RAC 101
An Introduction to the AASHTO Research Advisory Committee

AASHTO
The Voice of Transportation

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES
Welcome and Introduction, Skip Paul
The RAC Community, Cynthia Gerst
RAC Resources, Sue Sillick
Responsibilities, David Jared
Research Investments, Amy Schutzbach
Question and Answer Session
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

HAROLD "SKIP" PAUL
DIRECTOR, LTRC
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT
HAROLD.PAUL@LA.GOV
THE RAC COMMUNITY

- **RAC**
  - Established 1987
  - Each AASHTO member department
  - Appointed by member DOT CEO
  - Advisors to SCOR
  - Predominately highway-oriented

- **SCOR**
  - Unique committee structure
  - 21 voting members/affiliates
  - CEO’s and research managers

- **AASHTO**
  - CEO’s of Member DOT’s
AASHTO Regions

Region 1
Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, District of Columbia

Region 2
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Region 3
Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin

Region 4
Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming
Role of SCOR

“AASHTO’s driving force for transportation research and innovation”

- Solicit, evaluate, select NCHRP problem statements
- Encourage effective use of research funding, and recommend appropriate funding levels
- Serve as forum and advocate
- Review, monitor, and foster coordination
- Keep informed on transportation research
Background:

- Established 1987
- Advisors to SCOR
- Research Directors from each AASHTO member department
- Appointed by member DOT CEO
- Predominately highway-oriented
RAC Leadership

**Officers:**
- Chair and Vice Chair appointed by AASHTO President
- Secretary (both RAC and SCOR): Director of the TRB Cooperative Research Programs

**Leadership Team:**
- RAC Chair
- RAC Vice Chair
- Four Regional RAC Chairs
- RAC Secretary
“To promote quality and excellence in research and in the application of research findings to improve state transportation systems.”
RAC MENTORING

- RAC Secretary sends welcoming letter
- Regional chair talks to new member and assigns mentor
- Mentor/new member talk on monthly basis covering various aspects of RAC and research program administration
- Mentor assists new member in preparation for the annual summer meeting; participate together in RAC 101
- Mentor/new member provide feedback
Policies And Procedures:
- Operating Guidelines
- Each Regional RAC has its own objectives, policies and procedures, or by-laws

Meetings:
- January during TRB
- National Summer meeting
RAC Task Forces

- Administration & Education
- Coordination & Collaboration
- Program Management
- Transportation Knowledge Networks
- Value of Research
- Reauthorization (ad hoc)
- Disbanded
  - Peer Exchange
Mission/Scope:

- Recommend administrative policy to RAC Leadership Board
- Identify, investigate, and manage RAC administrative matters as directed by the RAC Leadership Board.
- Facilitate the exchange of information and experiences among RAC members, especially new RAC members, through the deployment and use of educational and training materials.
Activities/Products/Key Resources:

- RAC Operating Guidelines
- RAC 101
- Mentoring Program
- New Member Handbook
- Update SCOR/RAC Website
- State DOT Research Unit Fact Sheets
RAC Task Force – Coordination & Collaboration

Mission/Scope:
Support, encourage, develop, and monitor methods, practices, and tools that allow for better coordination and collaboration of research efforts to improve information exchange, avoid duplication of efforts, and influence a coordinated national research agenda.
Activities/Products/Key Resources:
- Research Program & Project Management (RPPM) Website ([http://rppm.transportation.org](http://rppm.transportation.org))
- Funding guidebook ([http://www.trb.org/ResearchFunding/ResearchFunding.aspx](http://www.trb.org/ResearchFunding/ResearchFunding.aspx))
- Transportation research resources guide
- Writing an Effective Research Statement webinar/written guidance/presentation
- RiP project status categories and definitions
Mission/Scope:

- Actively monitor, support, and encourage methods and practices designed to improve the management and quality of transportation research programs and projects
- Facilitate the dissemination and exchange of information and experiences related to research management and quality among RAC members
Activities/Products/Key Resources:

- Best practices: implementing NCHRP products (panel review)
- Best practices: identifying research needs (white paper)
- Guidance re: development of Research Performance Measures (RPM), Research Program & Project Management (RPPM), and Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF) websites
- Intellectual property manual (assist NCHRP panel)
Mission/Scope:

