



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



FACT SHEET:
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM
Chapter 53 Section 5324

PROGRAM PURPOSE:

This program helps states and public transportation systems pay for protecting, repairing, and/or replacing equipment and facilities that may suffer or have suffered serious damage as a result of an emergency, including natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes. The program also improves coordination between U.S. DOT and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to expedite assistance to public transit providers in times of disasters and emergencies.

Statutory References: 49 U.S.C. Section 5324

Program Guidance: [FTA Emergency Relief Manual](#)

Eligible Recipients:

States and governmental authorities, including public transportation agencies.

Eligible Activities:

- Capital projects to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace equipment and facilities of a public transportation system, including on an Indian reservation, which are in danger of, or have suffered serious damage, as a result of an emergency. Emergencies are defined as natural disasters affecting a wide area or catastrophic failures resulting from an external cause, and as a result, the governor of a state has declared as an emergency and the Secretary of Transportation has concurred, or the President has declared a major disaster.
- Operating costs related to evacuation, rescue operations, temporary public transportation service; or reestablishing, expanding or relocating public transportation route service before, during, or after an emergency.

Funding:

- Funds will be appropriated by Congress as necessary.
- Recipients may also request to use available Section 5307 or Section 5311 funds under the provisions of Section 5324.
- The grants are only for expenses that are not reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

- The federal share for capital and operating costs is 80%, with a 20% non-federal share, although FTA may waive the local match.
- Operating costs are eligible for one year beginning on the date of declaration or for two years if the Secretary of Transportation determines there is a compelling need.

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