



IPD Academy: An Introduction



THE OFFICE of Innovative Program Delivery (IPD) equips decisionmakers and practitioners with the tools and knowledge they need to explore and implement innovative strategies to deliver transportation programs and projects. Innovation can help overcome resource constraints, address energy and environmental considerations, and promote efficiencies in program delivery.

Successful accomplishment of IPD's mission demands a knowledgeable and confident U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) workforce who can effectively engage with its State and local partners on these topics. In addition, expertise in the new strategies will help its professional staff members integrate IPD strategies into their specific disciplines and focus areas. IPD established the IPD Academy to build capacity within USDOT, the Federal Highway Administration, and other stakeholders.



Virginia's Capital Beltway Project used a number of IPD innovations.

These professional development opportunities not only support individual career aspirations, but also help form IPD champions within USDOT—staff members who are comfortable suggesting new ways of delivering the surface transportation program to their State and local partners.

The IPD Academy began its operation by offering select courses through its partnership with the National Highway Institute. To date, it has provided 12 introductory courses and 6 advanced courses via several dozen 2-hour Webinar sessions.

IPD delivers training to State and local transportation agencies through its Division offices and in collaboration with the AASHTO Center for Excellence in Project Finance. ■

Since its creation in 2009, the IPD Academy has delivered over 140 Webinars, registering over 27,000 participants with students from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. These courses have covered a wide range of innovative program delivery topics, including public-private partnerships (P3s), project finance tools, GARVEE and SIB stewardship, TIFIA, congestion pricing, cost estimate reviews, financial plans, and project management plans.

The Academy provides a growing selection of courses and curricula in the area of innovative program delivery. These courses are offered via Webinars and may also be combined to suit the unique requirements of USDOT's field offices. In addition, the Academy offers rotational assignments, as well as opportunities to serve in a speakers bureau, and provides expert assistance on special IPD projects for employees who have built their expertise and can serve as a resource to others.

In FY2013, IPD developed a series of P3 training sessions for interested State, regional, and local government officials. The training provides information and tools for government officials to understand how to develop and evaluate potential P3 proposals and can be tailored to an audience's specific needs. For more information, please visit the IPD P3 Toolkit page at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ipd/p3/toolkit/>.



IPD ACADEMY

Quick Facts

- ▶ Training through Webinars, on-demand courses, and tailored workshops.
- ▶ Professional development opportunities.
- ▶ Officially open in December 2009.

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