



Regional  
Transportation  
Authority

# Section 5310

## Program Management Plan

### January 2023

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# INTRODUCTION

## Overview of the Regional Transportation Authority

The Illinois State Legislature created the RTA in 1974 to provide public transportation in the six counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties. The RTA, governed by a 16-member Board, is responsible for fiscal planning and policy oversight of public transportation in the six county RTA region. The actual operation of transit services is the responsibility of the RTA's service boards: the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), the Commuter Rail Division (Metra), and the Suburban Bus Division (Pace).

## Overview of the Section 5310 Program

The Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) is a federal program administered by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The goal of the program is to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout the country by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options. The program supports transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities. Toward this goal, FTA provides financial assistance for transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities in all areas—large urbanized, small urbanized, and rural.

The Governor of Illinois designated the RTA to receive and dispense FTA Section 5310 funds. The RTA as the designated recipient is responsible for overseeing and administering a portion of the Section 5310 program in Northeastern Illinois that includes the six-county RTA region, comprising Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will counties, plus the urbanized portions of Kendall County, Sandwich Township (DeKalb County), Somonauk Township (DeKalb County), and Aux Sable Township (Grundy County). The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is co-designated recipient of Section 5310 funding, and administers the vehicle purchasing through its Combined Vehicle Purchase Program.

## Overview of the Program Management Plan

This Program Management Plan (PMP) describes the Regional Transportation Authority's (RTA) policies and procedures for administering the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program. The RTA developed the PMP in accordance with current Federal Transit Laws and regulations as well as Circular 9070.1G. The PMP facilitates RTA's management and administration of the Section 5310 program in accordance with federal requirements. It also serves as a Section 5310 program guide to the general public and prospective applicants and will assist the FTA in its oversight responsibilities by documenting RTA's procedures and policies for administering these programs. As the designated recipient, the RTA is required to have an approved PMP on file with the FTA Region V office and to update it regularly to incorporate any changes in program management or new requirements. The PMP will be incorporated by reference and made a part of every Technical Services Agreement (TSA) between the RTA and any subrecipient of Section 5310 funds.

The RTA continues to monitor the Job Access/Reverse Commute (JARC) program<sup>1</sup>, an activity that will continue through close-out of the remaining active award and will continue to be administered as delineated in the RTA's JARC/NF Program Management Plan.

## PROGRAM GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The following goals were developed in coordination with the Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Project Advisory Committee, a group of regional stakeholders who serve as an advisory committee to the RTA:

- Improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout Northeastern Illinois by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available. Toward this goal, RTA will provide financial and technical assistance to prospective awardees and recipients of Section 5310 funding for transportation services planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- Meet the federal requirements associated with receiving FTA funding Section 5310.
- Develop projects that encourage local coordination efforts.
- Facilitate the flow and appropriate level of Section 5310 program funding to the region by ensuring that the HSTP fully complies with the federal regulations and with the spirit and intent of the Section 5310 Program.
- Establish a framework by which proposed projects requesting Section 5310 program funding can be solicited and selected through a fair and equitable process.
- Ensure that all components of the Plan/Programs have benefited from a comprehensive public involvement effort that has effectively reached out to public, private, and non-profit transportation providers, human services providers and other stakeholders representing persons with disabilities, seniors, and the general public.
- Encourage not only coordination among services supported by the Section 5310 Program, but also coordination among the broad array of community transportation services in the seven-county region.

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<sup>1</sup> The federally funded Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) program provided operating and capital assistance for transportation services that met the needs of low-income individuals and of reverse commuters. The New Freedom program provided public transportation alternatives beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The RTA administered these two programs until 2013, when the JARC program was ended and the New Freedom program was rolled into the Section 5310 program.

# ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

## Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

The FTA, through its Region V Office in Chicago, has federal oversight responsibilities over local public and specialized transportation assistance programs. Regional responsibilities include reviewing and approving grant applications, program management plans, and grant management activities.

## HSTP Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

This committee of regional stakeholders helped update the Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP). The members include representatives from the RTA Service Boards, IDOT, CMAP, the seven Northeastern Illinois counties, human services agencies that reflect populations of seniors, individuals with disabilities and low-income individuals and private non-profit and private for profit agencies. The HSTP PAC will continue to serve as an advisory body to the RTA, focusing on the ongoing implementation of the HSTP and administration of the Section 5310 program.

## Project Selection Team (PST)

The project selection team (PST) is made up of seven representatives: two representatives from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), two from the RTA and two from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and one from Easterseals. The PST members review each of the applications, listen to presentations from each applicant, and score based on the criteria (identified later in this document) and recommend a Program of Projects that is released for public comment.

## Regional Transportation Authority (RTA)

The RTA as a designated recipient is responsible for overseeing and administering the Section 5310 Program in Northeastern Illinois including the development a biennial Program of Projects (POP)<sup>2</sup>. In this capacity, the RTA also solicits applications, reviews and selects applications for funding, approves the POP, and submits the POP with the award applications to FTA. In addition, the RTA distributes award funds, conducts program planning, certifies the eligibility of applicants and project activities, monitors project activity for compliance with federal

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<sup>2</sup> The Program of Projects (POP) consists of projects (and the associated budgets) selected by the project selection team from the pool of applications submitted during the call for projects.

requirements, monitors usage of program assets by awardee, and oversees project audit and close-out. The RTA also provides ongoing technical assistance to subrecipients and prospective subrecipients.

RTA was responsible for leading the development of the HSTP and will be responsible for certifying that projects receiving Section 5310 funding were included in the HSTP. The RTA also staffs the HSTP Project Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Project Selection Team. The Project Selection Team is responsible for conducting the technical evaluation of project submittals in accordance with the HSTP.

## **Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)**

IDOT is a co-designated recipient of Section 5310 funds. The co-designation status was approved by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Northeastern Illinois. Under this arrangement, IDOT will be responsible for project selection and the award of Section 5310 funded paratransit vehicles and RTA will be responsible for all other Section 5310 projects.

