Background

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is launching a new online application to collect information from FTA recipients and subrecipients on the impacts of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). FTA will use information submitted through the application to inform FTA actions in support of the transit industry’s COVID-19 recovery efforts and implementation of the federal mask requirement for public transportation. This collection of information is covered by OMB Control Number 2132-0581.

FTA requires recipients of Section 5311 grant funding to provide regular updates on the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on their applicable subrecipients. Using FTA’s new online application, Section 5311 recipients will provide monthly updates on behalf of these subrecipients.

The COVID-19 Online Application

Applicable users will access the COVID-19 online application through the Transit Integrated Appian Platform, the platform that hosts the National Transit Database, using their existing login credentials.

When accessing the online application for the first time, Section 5311 recipient users will see all their applicable subrecipients in the system. Section 5311 recipient users will then submit forms for each subrecipient transit agency: a Baseline Form and monthly Recurring Forms.

Baseline Form

The Baseline Form collects information on service reductions and suspensions between March 13, 2020, and February 28, 2021. Section 5311 recipient users will complete a single Baseline Form for each subrecipient transit agency.

Recurring Form

The Recurring Form collects cumulative data from the previous month for each applicable subrecipient on the following:

- Transit Workforce: Number of transit operators, other frontline essential personnel, and other workers.
- Service Impacts: Agency’s operation status (dropdown menu).
- COVID-19 Data:
  - Cumulative counts of transit worker COVID-19 positives, fatalities, recoveries, and unvaccinated employees.
  - Yes or no responses on whether the agency is requiring workers to be vaccinated and whether the agency has implemented the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Order and Transportation Security Administration Security Directive, which require workers and passengers to wear masks on public transit.
- Vaccine Access: Yes or no responses on whether the agency has used FTA funds to support vaccine access for transit workers or the public through activities such as free or reduced fare rides to COVID-19 vaccinations, facilities, or other assets used as vaccination sites, etc. If users select “yes,” they will be prompted to identify the FTA funding used to support vaccine access and the kinds of vaccine access services provided by the agency.

Section 5311 recipient users will fill out one Recurring Form for each subrecipient every month. Each successive Recurring Form will pre-populate the previous form’s data for convenience. Recurring Forms are due on the 15th of the following month (or the next business day if the 15th falls on a weekend).

Technical Assistance

Visit FTA’s Transit COVID-19 Response Program Information Collection website to sign up for future webinars, view recordings of previous webinars, and access more information.

Questions about the Transit COVID-19 Response Program?

Contact FTA’s Office of Transit Safety and Oversight at FTASystemSafety@dot.gov