

# 2015 NAPT/Zonar Grant Opportunity

## **Announcement and Introduction:**

The National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT) and Zonar Systems, Inc. are pleased to announce jointly sponsoring a \$50,000 grant opportunity that supports and promotes the improved safety, effectiveness and efficiency of pupil transportation programs in the United States and Canada. This grant provides best practice, fleet management technology including but not limited to, Electronic Vehicle Inspection Reporting (EVIR), Global Position System (GPS), Real Time Engine Diagnostic Reporting (J3), Student Tracking (Z Pass), and Ground Traffic Control (GTC) web based software to any school system providing pupil transportation services. This will enable another school transportation systems in the United States or Canada to utilize Zonar's industry leading proprietary inspect, track, and know technology that provides information to effectively manage school bus operations.

## **The Grant Sponsors:**

NAPT and Zonar Systems, Inc., are committed to supporting safety initiatives in student transportation. Further, the sponsors recognize the challenges that school systems encounter in their efforts to obtain the financial resources necessary to acquire and implement leading edge technology systems despite the payback opportunity in reducing costs and improving student safety.

NAPT will accept and evaluate applications from NAPT members for awards of up to \$50,000 worth of equipment/hardware provided by Zonar Systems, Inc. In 2011 through 2014, Zonar awarded dozens of these grants to NAPT members. Zonar will determine the number of 2015 grant recipients after reviewing the applications.

## **Purpose - The Grant Award includes:**

Zonar's patented Electronic Vehicle Inspection Reporting (EVIR) system (including asset and zone tags to verify the completion of pre-trip, post-trip, child check and security sweep inspections), Zonar's cellular High Definition GPS system, J3 Engine Diagnostic module, Zonar's Z Pass Student Tracking system, and GTC software. This important grant will allow a school system to acquire the equipment/hardware necessary to utilize and provide a school system the "Inspect, Track and Know" tools that are quickly becoming best practice in North America.

## **The Value and Impact:**

This \$50,000 capital acquisition grant will equip school buses with the component hardware parts necessary to drive the benefits of Zonar's patented and highly acclaimed Electronic Vehicle Inspection Reporting (EVIR), cellular based High Definition GPS, J3 Engine Diagnostics, Student Tracking (Z Pass) and Ground Traffic Control systems. Your Pre-Trip, Post Trip, Security Sweeps and Child Check inspections will be better managed, performed and verified in a paper free "now" and web-based online environment. Numerous key operational route performance issues from idling, engine fault codes and speeds, to time management and location variations will be right at your fingertips. And so much more.

**Eligibility:**

To be considered for this Grant Award, the school system must be a current NAPT member at the time the application is submitted. School systems currently using another company's technology that want to upgrade to Zonar's are also encouraged to apply. Applications will be considered that include matching funds to expand the program beyond the limit of this grant.

Applicants must document their ability to pay for the ongoing monthly service fee that includes all costs for the cellular transmission of the real-time data, hosting of all inspection and GPS data, unlimited access to the web-based application Ground Traffic Control™ for accessing GPS and inspection reports, and 24/7 telephone and online support. The monthly service fee for GPS and Electronic Vehicle Inspection Report (EVIR) is estimated to be \$23.00 per month per vehicle.

**Application Requirements:**

All grant applications are to be submitted in printed and electronic format (Microsoft Word or PDF) to the National Association for Pupil Transportation. Applications are to be mailed and addressed to:

**NAPT**

**Zonar Grant Application**

**1840 Western Avenue**

**Albany, NY 12203**

**info@napt.org**

**Please include your NAPT membership number on the cover of the application.**

Applications for this Grant Award will not be returned and will become the property of NAPT and Zonar Systems, Inc. The application must provide a complete description of the school system's operations covered by the Grant Award.

**Grant Application Format:**

**A. In General:** There is no specific format or application template to be used for your grant application. This "open" ended method permits a more free flowing dialogue on your part about your school transportation operations and objectives. However, there are required specifics and additional suggested content items that should be considered for inclusion in your application. Discuss and include topics and supporting documents that you consider important to this mission.

**B. Required Specifics:**

- School System or School District name
- State or Province,
- Principal place of business,
- Contact name  
Email addresses, phone numbers
- Number of buses

- Number of routes
- Annual school bus miles
- Number of students transported
- Annual Transportation Operation Expenditures

### **C. Suggested Content & Discussion Items:**

#### **1. Data Items**

- Number of A, B, C, and D Type Buses
- Number of district owned buses
- Number of contractor owned/provided buses (if any)
- Five Years: Expenses, miles, accidents, preventable accidents, # of transported students
- Five Years: Number of special needs students transported for IEP services
- Bus fleet average age
- Percent of buses over 15 years of age

#### **2. Discussion Items:**

- Current inspection records management process
- Current child check system
- Current methods for assessing bus driver hours
- Current automated routing system, if any.
- How will Zonar help you achieve and enhance your goals?
- Discuss district policy requirements or changes to current policy, if any, necessary to implement power of this technology
- Discuss financial authorization and budget timing sequencing necessary to support School System or School District grantee annual fees estimated at between \$15 And \$30 per bus per month depending on hardware and services selected and initial equipment installment expenses estimated at \$125.00 per unit if the installation is not being done by school staff.
- Additional items as the applicant determines.

#### **3. Required Signatures:**

- The Transportation Director
- The Chief Financial Officer/Business Manager or Purchasing Officer
- School Superintendent

#### **Selection Process:**

The NAPT Board of Directors will determine the valid NAPT membership status to qualify as a recipient of this Grant Award. NAPT will collect the submitted proposals and forward the applications that meet NAPT membership criteria to Zonar for award consideration. Their selection is final and there are no provisions for protesting the selection.

**Getting Started:**

Not an NAPT member? Go to [www.napt.org](http://www.napt.org) and discover other membership benefits available to your school system or school district in addition to being able to participate in the

**Grant Award Process:**

Recipients will be awarded Grants on an ongoing basis from July through October. Recipients will not need to wait until the NAPT Summit to receive the granted hardware before installing/implementing the system and getting started on reaping the benefits of this technology. All recipients that have been awarded grants throughout the year during 2015 will be recognized at the Summit.

**Timelines:**

Grant Opportunity Announced	July 21, 2015
Application Submission Period	Any time before October 2, 2015
Recipients Selected	Ongoing through October 16, 2015
Recipients Announced & Presented	At NAPT Summit in Richmond, VA - November 2015

Questions about any portions of the grant requirements can be directed to H. Kevin Mest at: [kevin.mest@zonarsystems.com](mailto:kevin.mest@zonarsystems.com).