant Period: October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

Award Amount: \$83,600 (\$37,000 MPD, \$16,600 UWM-PD, \$30,000 Milwaukee County Sheriffs)

Match Required: 25% local match

Fiscal Agent: Milwaukee Police Department (MPD)

MPD Sub-Awardee: N/A

Allocation Purpose: Increase seatbelt enforcement in areas with low seatbelt usage through police High Visibility Enforcement (HVE).

Partners: University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Police Department (UWM-PD) and Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)

Research & Evaluation: Through the monitoring of citations, warnings, and citizen contacts, along with quarterly auditing of the crash database.

Program Goals

The intention of the seatbelt enforcement grant is to encourage extraordinary seatbelt enforcement in areas of the state with low seatbelt usage.

Programmatic Summary

Grant will allow implementation of at least one HVE deployment each month, and if using funding for overtime enforcement, must participate in deployments during the national mobilization periods: Drive Sober—Winter, Click It or Ticket National Mobilization, and Drive Sober—Labor Day. During the course of the grant campaign, a minimum of 50% of the hours of enforcement will be scheduled between 6:00 pm to 6:00 am).

A zero-tolerance approach will be applied to the following violations: Restraint violations will be the primary focus, along with an additional focus deterring persons from operating while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Data

In 2017, 46.6% of person killed and 25.9% of persons sustaining incapacitating injuries in Wisconsin crashes were not wearing seat belts. Many of these people were ejected from their vehicle. Statewide seat belt use was 89.4% in 2017; however, Wisconsin seat belt use still remains about three percentage points lower than the national average. It has been estimated that seat belt use by motor vehicle occupants in Wisconsin prevents more than 200 traffic related fatalities and more than 8,000 serious injuries annually.