IDOT will solicit applications for the Combined Vehicle Program (CVP), review the applications and select awardees. This funding will be for the purchase of lift and ramp-equipped paratransit vehicles for eligible program recipients. IDOT also remains the agency responsible for the management of that program. IDOT is a member of the HSTP PAC and a member of the Project Selection Team.

## **Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)**

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is the regional planning agency for northeastern Illinois and staffs the MPO Policy Committee, which is designated as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). CMAP has an established committee structure to help carry out the functions of the agency. Two of these committees, Human and Community Development and Transportation, also have specific roles with regard to the 5310 Program within the framework of their respective missions. The Human and Community Development Committee is made up of human service providers and advocates for older adults, persons with disabilities, and individuals with lower incomes. The committee is charged with providing advisory input to the CMAP board on proposed regional plans, projects, and policies from a human services based perspective. The RTA consults with this committee on the 5310 Program. The Human and Community Development Committee provided feedback on the updated HSTP. The CMAP Transportation Committee is charged with promoting a regional transportation system that is safe, efficient, and accessible while sustaining the region's vision related to the natural environment, economic and community development, social equity, and public health. The Transportation Committee includes public and private transportation providers, IDOT, representatives of municipalities and the counties of Northeastern Illinois. The Transportation

Committee is also responsible for recommending projects for inclusion in the region's long-range plan and the region's Transportation Improvement Program. The updated HSTP was presented to the CMAP Transportation Committee as well as the CMAP MPO Policy Committee for endorsement.

Once a recommended POP is developed, it is submitted to the CMAP Transportation Committee during the public comment period for information purposes. Two CMAP staff members also serve on the Project Selection Team. In addition, RTA has adopted the public participation requirements of the MPO in accordance with the FTA C 9030.1E Chapter V, Section 6d.

## COORDINATION

### **The Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan**

The Coordinated Public Transit-Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP) was first developed in 2007 and updated in 2013 to reflect the creation of the Section 5310 program as part of new transportation legislation at the time, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) and most recently updated in 2021. The updated HSTP is included in this document as Exhibit A.

The creation of the HSTP and subsequent updates to the document was a collaborative planning effort led by the RTA to identify and recommend regional and local strategies that encourage the most effective use of available community transportation services to enhance mobility for the region's older adults, persons with disabilities and persons with low incomes. The scope of the project covered the seven counties of Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane, McHenry, and Will, as well as urbanized portions of Kendall County, Aux Sable Township in Grundy County and Sandwich and Somonauk Townships in DeKalb County. Recommendations were derived from extensive outreach to stakeholders, riders and rider representatives.

Any projects to be funded with Section 5310 funding must be derived from or included in a locally developed human services coordinated plan, such as the HSTP. For the FY2022-FY2023 program, capital / infrastructure projects submitted by the Service Boards will be allowed and considered by the Project Selection Committee. Ongoing operating projects have experienced COVID-related decreases in ridership, lowering the demand for operating funding. However, appropriations for the Section 5310 program have increased significantly as a result of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). In an effort to make use of the federal funding, these capital / infrastructure projects will be accepted, despite not being a specific recommendation in the HSTP.

## ELIGIBLE SUBRECIPIENTS

Entities considered eligible under federal guidelines for the Section 5310 Programs are eligible for funding in Northeastern Illinois. Generally, private non-profit organizations, or state or local government authorities that: (1) is approved by a state to coordinate services for seniors and individuals with disabilities; or (2) certifies that there are no non-profit organizations readily available in the area to provide the service. Governmental authorities eligible to apply for Section 5310 funds as “coordinators of services for seniors and individuals with disabilities” are those designated by the state to coordinate human service activities in a particular area. Examples of such eligible governmental authorities are a county agency on aging or a public transit provider which the state has identified as the lead agency to coordinate transportation services funded by multiple federal or state human service programs.

Private taxi companies that provide shared-ride taxi service to the general public on a regular basis are operators of public transportation, and therefore eligible subrecipients. “Shared-ride” means two or more passengers in the same vehicle who are otherwise not traveling together. Similar to general public and ADA demand response service, every trip does not have to be shared-ride in order for a taxi company to be considered a shared-ride operator, but the general nature of the service must include shared rides.

The RTA encourages prospective applicants, which may not have the resources to assume the responsibilities of a subrecipient, to consider partnering with an RTA Service Board when the proposed project is within the RTA six-county area. A successful partnering approach eases the administrative burden on the smaller or inexperienced agency, while allowing the public transit operator and partnering agency to pool their expertise to develop a successful project.

The RTA is also responsible for entering into supplemental agreements, as necessary, with the RTA Service Boards: Chicago Transit Authority, Metra, and Pace, which, as Section 5307 direct recipients are eligible to be direct recipients for Section 5310 projects.

## LOCAL SHARE & LOCAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The use of non-cash or soft match for Section 5310 projects is more restrictive than federal guidelines.

Restricting the use of non-cash match is designed to be consistent with and supportive of developing sustainable projects, a policy that has been strongly supported by the PAC. Obtaining the local cash match for a project in its initial stages, combined with other forms of local support, is a strong indicator of the potential sustainability of the project and thereby is encouraged by this policy.

Federal guidelines allow for non-cash match provided either through donations, volunteer services and in-kind contributions or through the use of transportation development credits<sup>3</sup>. The RTA has elected to not allow the use of non-cash match at this time. If a project is providing service through a contract operator and the project meets the definition of a “traditional” capital project<sup>4</sup>, that awardee will still provide the equivalent of a 50% match for the contracted operations. The RTA retains discretion to allow for a 20% match (where allowable) in instances of financial need or hardship. This decision was reached to maintain equity among projects that are providing operations and to discourage additional reliance on federal assistance. One issue that was cited by the PAC and in a previous version of the HSTP is the difficulty of achieving financial sustainability for these services. It was felt that increasing the federal share for projects is counterproductive to developing sustainable projects.

Local match funding must be drawn down at the same rate as awarded Section 5310 funds. This is to prevent delayed FTA drawdowns and potential loss of FTA funding due to inactivity. IDOT will be responsible for the awarding and purchase of Section 5310 vehicles, as noted previously. RTA will not be accepting applications for vehicles.

## PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA & METHOD OF DISTRIBUTING FUNDS

### Overview of Project Selection and Funding Allocation Process

In determining a fair and equitable process for project selection, the PAC took into consideration the needs of projects that are still in operation and the need to allow for the implementation of new projects.

The following describes the process for funding allocation in the region:

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<sup>3</sup> Under this provision, a state is permitted to use certain toll revenue capital expenditures as a credit toward the non-federal matching share of eligible Transit projects.

<sup>4</sup> Section 5310(b) provides that of the amounts apportioned to states and designated recipients, not less than 55 percent shall be available for traditional Section 5310 projects—those public transportation capital projects planned, designed, and carried out to meet the special needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities when public transportation is insufficient, unavailable, or inappropriate. Further, the law provides that a recipient may allocate the funds apportioned to it to: a. A private nonprofit organization; or b. A state or local governmental authority that: is approved by a state to coordinate services for seniors and individuals with disabilities; or (2) certifies that there are no nonprofit organizations readily available in the area to provide the service.

- Funds will be allocated to IDOT, the designated recipient that will be responsible for selecting and awarding paratransit vehicles grants, based on the recent annual average of Section 5310 paratransit vehicle awards to Northeastern Illinois recipients.
- The balance of the estimated apportionments each year will be available to RTA. RTA will use this amount to defray RTA administration costs (if needed) and award eligible Section 5310 projects to Northeastern Illinois recipients.
- A competitive call for projects is released on a biennial basis, which allows for awarding two years of funding to potential operating projects. Applications received will be screened for eligibility by RTA staff and the Project Selection Team. Each applicant is required to provide a presentation of the application to the Project Selection Team, including participating in a question and answer session.
- The Project Selection Team utilizes criteria approved by the PAC. In the event RTA submits an application, the RTA will recuse itself from scoring its own application(s) to ensure a fair and transparent project selection process.
- Separately, IDOT will solicit and evaluate paratransit vehicle grant applications in fulfillment of their role as designated recipient for that portion of the program.
- The Project Selection Team may recommend project approval at an amount and scope less than originally requested for any Section 5310 project submitted for consideration. In that instance, consultation will take place with the project applicant. The Selection criteria is summarized in the next section; detailed application and selection criteria are included in Exhibit B.

## CRRSAA Apportionment Allocation

On December 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) was signed into law. CRRSAA included supplemental appropriations for COVID-19 relief for the transit industry, specifically including Section 5310. The RTA will award the full Section 5310 appropriation to Pace Suburban Bus to support their ongoing Regional Call Center operations, which support many ongoing Section 5310 operating projects. Any additional recovery funds appropriated in 2021 will be included in the RTA's biennial Call for Projects.

## Project Selection Criteria

Projects are first screened to determine whether they meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The proposed project addresses eligibility criteria laid out in the Section 5310 circular (FTA C 9070.1G, page III-9)

- The proposed project application identifies and addresses an unmet need identified in the HSTP
- For the FY2022-FY2023 Call for Projects, the proposed project provides a capital / infrastructure improvement for seniors and people with disabilities.
- A local match will be supplied

Eligible projects are then awarded points based on the following categories:

- Consistency with and support for the HSTP, *Transit is the Answer: Five-Year Regional Transit Strategic Plan* and CMAP's *ON TO 2050* plan.
- Project utilizes or coordinates with existing public transportation providers and private human service agencies
- Project demonstrates coordination between one or more partnering agency and improves access for target population
- Project provides for a mobility management function
- Project markets to the target population and promotes public awareness
- Project coordinates with existing public transportation providers and private human service agencies
- Applicant demonstrates ability to implement proposed project and manage federally-funded grants
- Applicant provides plan for assessing the proposed project's performance through the course of the project, including tracking quarterly data

## Prospective Applicant Outreach Process

Consistent with establishing and maintaining an open and transparent process, the RTA's policy is to disseminate information and provide technical assistance to the maximum extent possible. Prospective applicants and the public are provided information on goals, eligible projects and activities, eligible applicants, selection criteria, description of the project selection process and Project Selection Team, available funding, local match guidelines, and the performance-monitoring program. This information is made available and disseminated through a variety of means:

- The RTA releases notice of the Call for Projects through various databases maintained by the RTA and CMAP, notifying over 3,000 individuals and organizations
- The Call for Projects timeline and all application materials are available on the RTA Website
- Program staff will meet with prospective applicants and interested parties in advance of or during the call for projects to answer questions prospective applicants may have

- The selection process utilizes evaluation criteria developed in consultation with the PAC.
- All applications received and the final approved POP are published on the program website [rtachicago.com/section5310](http://rtachicago.com/section5310).
- The RTA will invite each unsuccessful applicant to a separate debriefing session designed to assist the applicant in understanding why a particular project was not chosen and to help RTA gain insights on how the process may be improved for future calls for projects
- Applicants are provided with RTA staff contact information so they may receive technical assistance with the application or to obtain information on the program.
- Application materials include program information, funding availability and the criteria for screening and/or evaluation of the applications.

## ANNUAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT & APPROVAL PROCESS

### **Program of Projects Development**

A competitive call for projects is held biennially (every other year) to solicit new capital and operating projects and continuation projects. Upon the initiation of a call for projects all pertinent materials regarding the selection of projects will be published on the <https://www.rtachicago.org/region/section-5310> web site. The call is typically released in the spring with the program of projects selected by the Project Selection Committee (PSC) based on the published eligibility and selection criteria. The recommended program of projects is then presented to the RTA Board for approval in the fall, following a public comment period.

### **Approval Process Overview**

Once the recommended POP is developed by the Project Selection Team, it is released for a public comment period. During this public comment period, the recommended POP is presented to CMAP's Transportation Committee and the HSTP PAC for comment. Upon the conclusion of the public comment period, the RTA Board considers approval of the recommended POP. Once

approved by the RTA Board, the projects will be submitted to the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)<sup>5</sup> and the application will be submitted to FTA for approval.

## ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Based upon federal transportation legislation and FTA guidelines, designated recipients of Section 5310 funding may utilize up to 10% of each annual apportionment to support program administrative costs including administration, planning, and technical assistance (these funds are referred to as “program administration funds”). This activity may be funded entirely by federal funds and does not require local match. In accordance with these guidelines, the RTA will allow up to 10% of the total fiscal year apportionment allocated to RTA to defray administration, planning and technical assistance expenses. RTA will primarily use these funds for the administration of the Section 5310 program and to provide technical assistance to current and prospective recipients.

## TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Pursuant to C9070.1G, Chapter III, Section 5310 Funds cannot be transferred to other programs. Additionally, funds apportioned for large UZAs cannot be transferred to other areas.

## PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION

Federal law requires the public to be involved in the transportation planning process, and specifically requires that private providers be provided an opportunity to be consulted in developing transportation plans and programs in both urbanized and rural areas. Public involvement processes must be proactive and provide complete information, timely public notice, full public access to key decisions, and opportunities for early and continuing involvement throughout the transportation planning and programming process. To this end, the HSTP PAC includes private for profit and non-profit representation. As noted previously, the CMAP Transportation Committee also has representatives of both private for profit and private non-profit sector represented, providing these agencies an opportunity to participate in the development of the HSTP and the Section 5310 POP.

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<sup>5</sup> The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is metropolitan Chicago's agenda of surface transportation projects. The TIP lists all federally funded projects and regionally significant, non-federally funded projects programmed for implementation in the next five years.

# CIVIL RIGHTS

The RTA agrees to comply with all applicable civil rights statutes and implementing regulations noted in the Section 5310 Circular (9070.1G). The RTA filed its most recent Title VI Program with the FTA on September 18, 2020. In addition, the RTA specifically requires in all third party contracts and grant agreements that the contractor/recipient comply with all requirements of Title VI. Subrecipients are required to maintain and submit to the RTA a Title VI plan that complies with federal requirements.

The RTA last submitted an update to its DBE program to the FTA in July 2014, and submitted its DBE Goal Methodology for FFYs 2023-2025 in July 2022. As required by 49 C.F.R. Part 26 and approved by U.S. DOT, the RTA's DBE Program is incorporated into and made part of its third party contracts and agreements. The RTA specifically states in its third party contracts/grant agreements that breach of the RTA DBE Program and/or failure by the contractor/recipient to honor all commitments made to DBEs at the time of award will be considered a breach of contract. In addition, the RTA monitors invoices received to ascertain, among other things, that the contractor/recipient is providing the agreed upon work to any DBE subcontractors/subrecipients and that such DBE companies are being paid in a timely fashion.

Any awardee under FTA programs is required to comply with all applicable Federal civil rights statutes and with the implementing regulations for the statutes. FTA implements the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by prohibiting discrimination under projects, programs or activities receiving financial assistance because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex or age. The laws include: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Equal Employment Opportunity, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

The requirements for Civil Rights compliance are extended to subrecipients. Subrecipient assurances under Title VI and the other civil rights requirements are included in the application for assistance, in the required Annual Certifications and Assurances and in the contract with RTA. Subrecipient awardees are also required to identify any lawsuits or complaints alleging discrimination in service filed with the awardee. Civil rights monitoring will concentrate on how the awardee is providing service. Title VI also assures that funds are passed through to subrecipients and their project without regard to race, color, or national origin.

Subrecipient awardees requesting or receiving capital or operating assistance in excess of \$1 million in Federal funds in the previous Federal fiscal year or requests or received planning assistance in excess of \$250,000 in the previous Federal fiscal year or employing 100 or more transit-related employees are required to develop and submit an EEO program to the RTA. If the subrecipient meets the foregoing criteria and is also a direct recipient of FTA funds, the subrecipient should continue to submit its EEO program to the FTA. Subrecipients that meet

the same monetary threshold but employ 50 or more transit-related employees must prepare and maintain an abbreviated EEO program. EEO programs are developed to ensure that FTA applicants, recipients, subrecipients, contactors, and/or subcontractors will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability. Actions covered include but are not limited to hiring, promotion or upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, disciplinary actions, rates of pay or other forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. EEO signs need to be posted in conspicuous places, such as an employee break room, and made available to employees and applicants. Subrecipient awardees receiving less than the above amount and employing fewer people need only to post information in their offices.

Awardees receiving more than \$250,000 in Federal funds, exclusive of rolling stock, must have DBE plans on file with the RTA. Periodic reports on plan compliance are required. Awardees receiving less than the threshold level must still make good faith efforts to utilize DBE's and must submit periodic reports on these efforts. Subrecipients with an FTA approved DBE program shall be responsible for including all data relative to expenditures of FTA funds, no matter the intermediate source, in required DBE-related FTA submissions, including those funds utilized as a sub-recipient of an FTA grant to the RTA. This provision applies to subawardees at any tier. The RTA shall receive copies of all such reports.

## SECTION 504 & ADA REPORTING

The RTA agrees to comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 5301 (d), which state the federal policy that elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities have the same right as other individuals to use public transportation services and facilities, and that special efforts will be made in planning and designing those services and facilities to implement transportation accessibility rights for elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities. The RTA also agrees to comply with all applicable provisions of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, with 29 U.S.C. § 794 which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability and with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq., which requires that accessible facilities and services be made available to individuals with disabilities, and any subsequent amendments to these laws. Finally, the RTA agrees to comply with applicable laws in implementing federal regulations and directives and any subsequent amendments thereto.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap by recipients of Federal financial assistance. Recipients of FTA funds are required to make special efforts to provide transportation that is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

The RTA will monitor its sub-recipients' compliance with Section 504 and ADA reporting requirements using the same procedure utilized for Civil Rights compliance, as detailed in the previous section.

## PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

FTA has established performance measures for Section 5310, which the RTA expanded upon to use in project monitoring and assessment efforts. Designated recipients are responsible for collecting the information from the subrecipients and reporting data to FTA regarding these performance measures. The reporting and data collection measures for the Section 5310 Program will be prescribed in the grant agreements with subrecipients. Further, Subrecipients are also required to provide a plan for assessing the project's success through defined measures as part of their program application. The Circular 9070.1G presents the program measures in Chapter II, at page II-2 and in Chapter VI, at page VI-17.

