



125 EAST 11TH STREET | AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 | (512) 463-8588 | WWW.TXDOT.GOV

Questions and Answers for the 2016 Section 5310 Application

Q. Do you have a list of eligible vehicles that we can purchase with the 5310 funds? Where do we buy the vehicles?

A. The Public Transportation Division website has a number of resources that will assist you in understanding the vehicle procurement process and the requirements for vehicles. You can find the specific page here:

<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/public-transportation/local-assistance/transit-vehicle.html>

If you have additional questions regarding the process after reading this information, you should contact your district's Public Transit Coordinator for further guidance. They are your local resource and familiar with procurement issues. If you do not know which district your projects is in, you can consult the map on this page and search by county:

<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/district.html>

Contacts for each of the districts are on this page:

<http://www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/public-transportation/local-assistance/coordinators.html>

Q. Regarding letters of support, can a church that has a program designed to help those with a disability provide a letter of support?

A. Any entity that provides services for seniors and/or individuals with disabilities can provide a letter of support.

Q. Do rural areas need a letter from the MPO too?

A. No.

Q. If an organization subcontracts through other entities that receive 5310 funds, can it apply for its own 5310 grant?

A. Yes.

Q. Can any nonprofit--501(c)3 certified by the IRS and the State of Texas--apply on its own?

A. Only nonprofits that serve the senior and persons with disabilities communities should apply.

Q. Is the requirement of a nonprofit agency for capital 5310 funds a new requirement in this application?

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A. No. This requirement comes from the MAP 21 funding legislation and was implemented in last year's 5310 program.

Q. What if an agency has received an extension to be able to expend project funds from a prior year's 5310 grant?

A. Applicants who have funds for projects left in 5310 grants from previous years should only apply for the amount needed to cover actual project costs. If, for an example, and agency still has three months of funding from a prior grant after implementing the project for a year, the agency should reduce their application budget amount for this year's application to reflect only three-quarters of the amount requested in the previous year. Project Grant Agreements for 5310 are written from September 1, 2016 to December 31, 2017. However, an agency should budget for the funds necessary to run the project for one year. The additional time between September 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 is given in the 5310 program so that agencies have an additional time period to expend all of the grant funds and submit a final billing.

Q. What if an agency received an extension from a prior year's grant but is now applying for a different project (not the same one as last year)?

A. Regardless of the project, applicants should only apply for funds adequate to implement the project for one year.

Q. Can funds received for small urban areas be used in the rural areas?

A. Funds may be transferred between small urban and rural allocations only if TxDOT determines that the documented need in that district area is met. If all of the qualifying projects in a district's area type receive funding, that is considered meeting the need. Any funds remaining in the area allocation where the need is met would then be available to add to the district's other area total.

Q. What is the population of a small urban area?

A. From 50,000 to 199,999 persons.

Q. Can an agency receive a vehicle and purchase of service?

An agency cannot purchase service from itself. Providing your trips with your own vehicle is an operating expense. An agency may still purchase service from another provider, even if the agency has its own vehicle.

Q. Can a Taxi Cab company apply for an accessible vehicle through 5310?

A. Yes.

Q. Our agency is considering applying for three different items: Mobility Management, a Vehicle, and Preventive Maintenance. How many project applications do I need to submit?

A. One application, as long as there is a larger project concept that covers all of these elements.

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Q. If we are applying for preventive maintenance in one district, do we need to submit two separate applications?

A. No. Submit one application.

Q. Does TXDOT have a document that talks about In-Kind Match options or local match?

A. Yes. You can download a Matching Funds Resource Guide from the Public Transportation site. <http://txdot.gov/inside-txdot/forms-publications/publications/public-transportation.html>

Q. When coming up with the number of seniors and individuals with disabilities served, can an agency include a percentage of the number of trips funded by the 5311 program?

A. No. This is a measure of 5310 trips only.

Q. Can an agency use Operating funds for all their vehicles or only 5310 funded vehicles?

A. Operating funds are only for 5310 funded vehicles in 5310 service.

Q. Local transit districts can only apply for Capital traditional projects with a partnership?

A. A local transit district must partner with a non-profit agency that serves the 5310 population and/or a state or local agency that is authorized to coordinate services for the 5310 population (for example, an Area Agency on Aging, ADRC, or Center for Independent Living) to be eligible for the Traditional Capital 55% minimum. Otherwise they can only apply for Other/Operating funds.

Q. Are all traditional Capital projects are eligible for TDCs?

A. Yes.

Q. Do I need to request TDCs with the application now, or can I request them later?

A. Any request for TDCs must be made with the application. Public transportation may not be able to honor requests made after the application due to grant restrictions from the FTA.

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