- Serve as a forum to develop the concept, understanding, and application of transportation knowledge networks for the transportation sector
- Advocate and support the rapid and efficient exchange of information resources through development of strategies and the innovative use of technology
Products & Key Resources:

- Guidance for managing information portals
- A Framework for R& D to Improve Transportation Information & Knowledge Management
- Transportation Knowledge Management
- TKN Video
- Problem statements that led to NCHRP 20-90 Improving Management of Transportation Information
RAC Task Force – Value of Research

Mission/Scope:

- Actively monitor, support, and encourage methods and practices designed to demonstrate the value of transportation research
- Facilitate dissemination and exchange of information and experiences among RAC members
- Serve as advocates of methods and practices that identify, market, maximize and convey the values of research to others
RAC TASK FORCE – VALUE OF RESEARCH

Activities/Products:

- High value research annual process, presentations, and publications
  - Research Impacts: Better, Cheaper, Faster
  - High Value Research: Sweet 16
  - TRB Annual Meeting Poster Session
  - Summer Meeting presentation
- Research makes a difference publications
- RPM website and application
- Best practices for implementing research
Contacts and Programs:

- State DOT Research branches
  - Research fact sheets
- TRB Participation by State
- Staff Listings for AASHTO, NCHRP, TRB, FHWA, and UTCs
RAC RESOURCES

SUE SILLICK
RESEARCH PROGRAMS MANAGER
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SSILLLICK@MT.GOV
RAC RESOURCES

- Website
  - New Member Handbook
  - Legislation
  - Guidelines and Tools
  - SPR Information
  - Research Manual
  - Peer Exchange Reports
  - Survey Results
- TRID & RiP

RAC 101
Welcome to the SCOR/RAC Website

This website is intended as a resource for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standing Committee on Research (SCOR) and its Research Advisory Committee (RAC).

The site has two main purposes:

- For new RAC and SCOR members, the site serves as an orientation tool, providing background information and quickly showing new members how to become full participants in committee activities.
- For all members, the site is a reference tool that documents operational procedures, membership rosters, coming events, links to other sites, and current committee activities.

2014 National RAC and TRB State Representatives Meeting
July 21-24, 2014
Meeting Information and Registration Now Available

What's New
RAC Roster Update: Removed Jacqueline Kamin (WI) (6/18/14)
Contacts and Programs

- Staff Listings and Research Programs - AASHTO, CRPs TRB, FHWA, and UTCs
- RAC/CUTC Liaison Group
- LTAP Centers
- State DOT Research Branches and Fact Sheets
- Publication/Subscription lists

SCOR/RAC WEBSITE
HTTP://RESEARCH.TRANSPORTATION.ORG
New Member Handbook

- Answers basic questions new members might have
- Provides links to additional information

SCOR/RAC WEBSITE

HTTP://RESEARCH.TRANSPORTATION.ORG
SCOR/RAC WEBSITE

HTTP://RESEARCH.TRANSPORTATION.ORG
RAC New Member Handbook

First things first...

Your agency's CEO should inform AASHTO when you are newly appointed to RAC. That makes your membership "official" and will get you onto the RAC Roster, and the regional and national listservs. You'll know your appointment has been confirmed when you receive a letter of welcome from the RAC Secretary. Shortly thereafter, your regional Chair will contact you to assign a mentor who will help familiarize you with the role, responsibilities, resources, and activities of RAC.

What is RAC and what do we do?

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) to the AASHTO Standing Committee on Research (SCOR) supports the activities of SCOR and is committed to being a proactive committee promoting quality and excellence in research and in the application of research findings to improve state transportation systems. Each AASHTO Member Department is represented on RAC.

RAC responsibilities specifically identified by SCOR include the following:

- Work with the AASHTO Member Departments to facilitate the development of research problem statements for consideration by SCOR and incorporation into the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP).
- Participate in rating NCHRP problem statements each year and provide the results to SCOR for its annual selection procedure.
- Undertake an organized program to identify ongoing and planned state-controlled research being sponsored by Member Departments.
- Provide advice and recommendations on transportation research matters to SCOR.
- Serve as a resource to Member Department research managers regarding the conduct of research and technology transfer activities.
- Be an advocate for transportation research by promoting the value of research, the implementation of research results, the transfer of new technologies, and the benefits of peer exchanges.

Aside from their activities on a national level, RAC members usually work closely with other members in the same AASHTO region on issues affecting them directly.