Designated Recipients and States will submit both quantitative and qualitative information available on each of the following measures, as applicable to each subrecipient:

1. Service Quality: Describe any issues with the operating service including passenger complaints and actions taken to resolve the issue.
2. Mobility Management: What has the Mobility Manager focused on this quarter? What have their accomplishments been?
3. Gaps in Service Filled: Provision of transportation options that would not otherwise be available for seniors and individuals with disabilities measures in numbers of seniors and individuals with disabilities afforded mobility they would not have without program support.
4. Provide the temporal scope of the service: please note the operating hours of the service (days and hours) and note any changes to the service days and hours each quarter. Please also note if any expansion has resulted in new riders.
5. Provide the geographic scope of the service: note the core service area of the operating service, including municipalities and counties covered. Please note any changes to the service area each quarter.
6. Number of Partners or Sponsors: please note the number of partner agencies or sponsors participating in the operating project. Please note the additional or subtraction of partners each quarter.
7. Ridership: Please provide the actual or estimated number of rides (as measured by one-way trips) provided annually for seniors or individuals with disabilities on Section 5310

supported vehicles and services. If applicable, also provide the number of general public riders on the service.

8. Inter-County Transfers or Services: please note any rides that are outside the core service area of the operating service.

## PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

### **Subrecipient Awardee Requirements**

This section applies to all RTA subrecipient awardees that contract with outside sources under the 5310 Program. If a subrecipient awardee accepts operating assistance, these requirements apply to all third party purchase orders and contracts, including contracts for operations. The subrecipient awardee is the entire legal entity even if only a particular component of the entity is designated in the grant agreement and other documents. For the purposes of this Third Party Contracting guidance, "awardee" also includes any subcontractor of the awardee. Furthermore, the subrecipient awardee is responsible for assuring that its subcontractors comply with the requirements and standards of this manual, and that subcontractors are aware of requirements imposed upon them.

When procuring property and services a subrecipient awardee will follow the same procurement policies and procedures that it uses for procurements using non-RTA awarded funds providing those procedures do not contradict or lower the minimum contracting requirements of this section. Subrecipient awardees must, as a minimum, comply with the requirements of this section and ensure that every purchase order and contract executed by it or a subcontractor using RTA provided funds includes all clauses required by federal statutes and executive orders and their implementing regulations.

#### **Operators and Providers as Subcontractors**

Subcontractors of awardees acting as either an operator or provider, which are institutions, hospitals or other nonprofit organizations, will administer contracts in accordance with these Third Party Contracting guidelines.

#### **Procurement**

To ensure compliance with federal procurement requirements, RTA makes guidance and technical assistance accessible to its awardees consistent with oversight responsibilities

delegated to RTA by agreements with FTA. Each recipient, including subrecipients, of FTA seeking Federal assistance to acquire property or services in support of its proposed project is requested to certify to FTA, in accordance with FTA Circular 4220.1 and 2 CFR 200, that its procurements and procurement system will comply with all applicable third-party procurement provisions of Federal laws, regulations, and directives, except to the extent FTA has expressly approved otherwise in writing. Certification of compliance will be made a part of each sub-recipient's application and contract with RTA.

The RTA is required to perform reviews of subrecipients in carrying out grant programs with specific reference to their compliance with statutory and administrative requirements.

Accordingly, RTA will review subrecipient procurement policies when a subrecipient plans to pursue a procurement subject to its grant agreement with the RTA. This review will only take place at this time. The review shall establish whether the subrecipient's procurement procedures conform to federal regulations, if not, RTA will require the subrecipient to follow procedures as approved by RTA in accordance with federal regulations.

The RTA's Technical Services Agreement, or "grant agreement," lists all RTA and other state and federal requirements applicable to RTA's awardees. The grant agreement will incorporate this document by reference. Many of these requirements are related to awardee procurements. Awardees are advised to consult the grant agreement for additional guidance and requirements.

### Liquidated Damages Provisions

An awardee may use liquidated damages if it may reasonably expect to suffer damages (increased costs on project) from late completion and the extent or amount of such damages can be reasonably determined. The assessment for damages shall be at a specific rate per day for each day of overrun in contract time, and the rate must be specified in the third party contract. Any liquidated damages recovered shall be credited to the project account involved unless RTA permits otherwise.

### Contract Award Announcement

If an awardee announces contract awards with respect to any procurement for goods and services (including construction services) having an aggregate value of \$3,000 or more, the awardee shall:

- Specify the amount of RTA provided funds that will be used to finance the acquisition in any announcement of the contract award for such goods or services; and
- Express the said amount as a percentage of the total costs of the planned acquisition.

## **Contract Provisions**

All contracts shall include provisions to define a sound and complete agreement. In addition, contracts and subcontracts shall contain contractual provisions or conditions that allow for:

- Administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, including sanctions and penalties as may be appropriate.
- Termination for cause and for convenience by the awardee or subcontractor including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement.

## **Cost Principles and Cost Allocation**

This section provides principles for determining costs applicable to service provision performed by operators or providers under third party contracts with an RTA funded awardee; and where applicable, under such grants when the awardee is a multi-purpose organization which provides funded transportation services directly.

These principles make no attempt to identify the circumstances or dictate the extent of agency and subcontractor participation in the financing of a particular project. The principles are designed to provide recognition of the full allocated costs of such an operating assistance project work under generally accepted accounting principles.

No provision for profit or other increment above cost is intended for government and non-profit subrecipients. In addition, wherever the term subcontractor is used in this section, it shall have the same meaning as provider, operator, and third party contractor.

### **Policy**

The successful application of these principles requires development of mutual understanding between RTA, awardees and their third party contractors as to their scope, implementation, and interpretation. It is recognized that:

- The arrangements for participation in the financing of an operating assistance project are properly subject to negotiation between the subcontractor and the awardee in accordance with whichever state, federal, and local laws and regulations as may be applicable.
- Each awardee, possessing its own unique combination of staff, facilities, and experience, should be encouraged to provide services in a manner consistent with its approved service plan and objectives.
- Each awardee, in the fulfillment of its obligations, should employ sound management practices.
- The application of the principles established herein should require no significant changes in the generally accepted accounting practices of awardees. Where wide

variations exist in the treatment of a given cost item, the reasonableness of such treatments will be fully considered during the rate negotiations and audit.

