



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



FACT SHEET:
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
SECTION 5314

	FY15/ MAP-21	FY16 (millions)	FY17 (millions)	FY18 (millions)	FY19 (millions)	FY20 (millions)
Technical Assistance, Standards Development & Human Resources and Training	\$4.5	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.0	\$4.0
National Transit Institute	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$5.0	\$5.0
5314 PROGRAM TOTAL*	\$9.5	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$9.0	\$9.0

**Amounts above in the FAST Act are funded from the Highway Trust Fund. An additional \$5M per year is authorized from the General Fund and is subject to annual appropriations and not included above.*

PROGRAM PURPOSES:

- 1) To carry out technical assistance activities that enable more effective and efficient delivery of transportation services, foster compliance with Federal laws, and improve public transportation service;
- 2) Develop standards and best practices for the transit industry; and
- 3) Address public transportation workforce needs through research, outreach, training and the implementation of a frontline workforce grant program, and conduct training and educational programs in support of the public transportation industry.

Statutory References: 49 U.S.C. Section 5314/FAST Section 3009

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Eligible Activities:

FTA, through a competitive bid process, may enter into grants, contracts, cooperative agreements and other agreements with eligible recipients, as defined below, to carry out technical assistance activities to assist with compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) Act; human services transportation coordination requirements; to meet the transportation needs of elderly individuals; to increase transit ridership in coordination with metropolitan planning organizations and

other entities through development around public transportation stations; to address transportation equity with regard to the effect that transportation planning, investment, and operations have for low-income and minority individuals; to facilitate best practices to promote bus driver safety; to meet the requirements of sections 5323(j) (Buy America) and 5323(m) (Pre and Post-Award Audits); to assist with the development and deployment of low or no emission vehicles (as defined in section 5339(c)(1)) or low or no emission vehicle components (as defined in section 5312(h)(1)); and any other technical assistance activity the Secretary determines is necessary to advance the interests of public transportation.

Eligible Recipients:

Federal Government departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Government; Metropolitan Planning Organizations; State and local governmental entities; providers of public transportation; and national non-profit organizations (that have the appropriate demonstrated capacity to provide public-transportation-related technical assistance).

STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

Eligible Activities:

FTA may enter into grants, contracts, cooperative agreements and other agreements with eligible recipients for the development of voluntary and consensus-based standards and best practices by the public transportation industry for safety, fare collection, intelligent transportation systems, accessibility, procurement, security, asset management to maintain a state of good repair, operations, maintenance, vehicle propulsion, communications and vehicle electronics.

Eligible Recipients:

Federal Government departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Government; State and local governmental entities; and providers of public transportation.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND TRAINING

INNOVATIVE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FRONTLINE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

FTA will establish a competitive grant program to assist the development of innovative activities to support:

- (1) employment training programs;
- (2) outreach to specific under-represented populations in the workforce;
- (3) research on public transportation personnel and training needs;
- (4) training and assistance for veteran and minority business opportunities; and
- (5) consensus-based national training standards and certifications in partnership with industry stakeholders.

Eligible frontline workforce program include: (i) developing apprenticeships, on-the job training, and instructional training for public transportation maintenance and operations occupations; (ii) building local, regional, and statewide public transportation training partnerships with local public transportation operators, labor union organizations, workforce development boards, and State workforce agencies to identify and address workforce skill gaps; (iii) improving safety, security, and emergency preparedness in local public transportation systems through improved safety culture and workforce communication with first responders and the riding public; and (iv) addressing current or projected workforce shortages by developing partnerships with high schools, community colleges, and other community organizations.

NATIONAL TRANSIT INSTITUTE

Eligible Recipients: Public four-year degree-granting institutions of higher education, as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)) to carry-out the duties of the Institute.

Eligible Activities:

Develop and conduct training and educational programs for Federal, State, and local transportation employees, United States citizens, and foreign nationals engaged or to be engaged in Government-aid public transportation work.

What's Changed?

- Section 5322 of MAP-21 has been repealed and the eligibility of Human Resources and Training, including NTI is now consolidated into Section 5314.
- FTA must report annually to Congress on the technical assistance and standards activities that received assistance under this section, to include an evaluation of the activities carried out by each organization and measurable outcomes and impacts of the programs funded.
- FTA must publish a report annually on the Frontline Workforce Development Program to include a detailed description of the activities funded, an evaluation of the program, and policy recommendations to improve program effectiveness.
- Allows recipients to use .5% of their Section 5307, 5337 and 5339 funds support Workforce Development programs and NTI training eligible under section 5314, at up to 80 percent.
- Authorized funding from both the General and Trust Fund accounts.

Funding:

Federal Share:

- **Technical Assistance and Standards** – The government share of the cost of a project carried out under a grant may not exceed 80 percent.
- **Human Resources and Training, including Innovative Public Transportation Frontline Workforce Development Program** – The government share of the cost of project carried out under a grant cannot exceed 50 percent.

Non-Government Share:

The non-Government share of the cost of a project carried out under these sections (Technical Assistance and Standards and Technical Assistance and Training) may be derived from in-kind contributions.

For Additional Information on FTA and the FAST Act, please visit: www.fta.dot.gov/fast.html