The business of RAC is guided by a set of operating guidelines.
Aside from their activities on a national level, RAC members usually work closely with other members in the same AASHTO region on issues affecting them directly. The business of RAC is guided by a set of operating guidelines.

**Back in the day…**

The concept of RAC was developed during a meeting of the Task Force on AASHTO Organization which met during the summer of 1987. Shortly following this meeting, at its 1987 Annual Meeting, AASHTO established the Standing Committee on Research (SCOR) to replace the then operating Select Committee on Research. A feature of the new SCOR was the charge:

"The Standing Committee shall also have a Research Advisory Committee, and each Member Department shall be entitled to representation thereon. The President of the Association shall designate a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Research Advisory Committee."

Considering SCOR was organized to have representatives from 16 Member Departments, and not all 52, the creation of RAC provided a forum for representatives of research activities from all Member Departments.

In creating RAC, it was AASHTO’s intention to have RAC facilitate SCOR’s work.

**How does RAC work?**

RAC is governed by a leadership board comprised of the national and regional chairs and vice chairs, as well as ex officio members from TRB, AASHTO, FHWA, RITA and other key stakeholder groups. The RAC leadership board conducts the daily business of RAC.

Much of the volunteer work of RAC takes place within its task forces. The task forces were formed in the summer of 2006 in order to divide RAC’s efforts among a number of topic areas. The current structure includes task forces dealing with:

- RAC Administration
- Value of Research
- Research Funding
- Research Coordination and Collaboration
- Program Management and Quality
- Future Needs
- Peer Exchange
- Transportation Knowledge Networks

The activities and accomplishments of the task forces are reported regularly on the website. Each AASHTO region is represented on every task force.

**When does RAC Meet?**

RAC meets twice a year as a full committee. A three hour meeting during the TRB annual meeting provides an opportunity to report out on its activities and current issues. A longer (typically four days) meeting takes place in the summer, hosted by one of the four RAC regions in rotating order.

In addition to the full meetings, RAC members also hold regular conference calls with others in their respective regions, as well as check-in calls to preface meetings. Each RAC member is an important part of the whole.
Straining the alphabet soup – who are all these guys?

If you are new to transportation research, you may well be getting overwhelmed by the number of acronyms and abbreviations you are faced with. Don’t worry – this will become second nature in no time. In the meantime, check out the list of acronyms on the site. Also, take a look at this chart of Research Organization Relationships.

Some of the most common entities you’ll be dealing with are as follows:

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) is the parent organization of RAC. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association representing highway and transportation departments in the United States. Its primary goal is to foster the development, operation, and maintenance of an integrated national transportation system.

The Transportation Research Board (TRB), like AASHTO, is a not-for-profit association, not a government branch. Unlike AASHTO, its members include private sector and academia, as well as public sector members. The mission of TRB is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. TRB provides an extensive portfolio of services for inclusion, exchange and current transportation research and practice, management of cooperative research and other research programs, analyses of national transportation policy issues and guidance on federal and other research programs, and publications and access to research information from around the world. TRB is one of six major divisions of the National Research Council, which serves as an independent adviser to the federal government and others on scientific and technical questions of national importance. The NRC is the operating arm of the National Academies comprised of the National Academy of Science, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine.

TRB is composed of five divisions of which Technical Activities, Cooperative Research Programs and Strategic Highway Research Program 2 should hold the most interest for RAC members.

The Technical Activities division supports over 200 technical committees composed of volunteer transportation professionals. These committees are responsible for technology transfer activities and the development of research needs. The most visible activity of this division is the TRB Annual Meeting, usually held the second week of January each year.

The Cooperative Research Programs division currently administers five cooperative programs. The National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) is of considerable interest and importance to RAC members. NCHRP is AASHTO’s research program. It is funded by a 5.5% take down of the 2% S&P funding. Additionally, there are cooperative programs in transit, airports, freight and hazardous materials funded through other mechanisms.

The second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2) was authorized by Congress in 2005 to investigate the underlying causes of highway crashes and congestion in a short-term program of focused research. To carry out that investigation, SHRP 2 targets goals in four interrelated focus areas: safety, renewal, reliability, and capacity. The legislation directed that TRB administer this program.

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is the major agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). FHWA is charged with the broad responsibility of ensuring that America’s roads and highways continue to be the safest and most technologically up-to-date. Although State, local, and tribal governments own most of the Nation’s highways, FHWA provides financial and technical support to them for constructing, improving, and preserving America’s highway system.