## Application of Cost Principles in Grants Management

RTA will apply these principles and related policy guides in determining the costs incurred for such work under operating assistance projects funded in any part under an RTA grant agreement. These principles should also be used as a guide in the pricing of fixed-price contracts or lump sum agreements with subcontractors.

## Allowability of Costs

These are the tests of allowability of costs under these principles:

- Be necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient performance and administration of Federal awards.
- Be allocable to Federal awards under the provisions of this Circular.
- Be authorized or not prohibited under State or local laws or regulations.
- Conform to any limitations or exclusions set forth in these principles, Federal laws, terms and conditions of the Federal award, or other governing regulations as to types or amounts of cost items.
- Be consistent with policies, regulations, and procedures that apply uniformly to both Federal awards and other activities of the governmental unit.
- Be accorded consistent treatment. A cost may not be assigned to a Federal award as a direct cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose in like circumstances has been allocated to the Federal award as an indirect cost.
- Be determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- Not be included as a cost or used to meet cost sharing or matching requirements of any other Federal award in either the current or a prior period, except as specifically provided by Federal law or regulation.
- Be the net of all applicable credits.
- Be adequately documented.

## Direct Costs

Direct costs are those costs which can be identified specifically with a particular project objective or activity which can be directly assigned to the project, relatively easily and with a high degree of accuracy.

## **Indirect Costs**

Indirect costs are those that have been incurred for common or joint objectives and therefore cannot be identified specifically (in whole or in part) with a particular program. Such costs are normally classified under the following functional categories:

- General administration and general expenses;
- Operating assistance and project administration expenses;
- Fixed facility operation and maintenance expenses; and
- Departmental administration expenses.

Awards under the program awarded prior to December 26, 2014, are subject to administrative requirements and cost principles found in 2 CFR Part 225. Awards made on or after December 26, 2014 shall follow guidance in 2 CFR Part 200 which supersedes and streamlines the former OMB Circulars on Uniform Administrative Guidance, A-87. For additional details regarding cost allocation principles, awardees should refer to either Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, 2 CFR Part 200 (formerly OMB Circular A-87), as amended or 2 CFR Part 230 (formerly OMB Circular A-122), "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations," as amended.

## **Designated Recipient Program Management**

The RTA developed a monitoring program and compliance review process to assure compliance with Federal and state requirements and to assist subrecipients with their efforts to improve project management and administration.

In general, receipt of any Federal award carries with it contractual requirements for reporting on the project's progress and for monitoring the use of award monies. Awards made by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) are additionally monitored through performance reviews, either yearly or triennially, program management plan oversight, and site visits. In many instances, under the 5310 Program, the RTA is directly responsible for monitoring a sub-recipient/awardee's ability to manage, control, and administer Federal funds.

### **The Review Process for Subrecipients**

Prior to the initiation of a grant agreement with a new subrecipient, an orientation meeting is held to review all federal program requirements so that the subrecipient has a clear expectation of what it must do to maintain compliance with federal requirements. Once a subrecipient has an executed grant agreement with the RTA, periodic reviews are undertaken. A full review is required every three years. Its major components are a desk review of files stored at the RTA's office and an onsite visit of the awardee's offices and operating facilities. The reviews are

customized in accordance with the subrecipient's project activities. For instance, a procurement review will only be undertaken if the subrecipient has a procurement activity or is expected to have a procurement project activity.

The overall compliance review consists of meetings and physically reviewing files, notices, facilities and equipment. The review splits some of the areas for compliance review between the desk review and the site visit depending upon where documentation is maintained or stored and if it is necessary to retain an item at a specific site or that it be posted at a site.

The need for site visits at other times also varies with the type of project involved. While they may coincide with a triennial review, these visits differ from those required every three years. They are generally made to review that the Federal and RTA interest is being maintained and in transit usage. For operating projects, the site visit might be conducted once over the term of the specific Federal grant or the subrecipient agreement. For capital projects, the site would be visited once every two years for the entire term that RTA maintains an interest in the project.

Some compliance items are combined for review because of the interrelated nature of the source documents for an item or their location. A good example of this would be the on-site review of vehicle and equipment maintenance with ADA compliance and continuing control of grant funded property.

#### Steps in the Review Process:

- Contact with awardee by email or letter to schedule the review
- Desk Review
- Site Visit
- Compliance Report

For general site visits, the RTA has determined that the frequency will vary depending on the type of project involved. Every awardee will be visited before their project is initially implemented. For operating projects, the site will be visited one or more additional times during the term of the grant. For capital projects, the site will be visited once every two years for the entire term that RTA maintains an interest in the project. At final grant close-out RTA staff will visit the project site.

#### Desk Review

The desk review is performed in the RTA offices and reviews information required to be in the final grant application and ongoing reporting requirements, such as quarterly progress reports, yearly reports or requisitions. Additionally, the RTA will review the subrecipient's website for all Civil Rights requirements including the Title VI Plan.

## Site Visit

RTA staff will visit all Section 5310 subrecipients. The administrative purpose of the actual site visit is to:

- Conduct a face to face review meeting with the awardee
- Review the compliance areas that pertain to a specific awardee
- Verify compliance with the regulations associated with the receipt of Federal funds
- Review financial records
- Review project records
- Review written policies
- Review preventative maintenance records and inspect vehicles, equipment and facilities

It also gives RTA and awardee staff members the opportunity to discuss technical issues.

The general structure for the on-site review day includes:

- Entrance conference
- Visit facilities
- Inspect vehicles
- On-site records review
- Exit interview and meeting.

