



## Learn. Share. Engage.

### Featured Resources

**New!** The [Sample ASP Development Timeline for Bus](#) provides a sample set of tasks and a timeline to support bus transit providers drafting their Agency Safety Plans (ASP).

The [Contractors and Other External Service Providers Webinar](#) (April 2019) explains how 49 CFR Part 673 affects agencies that use external service providers and responsibilities for developing the ASP.

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#)

[Key Points for Developing Agency Safety Plans for Recipients with Contractors and Other External Service Providers Fact Sheet](#) reviews applicability and considerations for agencies that use contractors and other external service providers.

The [Multimodal Agencies Webinar](#) (August 2018) provides an overview of FTA's PTASP rule for Multimodal Agencies.

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#)

The [PTASP Refresher Webinar](#) (October 2019) covers applicability, ASP documentation requirements, and a review of the FTA's PTASP development resources.

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Recording](#)

[PTASP Next Steps](#) reviews the first steps an agency can take when preparing its team to develop its ASP and Safety Management System.

Access the entire library by visiting FTA's [PTASP Technical Assistance Center website](#).

#### Need Assistance?

Contact a PTASP Specialist today!



[PTASP-TAC@dot.gov](mailto:PTASP-TAC@dot.gov)



1-87 PTASP-AID  
1 (877) 827-7243

#### New Resource:

##### Guide to "Opting Out" of an ASP Developed by State DOT

Are you a small transit provider that has chosen to develop your own ASP? Consider notifying your State Department of Transportation (DOT), as required by Part 673, through an "opt out" letter.

[Access the Sample Letter Now](#)

#### Get Involved

What are your milestones for the development of your Agency Safety Plans (ASP) by the July 20, 2020, compliance deadline? We want to hear from you! Share what ASP milestones your transit agency has established and learn from your transit agency peers in the [PTASP Community of Practice](#). Start the conversation today to support your ASP development.

[Join in Now](#)



## Q & A Highlights

### Question 1:

Our agency is in a unique situation. We were created by the State legislature in 2017 as a transit authority. However, we do not yet operate any bus service. The only service we currently offer is commuter vanpool, which we subsidize with Section 5307 funds. Since we do not yet operate bus service, do we still need to develop an ASP at this time?

### FTA Response:

You indicated that you currently use Section 5307 funds for your vanpool service. Beginning July 20, 2020, to be eligible to receive Section 5307 funds for your transit service, you must have an approved ASP in place.

To qualify as a small public transportation provider, you must not operate any rail service and your non-rail modes must operate less than 101 non-rail vehicles in peak service. Fixed-route is counted as its own mode and non-fixed-route modes (such as vanpool) are counted individually. Per 49 CFR § 673.11(d), “A State must draft and certify a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan on behalf of any small public transportation provider that is located in that State. A State is not required to draft a Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan for a small public transportation provider if that agency notifies the State that it will draft its own plan.”

### Question 2:

ABC Transit is not a recipient or subrecipient of Section 5307 funds, but they are a contractor for paratransit services for City Transit System. Does ABC Transit fall within the PTASP requirements?

### FTA Response:

Contractors of direct recipients or subrecipients of Section 5307 Federal financial assistance are not required to develop a separate ASP per the requirements of Part 673.

### Upcoming Event

## 2020 FTA PTASP Bus Workshops

**When:** Tuesday, January 28 or  
Wednesday, January 29, 2020

**Where:** Washington, DC

The [workshops](#) will focus on the requirements needed for agencies to comply with the PTASP rule and provide SMS implementation strategies. Additionally, the workshops will discuss how to begin creating ASPs, including the identification of key stakeholders to coordinate ASP development.

These one-day bus workshops are open to the staff and contractors of recipients or subrecipients of Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program funds who are responsible for developing or implementing an ASP, and State DOT staff that are responsible for drafting ASPs for the small public transportation providers within their States.

[Register Now](#)



Per the preamble of the PTASP rule, FTA defers to the recipient or subrecipient that contracts service to ensure that each of the requirements of Part 673 are met, including the identification of safety roles and responsibilities. The City Transit System could request that ABC Transit develop the entire ASP or elements of the ASP, but the City Transit System has the responsibility to ensure compliance with the regulation and certify compliance annually—not ABC Transit. Alternatively, City Transit System could develop the ASP on its own and ensure that ABC Transit follows it.

### Question 3:

I'm a consultant doing work for a commuter rail provider. My client has previously prepared System Safety Program Plans. I would like to know if they must now comply with the PTASP rule that became effective this year. My client is a "tenant" railroad operating on tracks owned and controlled by its three "host" railroads. The operator receives Section 5307 grant funds but is also regulated by Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) given its "tenant" status. Must the operator complete an ASP by July 20, 2020?

### FTA Response:

No; per § 673.11(f), agencies that operate rail fixed guideway public transportation services regulated by the FRA are not required to develop ASPs for those modes of service.

The [PTASP Applicability infographic](#) on FTA's website illustrates which transit agencies need to create an ASP.

### Upcoming Event

## Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting Monday, January 13, 2020

Early in the New Year, FTA will offer a session at the transportation industry's largest meeting, the [Transportation Research Board \(TRB\) Annual Meeting](#), which attracts more than 13,000 transportation professionals from around the world. FTA will discuss "Improving Transit Safety Performance Through Safety Risk Management." For those who can't be present, the presentation will be made available online.

[Register Now](#)

*The guidance in this document is not legally binding in its own right and will not be relied upon by the Federal Transit Administration as a separate basis for affirmative enforcement action or other administrative penalty. Compliance with the guidance in this document (as distinct from existing statutes and regulations) is voluntary only, and noncompliance will not affect rights and obligations under existing statutes and regulations.*