University Transportation Centers (UTCs) were initiated in 1987 under the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act and continued in subsequent legislation. More than 60 centers are currently funded to improve transportation research and education in the US and to strengthen the country’s competitiveness in the
What are my responsibilities as a RAC member?

Once you get settled in as a RAC member, you will be able to contribute to the body of knowledge and help RAC achieve its mission and goals.

As RAC member, you are responsible for submitting information about your DOT's research work to the TRID and Research in Progress databases.

One of the main benefits of RAC membership is being able to help steer the nation’s research agenda through participation in national research programs such as the NCHRP. You can submit problem statements, provide review comments and rankings on all problem statements submitted, and serve on project panels to help guide the work.

If you receive a survey through the RAC listserv, please take the time to have it completed by the right people in your DOT.

To really help with the day to day work of RAC, consider joining one of the task forces as a member or friend.

Are you also the TRB State Representative?

More than 80% of RAC members are also their agency’s official TRB State Representative. A set of guides and resources for TRB State Representatives is available on the TRB Website.

I’ve got a lot more questions...

First, take a look at the Frequently Asked Questions on this website.

View the RAC 101 PowerPoint presentation.

The listserv is a great way to contact all RAC members.

Many RAC members use the listserv frequently to survey the current state of practice in a given subject area. The results will be posted on the website for others to benefit.

Always feel free to contact another RAC member in a nearby state or across the country. You’ll find everyone is willing to help.

In closing...

We hope this brief introduction to RAC was helpful to you. Please feel free to contact the Webmaster or the RAC Secretary if we can be of any further assistance to you.
Resources for Research Managers

- Legislation and Regulation
- Guidelines and Tools
- SPR Information
- Research Manual
- Model Calendar
SCOR/RAC WEBSITE

HTTP://RESEARCH.TRANSPORTATION.ORG

Resources for Research Managers

ıld. Funding Guidebook

Funding Sources for Transportation Research: Competitive Programs

Transportation research needs are broad, cutting across modes, geographic levels, and types of research. The organizations conducting transportation research need funding support. While there is considerable strength in this diversity, it can be difficult to navigate through these programs. Where can I find funding?

Do I find the cutting-edge research products?

To help the transportation community access research programs more efficiently, the TRB Conduct of Research Committee, the AASHTO Research Committee, and professionals from across the country worked together to produce Funding Sources for Transportation Research: Competitive Programs. The first edition was released in 2008. It will be updated regularly with:

- Additional research programs
- Information and updates for the existing programs, and
- Tips and advice.

This document provides information on research programs to help you find the resources you need. For each program you will find:

- A general description
- The type of research funded
- Project funding levels
- Typical project duration
- Program schedule
- Project solicitation and submission process
- Selection process and criteria
- Tips for writing winning research statements, and
- Web address and contact information.

The document contains several other chapters to help you navigate transportation resources and programs.

WHICH PROGRAM FITS YOUR NEED?
Research characteristics such as mode or topic help identify which research programs would be the best fit for a research problem statement.

WRITING A GOOD PROBLEM STATEMENT

SCOR  RAC

RAC 101
SCOR/RAC WEBSITE

HTTP://RESEARCH.TRANSPORTATION.ORG

Resources for Research Managers

diamond Value of Research

Montana Dashboard

HIGH VALUE RESEARCH

Try the PM Wizard for recommendations or change your existing selections.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Tell us about your annual program.

ANNUAL PROGRAM

PROJECTS

View your recent projects or import projects. Not sure where to enter data?
Peer Exchanges
RAC Survey Results
FAQs
Information for State TRB Reps

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
Where can I find...
- A list of SCOR or RAC Members
- Meeting Notes for National RAC
- Meeting Notes for Regional RAC
- Contacts in other research programs and organizations
- Pooled Fund program information
- Current NCHRP projects
- Reports of peer exchanges by various states
- Results of RAC Surveys
- TRB Publications
- Websites of other DOT research branches
- Guidelines on conducting a peer exchange
- RAC Bylaws and Operating Guidelines
- Completed research publications and research in progress
- Dates of upcoming SCOR/RAC meetings
- Organization chart for FHWA
- Glossary of Acronyms and Abbreviations for transportation research programs and organizations
- NCHRP's Domestic Scan Program
- NCHRP's International Scan Program