Visiting the facility allows the reviewer to verify that the facility or the part of the facility supporting transit service is in transit usage. Additionally, it allows a general observation on the facility's condition and whether required signs are properly posted. At some awardee properties it will be necessary to ride a route to review the service and ADA compliance. In the event that an on-site review is not possible, the subrecipient may arrange to review these items virtually via video webinar. A "ride behind" can replace a "ride along" on one of the vehicles to review the vehicle service and ADA compliance. This allows the reviewer to visually inspect without boarding the vehicle.

The awardee can prepare for the on-site review by reviewing a check list that RTA will provide citing the areas being reviewed and the documents that will need to be made available. A finding of non-compliance in an area means that the awardee will need to focus on accumulating or preparing information to reach compliance. RTA staff will be available to provide assistance with reaching compliance. It is very important that appropriate staff members be available for the entire site visit. Appropriate staff members would include the general manager or executive director, the finance manager and the maintenance manager.

## Compliance Review Report

Upon the conclusion of the review process a final report will be produced that includes a summary of findings, if any, and their disposition. The report will be based on the results of the

on-site review(s) as included in the Compliance Review Report. The Compliance Review Report includes an itemized list of each subject area that may be reviewed as applicable (Exhibit C). Once a subrecipient is notified of a deficiency, the subrecipient will be requested to respond with a plan to take the corrective action. In an instance where the compliance issue is not resolved to the satisfaction of the RTA, the RTA may:

- Suspend grant fund payments.
- Deem a subrecipient ineligible to receive additional grant funds either within the current program or future programs.
- Audit the subrecipient to determine compliance with contractual obligations.
- Terminate the grant contract(s).

## **Accounting Systems and Audit**

Awardees, operators, and third party contractors are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal controls over all the functions which relate to project administration and implementation. The control systems must comply with the applicable Federal, FTA Grant Management, Circular 5010.1E, as revised) and all State of Illinois requirements.

For grants funding services it is important that the service be marketed to the target populations for the program. The awardee should be able to demonstrate that such a program is in place and in use.

The local share for grants must be from non-FTA sources and may include state funds as well as unrestricted Federal funds. Subrecipients are required to have an independent audit for operating grants. This must be prepared by an independent CPA and it must include a schedule of costs, revenues, and expenditures in comparison with the Approved Project Budget. All audits performed must meet the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F (formerly OMB Circular A-133), Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.

The scope of the audit must include an examination of the awardee and/or contractor records and test of transactions sufficient to enable the audit firm to express an opinion on the following items. That the records of receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities and the presentation of those records in the financial statements of the awardee and/or contractor are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The principles are consistently applied and present fairly the financial positions of the awardee and/or contractor and the results of its operations for the period covered by the audit. That the costs incurred are eligible under the contract. Finally, the audit must review the degree of compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract, the approved program and with RTA guidance.

# Closeout Procedures

RTA will use a two-step process to move a Federal award to closeout:

## Subrecipient Closeout

Subrecipients are responsible for writing “Final Invoice” on the last invoice the subrecipient submits. This process begins when all activities in the Technical Services Agreement (TSA) are completed or all funds in the agreement are fully expended. A final status report should accompany the final invoice. The final status report should state whether all project goals have been accomplished.

## FTA Closeout

The RTA is responsible for administering the Federal grant closeout through the FTA’s TrAMS system. The RTA will make any necessary adjustments to the project budget and conduct a final grant project audit as required by Title 2 – Part 200. Grant closeout procedures are outlined in the following FTA Circulars: Section 5310, 9070.1G, page VI-15 and Grant Management Requirements, C. 5010.1E, as revised, page III-14.

“The awardee must initiate close-out of a grant when all approved activities are completed and/or applicable Federal funds expended. All close-out documentation must be submitted within 90 days of the completion of all activities in the grant. This requires notifying FTA by letter or e-mail that the grant is ready for close-out. The awardee should electronically submit the following in TRAMS as part of the grant close-out process: 1) a final budget reflecting actual project costs by scope and activity; 2) a final Federal Financial Report; 3) a final narrative MPR indicating the actual completion date of each ALI; a discussion of each ALI contained in the final budget and list of project property purchased under the grant; 4) a request to deobligate any unexpended balance of Federal funds; and 5) any other reports required as part of the terms and conditions of the grant.”

The Milestone Report will include information on the completion of the individual projects as well as the total project. All project records will be maintained by the RTA for three years.

# OTHER PROVISIONS

Prospective applicants are advised to carefully review the requirements of participating in RTA funded programs. In addition to state and local contractual provisions, subrecipient awardees must comply with the various federal requirements governing federal financial assistance programs. Accordingly, prospective applicants and awardees are advised to review the required federal provisions (and source documents) detailed in this section.

## **Title VI Nondiscrimination**

Requires that no person because of race, color, national origin, be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of any project funded in whole or in part with federal funds.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)**

Requires that any recipient of FTA funds shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

## **Section 504 of the Federal Transit Act**

Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of Federal financial assistance.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act**

Prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals in all programs, activities and services of public entities, as well as imposes specific requirements on public and private providers of public transportation.

## **Bus Testing Regulations**

Requires awardees to certify compliance with the federal bus testing requirements before accepting any new bus model.

## **Restrictions on Lobbying**

Requires that no federal funds are used for lobbying and if other funds are used that specific reporting requirements are met.

## **Purchasing, including Buy America**

- The “Common Rule”, U.S. DOT regulations, “Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments,” 49 CFR part 18, and “Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Non-Profit Organizations,” 49 CFR part 19, permits states to follow the same policies and procedures which they use for procurements funded with non-federal funds, to the extent permitted by Federal statutes and regulations.
- The purchasing area includes all third party purchases and contracts entered into by the awardee with Federal funds. Awardees at a minimum must have established internal procurement procedures. Awardees must insure that every purchase order and contract issued by the awardee

or a subcontractor using Federal funds includes all clauses required by Federal, state, RTA and local statutes, executive orders and implementing regulations.

The RTA permits awardees to follow their own procurement policies provided that the basic Federal Third Party Contracting Guidelines standards are included in the procurement action. Those standards are detailed in FTA Circular 4220.1F, as revised.

