



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



PTASP TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
CENTER

PTASP TAC Update Week of November 22, 2021

Learn. Share. Engage.

This issue of the PTASP TAC Update focuses on recent questions from transit agencies about the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation ([49 CFR Part 673](#)).

Featured Resources

[The Agency Safety Plan \(ASP\) Review Process](#) offers an example of how an agency might choose to review their ASP. (This article originally appeared in the April 2021 *TSO Spotlight*.)

Carrying Out the Annual ASP Review (April 29, 2021):
[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#)

The article [Monitoring Compliance and Sufficiency of Operations and Maintenance Procedures](#) provides information on the PTASP requirements for compliance monitoring.

Compliance Monitoring Webinar (September 16, 2020):
[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#)

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's [PTASP TAC website](#).

Q & A Highlights

Question 1:

Does the requirement to annually review and update the ASP begin with the original effective date of July 20, 2020 or the new enforcement date of July 20, 2021?

FTA Response:

The PTASP regulation requires that a transit agency establish a process and timeline for conducting an annual review of its ASP ([§ 673.11\(a\)\(5\)](#)). FTA guidance notes that this review can occur anytime within the year after the ASP was approved.



Complete the Transit Industry Surveys by November 24

These surveys will help inform the services and support FTA offers regarding the PTASP regulation.

[Survey for transit agencies & States](#)

[Survey for State Safety Oversight Agencies](#)

Upcoming Webinar

Using the National Transit Database to Support Safety Analysis in an SMS

When: Thursday, January 6,
1-2:30 p.m. EST

[Register Here](#)

Need Assistance?

Contact the PTASP Technical Assistance Center (TAC) to speak with a specialist today!



PTASP-TAC@dot.gov



1-877 PTASP-AID
1 (877) 827-7243

9 a.m. to 8 p.m. EST, M-F



Contact the TAC for **one-on-one technical sessions** for ASP support.



Also, the annual certification requirement ([§ 673.13\(b\)](#)) is not dependent on when an agency conducts its ASP review each year. Agencies can complete this certification any time before the Transit Award Management System (TrAMS) closes out for the current FTA fiscal year.

Question 2:

Our agency is incorporating our external service providers into our contracts so that they are required to comply with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 673 (Part 673). Per the recommendations that I received, a contractor must comply for the modes of service that they operate. However, in the sample ASP, only paratransit service providers are listed. Our vanpool contractor does not fall under a paratransit service. Are they still required to comply with Part 673?

FTA Response:

FTA's sample ASPs are examples of how transit agencies may address the PTASP regulation requirements and are not intended to reflect all modes of service provided by transit agencies (directly operated or contracted).

Your agency's ASP must address all the public transportation services your agency provides (directly operated and contracted [purchased transportation]). This includes the vanpool transit mode. Per [§ 673.11\(b\)](#), a transit agency may develop one ASP for all modes of service, or it may develop an ASP for each mode of service.

Question 3:

Can a recipient use Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to cover the costs of plan development?

FTA Response:

Since transit agencies and States may use FTA's Urbanized Area Formula funds under Section 5307 to assist with the development of ASPs, they may also use CARES Act funds for this purpose. As stated in the [Frequently Asked Questions from FTA Grantees Regarding COVID-19](#), all expenses normally eligible under Section 5307 are eligible under the CARES Act.

Please note that the receipt of CARES Act funds does not trigger PTASP regulation applicability. The PTASP regulation applies to recipients and subrecipients that receive Section 5307 grants or those who want to be eligible to receive Section 5307 funds.

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and subgrantees should refer to FTA's statutes and regulations for applicable requirements.

ASP Implementation Workshop Recorded Version

The [recorded version](#) of the workshop and its accompanying [Participant Workbook](#) are available in the TAC Resource Library.