What to do when? A model calendar for DOT research managers.
What is the State Planning and Research program and how can I use SPR funds?
What are TRB state reps and what do they do?
What are UTCs? UTC Overview and Lab Facilities
Where are all the UTCs located?
How can I get funding for my research idea?
What can I use the RAC Listserv for? Listserv Etiquette Guidelines

How do DOT Research Managers submit AASHTO_RAC survey results for posting to the AASHTO_RAC website?
Send an e-mail to Natasha Linzau (nlinzau@nas.edu) with the following information:
- Title of survey
- One or two paragraphs describing the survey, including when survey was conducted (Month, Day, Year)
- An attached file with survey results (MS Word or Excel spreadsheet or PDF)
- Your contact information

Who else in my DOT is involved in TRB activities?
What federal legislation and regulations do I need to know about?
SCOR/RAC Website

HTTP://RESEARCH.TRANSPORTATION.ORG

Welcome to the SCOR/RAC Website

This website is intended as a resource for the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Standing Committee on Research (SCOR) and its Research Advisory Committee (RAC).

The site has two main purposes:

- For new RAC and SCOR members, the site serves as an orientation tool, providing background information and quickly showing new members how to become full participants in committee activities.
- For all members, the site is a reference tool that documents operational procedures, membership rosters, coming events, links to other sites, and current committee activities.

2014 National RAC and TRB State Representatives Meeting
July 21-24, 2014

Meeting Information and Registration Now Available

NEW TO RAC? START HERE

Peer Exchanges

RAC Surveys

RAC 101
Peer Exchanges

Peer exchanges, as required under 23 CFR, Section 420.207(b) are a practical and effective tool to foster excellence in R&T program management. They provide an opportunity for participants to share best practices and management innovations through an open exchange of ideas, knowledge, and brainstorming. Both staff and management from the home State and a group of invited top-level State and Federal managers exchange information particularly relevant to the home State’s R&T program over 2 to 4 days.

Peer Exchange Reports Topics
How to Search the Peer Exchange Reports
Peer Exchange Reports

Guidance
FHWA’s SP&R Guide for Peer Exchanges (June 2010)

Additional Guidance
FHWA Peer Exchange Training Program
2005 Revised Presentation--Peer Exchange.ppt
Documenting Peer Exchange Administrative Experiences (1998)
Peer Exchange Special Task Force Recommendations to FHWA
Peer Exchange Special Task Force Survey Results
SCOR/RAC Website – Peer Exchanges

http://research.transportation.org
Peer Exchange Reports Topics

To assist with the categorization of the Peer Exchange Reports, we have developed the following list of possible topics for these reports. The intent of creating these topic categories was to improve the findability of relevant reports within the Peer Exchange Reports database. This list may not be all-inclusive, but its purpose is to provide a standardized way to group existing and future reports to facilitate information sharing among agencies involved in transportation research management.

1. Research Project and Program Management (Scope Note: Use this topic category if a peer exchange was general and covered the entire research program or where program and/or project management was specifically listed as an objective).
2. Alignment of the Research Function with Departmental Missions and Goals (Scope Note: Includes the concepts of policy research and strategic planning).
4. Research Collaboration and Partnerships (Scope Note: Includes research with UTCs, pooled fund projects, participation in national programs, and research funding strategies).
5. Optimizing the Value and Quality of Research (Scope Note: Includes development, solicitation, review, and prioritization of research ideas, forming advisory panels, project and contract management, dealing with principal investigators, quality of reporting).
6. Implementation/Deployment of Results/Technology Transfer.
7. Information and Knowledge Management (Scope Note: Includes libraries, information databases, Transportation Knowledge Networks).
8. Research Performance Measures and Communicating the Value of Research Projects and Programs (Scope Note: Includes both internal and external outreach and marketing).
Sharing your Peer Exchange Experience:

◊ Post your Peer Exchange Report on the SCOR/RAC Website:

http://research.transportation.org/Pages/PeerExchangeReports.aspx
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH INFORMATION DATABASE (TRID)

- World's largest and most comprehensive bibliographic resource on transportation information (1,000,000+ records; 110,000+ with links to full-text documents)
- Essential resource for solving problems, avoiding duplication, and building on existing research
- RAC members can submit reports on-line for posting in TRID
RESEARCH IN PROGRESS (RiP) DATABASE