If a awardee enters into agreement to operate service with a third party contractor the contractor is obligated to follow FTA procurement guidelines, regardless of the organizational status of the contractor, private for-profit or private non-profit.

## **Maintenance, Satisfactory Continuing Control, Section 504 and ADA**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which preceded the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), prohibits discrimination of individuals on the basis of handicap by recipients of Federal financial assistance. The ADA, in addition to requiring the provision for complementary paratransit service, requires that vehicles and facilities be accessible. ADA regulations require that public and private entities providing transportation services maintain in operative condition all accessibility features such as lifts, elevators, ramps, securement devices, signage and communication equipment. Review of the awardee's facilities, maintenance procedures and vehicles will include a review of facility accessibility and vehicle accessibility including lifts and other accessibility features. Training materials for operators will be reviewed. A bus route may be ridden to watch the system in operation.

Under State of Illinois guidelines all equipment must be utilized 100% for transit purposes. This is consistent with FTA circulars and their requirements for continuing control of project property (C5010.1E, as revised, Chapter IV – Project Management at Section 3 e (1)) FTA C. 9070.G, at page VI-3, does encourage maximum use of vehicles funded under the program. In all instances the vehicles must be used first for program related needs. Federal policy does allow some incidental use if the other program or project uses are currently or were previously supported with Federal funds. This is considered incidental as long as it does not interfere with the program use outlined in the application.

## **Safety and Security**

The development of formal safety and security plans is mandated for all programs. RTA will provide assistance and direction to subrecipients with the intention of making sure that the subrecipient recognizes the need for and benefit of a safety and security plan. FTA's authority in the area of safety is set forth in 49 USC 5329. Under this section FTA may conduct investigations into safety hazards and security risks. FTA and RTA are both concerned with the safety and security of transit passengers and transit workers.

While conducting the on-site compliance part of the monitoring program RTA staff should be aware of any safety or security issues at the awardee's property.

Manufacturers of vehicles and equipment will have procedures available for the safe operation of their products and for the training of operators. Certain transit providers may be affected by Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and state motor carrier regulations. Insurance carriers expect and may require that specific equipment and operational practices be followed and that workplace safety guidelines be developed. Emergency preparedness procedures should be coordinated with other local agencies and governments.

Awardees should develop screening and training programs for volunteer drivers. The Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation (ACCT) published a guide "Volunteer Drivers – A Guide to Practices" to assist agencies in developing such programs. It contains useful information about managing a volunteer driver program including safety measures.

## **Charter Bus and School Bus**

The Charter Bus requirements, Title 49 U.S.C. 5323(d), generally limit the use by public transportation operators of federally funded equipment and facilities for charters unless there are no willing and able private operators available to operate the charter. Charter regulations (49 CFR Part 604), published in the Federal Register on January 14, 2008 (73 FR 2326) state, at §604.2 (e), "The requirements of this part shall not apply to a recipient that uses Federal financial assistance from FTA for program purposes only, under 49 U.S.C. 5310....." This relieves the operator of a 5310 project from this requirement while operating service under this program. Additionally at Sub-part B – Exceptions §604.7 provides an exception for recipients providing charter service to a Qualified Human Services Organization. This type of organization is defined as "...an organization that serves persons who qualify for human services or transportation - related programs or services due to disability, income or advanced age." §604.3(q). The School Bus requirements, Title 49 U.S.C. 5323(f), prohibit the use of FTA funds for exclusive school bus transportation for school students and school personnel. The regulations do permit regular service to be modified to accommodate students along with the general public.

## **Drug-Free Workplace and Drug and Alcohol Testing**

All recipients of FTA funding are required under 49 CFR part 32 to maintain a drug-free workplace for all employees and to have an anti-drug policy, awareness program and training program. Awardees/subrecipients must notify employees that the use, manufacture, distribution, or possession of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace. Illinois state regulations at 30 ILCS 580/1 do require that all awardees certify that they provide a drug-free workplace.

FTA awardees that receive only 5310 program assistance are not subject to FTA's Drug and Alcohol testing rules, but must comply with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) rule for employees who hold Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDL)(49 CFR part 382). All drivers of vehicles designed to transport 16 or more passengers (including the driver) must have a CDL. Mechanics that drive the vehicles must also have a CDL.

## Labor Protections

For FTA programs, 49 U.S.C. 5333(a) imposes Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements on construction projects. Section 5333(a) requires the Secretary ensure that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction work financed with the assistance of loans or grants under Chapter 53 be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar construction in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, as amended.

## PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN REVISIONS

The RTA will submit this PMP to FTA for review and approval. FTA will keep copy of this PMP on file at the FTA Region V offices. An approved PMP remains valid until FTA approves a later plan submitted by the RTA, an FTA management review results in a specific request to the RTA by FTA for a revised PMP, or FTA announces significant new program documentation requirements. The RTA is responsible for revising this PMP to ensure consistency with Federal / FTA requirements. The RTA will issue timely revisions to this PMP, when needed and especially when the information will be helpful to minority applicants, sub-recipients, and third-party contractors that will be affected by the revision.

If the RTA proposes significant revisions to this PMP, the RTA will provide an opportunity for Members of the PAC to provide comments on the proposed changes. Additionally, if this PMP is significantly changed or if the changes are considered "pervasive," the RTA will submit a revised PMP to FTA Region V for review and approval. The RTA is not required to submit minor changes to this PMP to FTA for review and approval; however, the RTA will ensure that FTA Region V is notified regarding changes to this PMP and will provide FTA Region V with an up-to-date copy of this PMP.

Revision Date	Description
September 2018	Updated for FAST Act compliance and streamlining of content most useful for potential applicants and current awardees
March 2021	Updated to reflect the revised Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) and new policies and procedures for the Section 5310 program, including local match and funding policies, selection criteria and project selection team.

	CRRSAA apportionment and future recovery funds allocation policy documentation.
April 2022	Updated to reflect revised performance measures developed for subrecipient quarterly reporting, derived from the revised Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP).
January 2023	Updated to allow for Capital Infrastructure project applications for the FY2022-2023 Call for Projects, clarify subrecipient use of Administrative funds and revise project selection process.