



Larry Hogan
Governor
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Lt. Governor
Gregory Slater
Secretary
Kevin B. Quinn, Jr.
Administrator

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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 will open on September 10, 2020.**

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 <http://www.taminc.org/Office-of-Local-Transit-Support> beginning **September 10, 2020**. The application will only be available from September 10 through October 30, 2020 as that is the first deadline that needs to be met.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS REVIEW MEETING

A review session for the Section 5310 Grant Program will be held during the Transportation Association of Maryland (TAM) Annual Conference on Thursday, September 17, 2020. The conference, and this session, will be held virtually this year due to the unprecedented health emergency. The session will be held in two one-hour parts: Part I will be at 11:30 am and continued with Part II and Part III at 1:00 pm. Registration is free. To register, please visit <https://www.taminc.org/conference>.

Once the session has been completed a recording 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/office-of-local-transit-support>

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 15, 2021 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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