Transportation Planning Professional Plus (TPP+) is an innovative training program that teaches skills demanded by employers but not normally taught in traditional planning programs or gained through internships. TPP+ courses are modular, stackable credentials that allow students the freedom to develop their own program. To ensure that planners hit the ground running, TPP+ leverages capstone project-based learning and multi-disciplinary teams where students work together to develop their skillsets.

Hosted through LBSU’s College of Professional & International Education (CPIE) and the Center for International Trade and Transportation, students earn American Planning Association (APA) continuing education credits as part of this on-going program of professional development.

Transportation planners today are in need of a broad range of cross-disciplinary skills. Skills that allow for communicating with diverse groups using the latest technology, for securing grant-based funding and for marketing the Plan.
Phase 1: Assemble a competency steering committee that includes academic program advisors from APA-accredited college planning programs, representatives from the APA Transportation Planning Division and its local chapters, and industry leaders, to determine critical planning professional competencies.

Phase 2: Pilot first TPP+ competency module to establish a framework for a successful program. The non-credit pilot course will be deployed to serve as a co-curricular enhancement for students and working professionals in planning occupations. This pilot will include intake and concluding surveys to inform future scaling efforts.

Phase 3: Scale TPP+ by establishing and marketing a set of corresponding credentials. Once credentials are in place, establish credit for prior learning articulation agreements with local colleges. These modules could become extensions to other community colleges and universities to expand the career pathway.

Program Outcomes

- Industry Needs Assessment
- Competency Steering Committee
- New Curriculum Development
- 6 Stackable Training Modules
- Roadmap for Catalog of Courses
- Pilot 10 Students/Professionals
- Longitudinal Career Tracking
- Continuing Education Credit
- Professional TPP+ Credential
- Bragging rights at the office

*This material is based upon work supported by the Federal Highway Administration under Agreement No. DTFH6116H00030. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the Author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Federal Highway Administration.*