

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DIVISION OF MASS TRANSPORTATION

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January 4, 2011

**CALL FOR PROJECTS
FTA SECTION 5310 ELDERLY AND DISABLED SPECIALIZED TRANSIT**

The California Department of Transportation's (Department) Division of Mass Transportation is pleased to announce a call for projects for federal fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

- Estimated combined federal funding is \$25 million
- Website for additional information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5310.html>
- Toll-free assistance line: 1-888-472-6816
- Application due date to regional planning agency is **March 4, 2011**
- Application due date to the Department on or before **May 6, 2011**

A Fact Sheet is enclosed as well as a contact listing of the regional transportation planning agencies. This information is available in alternate formats by request. We look forward to working with you in this application cycle.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**KIMBERLY A. GAYLE**

Office Chief

Federal Transit Grants Programs

Enclosure

FTA Section 5310 Elderly and Disabled Specialized Transit Program
Federal Fiscal Year 2010/2011

PROGRAM FACT SHEET AND TIMELINE

Program Purpose: Provide capital grants for projects that meet the transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities where public mass transportation services are otherwise unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate.

Program History: Since the program's inception in 1975, approximately 500 agencies have received over 4000 vehicles statewide, serving a variety of client groups and programs ranging from small agencies with specific clientele (e.g. dialysis and AIDS patients) to large providers serving an entire community. The average cost for yearly maintenance for a vehicle is estimated at \$8,500.

Funds Available

- * Approximately \$25 million in Federal funds are available for this cycle;
- * 100 % in federal funds upon FTA approval of Transportation Development Credits.

Eligible Applicants:

- * Private non-profit corporations;
- * Public agencies where no private non-profits are readily available to provide the proposed service;
- * Public agencies that have been approved by the State to coordinate services.

Eligible Equipment:

- * Accessible vans and buses;
- * Mobile radios and communication equipment;
- * Computer hardware and software

Service Eligibility: Services to be provided must serve the transportation needs of elderly persons and/or persons with disabilities. Public service must be "incidental" per FTA C 9070.1F.

Project Eligibility: Applicants must have management oversight and control over the operations and service of the equipment. Applicants are required to provide sufficient justification and provide documentation that alternative transportation services are unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate to meet the agency's transportation needs.

Selected project

vehicle(s) must provide a minimum of 20 hours of service per week per vehicle or in coordination with other agencies.

All projects selected for funding must be derived from a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (Coordinated Plan) as required by FTA C 9070.1F.

Vehicle Replacement Eligibility: Vehicle(s) must be in active service. Active service is defined as a vehicle providing service throughout the agency's normal days and hours of operation. A van(s) proposed for replacement must have been in service for four years or have at least 100,000 miles at the time of application. A replacement bus(s) must meet or exceed useful life at the time of application.

Service Expansion Eligibility: Applicants must be able to document that the proposed transportation service will provide:

- * Services to additional persons; or
- * Expand the service area or hours; or
- * Increase the number and/or frequency of trips.

Funding Selection Process:

1. The Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) scores the applications using established evaluation criteria and completes a prioritized list for their region.
2. The State Review Committee reviews the RTPA scores, and scores a statewide-prioritized list of projects based on available funding.
3. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) holds a public hearing to review and adopt the final list of projects.
4. Caltrans submits approved projects to the FTA.

Program Requirements: Once approved by FTA, successful applicants enter into a Standard Agreement with Caltrans. The agreement remains in effect until the project's useful life. Grantees are responsible for the proper use, operating costs, and maintenance of all project equipment. Grantees must be prepared to comply with the requirements of Caltrans, the Department of Motor Vehicle and the regulations of the California Highway Patrol.

PROGRAM NOTE:

FTA Section 5310 vehicles are purchased by Caltrans using a State procurement process. Upon Caltrans approval, public agencies can follow their own local procurement process. However, the grantee must comply with state and federal procurement procedures when purchasing with local funds. Upon project completion, the grantee may request reimbursement from Caltrans for the Federal Share.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- January 4, 2011
 - Call for Projects
 - Begin Schedule for Public Hearings (Public Transit Only)
- January 24-28, 2011
 - Grant Application Workshops (Southern California)
- February 1-4, 2011
 - Grant Application Workshops (Northern California)
- March 4, 2011
 - Regional applications due to RTPA by 5:00 p.m. March 4, 2011. RTPA scores applications and conducts appropriate public hearings.
- May 6, 2011
 - RTPA forwards (electronically) regional prioritized list with scores and copies of applications with approved Certification and Assurances to Caltrans by 5:00 p.m May 6, 2011.
- June 6, 2011
 - Regional scores are merged into a statewide-prioritized list of projects.
 - State Review Committee reviews and verifies scores submitted by the RTPAs.
- June 22, 2011 to August 10, 2011
 - Submit draft list to CTC for book item at the upcoming CTC meeting
 - CTC distributes public draft Program of Projects (POP)
 - CTC conducts staff level conference for the review committee to hear any filed appeals
 - CTC conducts public hearing to adopt final POP
 - Final POP distributed publicly
 - Projects are programmed in the FTIP
- September 2011
 - Schedule Successful Applicant Workshops, verify new agency information
 - After verification that all projects have been programmed, approved POP submitted to FTA for funding approval
 - After FTA's final approval, Standard Agreement process initiated
 - Procurement process begins.

*For additional information call our toll free number (1.888.472.6816) or visit our website at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5310.html>*