- 12,000+ records
- State DOTs, U.S. DOT, and UTCs can add, modify, and delete info on current research projects
- Now includes international research
- RAC members can submit and search information online

“RAC input to TRID & RIP is vital”
Research In Progress (RiP) Database

The Research in Progress website allows users to:
- Search the entire Research in Progress database by various fields
- Browse project records by subject category
- Use a lookup for searching by index terms, individuals, organizations or location
- Subscribe to receive e-mail notification of new RiP records in specific subject areas

Authorized individuals can also:
- Add, modify, and delete RiP records
- Import file for batch load

Recent Projects by Mode or Topic
- Aviation
- Design & Construction
- Policy & Organization
RESPONSIBILITIES

DAVID JARED
CHIEF, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DJARED@DOT.GA.GOV
RAC Member Responsibilities

For every man shall bear his own burden. --St. Paul (Galatians 6:5)

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life. --Confucius
MAJOR MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Collect and disseminate information on active and completed research
- Assist AASHTO-SCOR in developing annual NCHRP
- Conduct peer exchanges on best practices for research management
- Demonstrate value of research
COLLECT AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION ON ACTIVE AND COMPLETED RESEARCH

- Transportation Research International Documentation (TRID)
- Research in Progress (RiP) Database
- FHWA report distribution guidelines
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTATION (TRID)

TRID is a newly integrated database that combines the records from TRB's Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS) Database and the OECD's Joint Transport Research Centre's International Transport Research Documentation (ITRD) Database. TRID provides access to over 900,000 records of transportation research worldwide.

View a presentation on how to use the TRID Database

Search

Enter search terms below or click Advanced Search for more options.

Keywords

In TRID

Exclude research in progress

Languages English German French Spanish

Recent Records by Mode

Aviation
Highway
Marine Transportation
Motor Carriers
Pedestrians and Bicyclists

SCOR RAC RAC 101
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTATION (TRID)
Research in Progress

The Research in Progress website allows users to:
- Search the entire Research in Progress database by various fields
- Browse project records by subject category
- Use a look up for searching by index terms, individuals, organizations or location
- Subscribe to receive e-mail notification of new RiP records in specific subject areas

Authorized individuals can also:
- Add, modify, and delete RiP records
- Import file for batch load

About RiP

The Transportation Research Board's Research in Progress (RiP) website contains the Research In Progress (RiP) Database and a data-entry system to allow users in State Departments of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Transportation, University Transportation Centers and other US DOT funded universities to add, modify and delete information on their current research projects. The RiP database now contains over 8400 current or recently completed transportation research projects. Most of the RiP records are projects funded by Federal and State Departments of Transportation. University transportation research is also included. The RiP database now serves as a clearinghouse of University Transportation Centers ongoing research. International research is also represented where possible.
 FHWA REPORT DISTRIBUTION GUIDELINES

- Standard federal/national recipients
  - FHWA Research Librarian
  - Office of Corporate Research, Technology, and Innovation Management
  - National Transportation Library
  - National Technical Information Service
  - TRID
  - Volpe National Transportation Systems Center
  - Transportation Library, Northwestern University
  - TRI-NET Repository, Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley
Only e-format required (one paper copy is acceptable)

In-state recipients (e.g. FHWA division; academic libraries)

Format requirements may vary from federal/national
ASSIST AASHTO-SCOR IN DEVELOPING ANNUAL NCHRP

- Developing and reviewing problem statements
- Nominating and serving as panel members
- Providing State Planning & Research funding
RESEARCH PEER EXCHANGE RESOURCES

◊ FHWA Guidelines

◊ Peer Exchange Reports
http://research.transportation.org/Pages/PeerExchangeReports.aspx
DEMONSTRATE VALUE OF RESEARCH

- Value of Research Task Force
  - Leads RAC’s collective effort to demonstrate value of research
  - High value research annual process, presentations, and publications
  - Research Makes a Difference publications
  - RPM website and application
  - Best practices for implementing research

- Opportunities
RESEARCH INVESTMENTS

AMY M. SCHUTZBACH
ENGINEER OF PHYSICAL RESEARCH
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

AMY.SCHUTZBACH@ILLINOIS.GOV
RESEARCH FUNDING SOURCES

- State
  - State Planning and Research Funds = 2% set aside
  - Differing amounts per state; same percentage
  - 75% (max) = Part 1, Planning
  - 25% (min) = Part 2, Research

- Federal
Money doesn’t grow on trees....

