Understanding Section 5310
Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities

Program Basics
Purpose

- Improve mobility of older adults and people with disabilities
- Transportation that exceeds the requirements of the ADA
- Remove barriers to access existing transportation services
- Provide alternatives to public transportation

For transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities.
Apportionment

• Funds are apportioned based on the population of older adults and people with disabilities

• Funds go to direct recipients
  • The state is the direct recipient in rural & small urban areas
  • Designated recipients are chosen by the Governor in large urban areas

Section 5310 is a formula funding program.
Funding Distribution

- 60% of funds go to urbanized areas with a population of 200,000 or more.
- 20% of funds go to small urbanized areas of fewer than 200,000 individuals.
- 20% of funds go to rural areas with populations less than 50,000.

Population numbers are based on U.S. Census data.
Eligible Subrecipients

- State or local governmental authority
- Private non-profit organization
- Operator of public transportation
- Selection process must be in the state or program management plan.

Direct recipients have flexibility in how they select subrecipients.
Available Funding per Activity

- The amount of traditional projects shall not be less than 55 percent of funds apportioned.
- The amount of non-traditional projects cannot exceed 45 percent of funds apportioned.

Section 5310 can fund capital and operating expenses.
Eligible Activities – Traditional

- Buses and vans
- Wheelchair lifts, ramps and securement devices
- Technology systems
- Mobility Management
- Purchase of transportation services

*Traditional activities are capital-only.*
Eligible Activities – Non-Traditional

• Travel training
• Volunteer driver programs
• Building accessible features
• Improving signage or way-finding technology
• Providing same day or door-to-door service

Non-traditional activities can be capital or operating.
Match

• The Federal share of eligible capital costs may not exceed 80%.

• The Federal share of eligible operating costs may not exceed 50%

• Can be derived from cash match, other department or agency funding eligible to be expended on transportation or in-kind contributions.

*The Federal Fund Braiding Guide can be used to identify other Federal agencies that can be used to match the Section 5310 Program*
Coordination

- Projects must be included in the locally developed coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan.
- Plans must be developed with public participation and approved.
- Services funded by Section 5310 will be coordinated with other federally assisted programs and services as feasible.

Section 5310 funding recipients shall coordinate services and participate in planning.
Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM)

• The CCAM works to improve coordination and address barriers for States and communities.
• The CCAM Program Inventory identifies 130 Federal programs that can fund human services transportation.
• CCAM is implementing the current 2023-2026 Strategic Plan.

The CCAM consists of 9 Federal agencies that can fund human services transportation.
Section 5310 in Your State

• Each direct recipient may manage aspects of their program differently.

• Operations is an allowable expense; however, some direct recipients only allow capital projects.

• Many direct recipients have more requests for funding than they have funds available.

• Review the FTA Section 5310 Funding Checklist.

Contact your state DOT to find out more about Section 5310 funding in your state or region.
Resources

- FTA Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities – Section 5310
- 49 U.S. Code §5310 – Formula grants for enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities.
- 49 USC § 5302(4) – definitions including capital projects
- CCAM Fund Braiding Guide
- CCAM Program Inventory
- CCAM Strategic Plan

Check out these resources for more information.
Technical Assistance Centers

- National Aging & Disability Transportation Center (NADTC)
- National Center for Mobility Management (NCMM)
- National Rural Transit Assistance Program (NRTAP)
- National Center for Applied Transit Technology (N-CATT)
- Mobility Innovation Collaborative (MIC), a program of the Shared Used Mobility Center (SUMC)
- Transit Workforce Center (TWC)

Thank you!