September 9, 2022

Dear Prospective Grantee:

The Maryland Department of Transportation/Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT/MTA) is pleased to announce the availability of funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation /Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for Section 5310-Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities.  **The application period opens on September 9, 2022.**

**How to receive 5310 Grant Application package**

The application package for Section 5310 grant funding will be available on the Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) website <https://www.taminc.org/office-of-local-transit-support>

beginning **September 9, 2022**.

**Grant Application Process Review Meeting**

A review session for the Section 5310 Grant Program will be held in-person during the Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) Annual Conference on Thursday, September 22, 2022. This session and the conference will be held at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club in Stevensville MD. To register, please visit <https://www.taminc.org/2022-conference>.

**Please Note**: If you attend the Grant Application Process Review Meeting it is recommended that you either print out a copy of the grant application or bring a laptop with the application loaded. No hard copies of the grant application will be available on the day of the meeting.

Every effort will be made to record the session and will be located along with the grant application on the TAM website under Resources, Office of Local Transit Support, MTA 5310 Grant Application: <https://www.taminc.org/5310-grant>.

# Deadline and Method for Submitting 5310 Grant Applications

The 5310 Human Services Grant application Parts II and Part III plus supplemental documentation will be submitted electronically via the **MDOT MTA Grant Application Portal** no later than January 20, 2023 at 4:00 pm. Registration on the MDOT MTA Portal is mandatory. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA DELIVERY OR U.S. MAIL.**

**Eligible Section 5310 Applicants**

Private, non-profit entities and faith-based agencies that provide transportation services to disabled and elderly individuals and are exempt from taxation under § 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code are eligible to receive funding.

**Eligible Section 5310 Projects**

Section 5310 Program grant funds are available for capital and operating expenses to support the provision of transportation services to meet the specific needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities.

At least 55% of Section 5310 funds will be utilized for public transportation “traditional” capital projects. Eligible capital expenses may include but are not limited to:

* Bus, accessible bus, vans
* Radios and communications equipment
* Wheelchair lifts and restraints
* Vehicle rehabilitation
* Computer hardware and software
* Preventative maintenance
* Mobility management

Up to 45% of Section 5310 funds may be used for “non-traditional” capital and operating expenses. Eligible “non-traditional” capital and operating expenses include but are not limited to:

* purchase vehicles to support accessible taxi, ride-sharing, and/or vanpooling programs
* support administration and expenses related to voucher programs
* support volunteer driver and aid programs

**The Applicant’s Financial Commitment**

The Section 5310 grant provides 80% of the cost of capital (e.g. vehicles, preventive maintenance, mobility management) and 50% of operations. The remaining 20% for capital and 50% for operations will be provided in cash by the applicant organization as matching funds and must be from non-Federal sources, except where specific legislative language permits Federal funds to be used to match other Federal funds. Some examples are Community Development Block Grants and Appalachian Regional Commission funds.

**General Guidelines for Section 5310 Funds**

These funds are intended to help provide accessible transportation service for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities, where existing service is unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. Section 5310 supplements other Federal Transit Administration programs and must be coordinated with those programs and with transportation programs funded by other Federal and State sources.

Section 5310 funds may not be used to support services that compete with public transit or private-for-profit providers, or to provide transportation for school children. Certain standard requirements of Federal programs apply, including but not limited to: Title VI Civil Rights, Minority Business Enterprise, Equal Employment Opportunity, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and all Office of Management and Budget Requirements.

**For more Information, Contact:**

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