- Regulations are covered in 23 CFR 420
  - Annual Work Program
  - Management process
  - Performance/expenditure reports
Allowable Uses of SPR Funding

- State Research Programs
  - Targeted to address specific needs of state
ALLOWABLE USES OF SPR FUNDING

Travel

- FHWA Guidelines exist -
- Travel/training for an employee may be billed to SPR funds IF
  - It is necessary
  - Cost is reasonable
ALLOWABLE USES OF SPR FUNDING

TRB Divisions

Technical Activities

STUDIES & SPECIAL PROGRAMS

COORDINATING TRANSPORTATION POLICY CHOICES

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMS

NCHRP
TCRP
ACRP
NRCRP
HMCRP
NFCRP

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

NCHRP
TCRP
ACRP
NRCRP
HMCRP
NFCRP

SHRP2

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES
Facilitates collaboration
Promotes development and implementation of innovations
Both tangible & intangible benefits
Budget prorated to states based on federal SPR share
NATIONAL COOPERATIVE HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM

- NCHRP conducts national research in problem areas that affect state DOTs
- States are able to leverage their funding
STRATEGIC HIGHWAY RESEARCH PROGRAM 2

✧ MAP-21 allows SPR funding to be used to fund SHRP2 implementation
✧ States contributed in FY 2013 and FY 2014
**Peer Exchanges**

- Tool to foster excellence in program management
- Allows for BMP and management innovations to be shared
- Eligible for 100% SPR funding
AASHTO Technical Services Programs

- Technology Implementation Group (TIG)
- Snow and Ice Cooperative Program (SICOP)
- Equipment Management Technical Services Program (EMTSP) (Formerly Advance Equipment Technology Operations, AETO)
- National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP)
- AASHTO Product Evaluation Listing (APEL)
- Highway Safety Policy and Management (formerly Safe, Reliable, and Secure Transportation Operations)
- Technical Service Program to Develop AASHTO Materials Standards (DAMS)
- Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) Bridges and Structures Specification Maintenance (LRFDSM)
- Transportation System Preservation (TSP²)
AASHTO Technical Services Programs

- AASHTO Materials Reference Laboratory (AMRL)
- Environmental Technical Assistance Program (ETAP)
- Sustainable Transportation: Energy, Infrastructure, and Climate Solutions (STEICS) (formerly Climate Change Technical Assistance Program (CCTAP))
- Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP)
- AASHTOWare development activities
  - AASHTOWare Bridge Management (formerly Pontis) 5.2
  - AASHTOWare Project Estimation (formerly Trns•port Estimator)
  - AASHTOWare Project Construction–Materials (replacing Trns•port SiteManager)
AASHTO Technical Services Programs

- AASHTO TSPs **NOT** eligible for SPR
  - Licensing of AASHTOWare products (*SPR is eligible for development activities within this program*)
  - Transportation and Civil Engineering (TRAC) and RIDES

- AASHTO TSPs - SPR Eligibility Not Requested
  - AASHTO Rail Resource Center
  - Multi-State Technical Assistance Program (MTAP)
  - National Operations Center of Excellence (NOCoE)
  - Transportation Curriculum Coordination Council (TC3)
University Transportation Centers

- UTC Program created in 1987
- Managed by US DOT’s Office OST/R
- UTC must obtain match
  - SPR & LTAP funding are eligible sources
TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM

- An AASHTO program administered by FHWA
- Allows interested agencies to partner on studies of mutual interest
- Sponsored/led by either a State DOT or the FHWA
- Contributors/participants may include:
  - State DOTs, FHWA, municipalities, metropolitan planning organizations, college/university, or a private company
- TPF study must be documented in the State’s work program
- May be eligible for up to 100% SPR funding
Found at: http://www.pooledfund.org/

Provides TPF program and project management guidance ranging from

- Project solicitation to close out

The target audience

- Federal and State TPF project managers and financial managers
TPF Website Highlights

The TPF website includes:

- Program news and updates
- Place to solicit partners for new studies
- Place for committing funds
- Database for storing records of solicitations, commitments, and studies
- Place to report progress of ongoing studies

http://www.pooledfund.org/
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS