

## Federal Aid Grant Programs

The following sections present Federal Aid Grant Programs in the following order:

- FTA Section 5303 Metropolitan Planning
- FTA Section 5304 Statewide Planning
- FTA Section 5307 Small Urban Areas Program
- FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities
- FTA Section 5311 Rural Areas
- FTA Section 5316 Jobs Access and Reverse Commute Program Rural (JARC)
- FTA Section 5317 New Freedom Program (Consolidated into Section 5310)

### **MAP-21 – Consolidation of Programs; Separate Applications Required**

On July 6, 2012 the President signed into law a two-year transportation authorization, entitled Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21). MAP-21 changes include consolidation of several grant programs listed above. For example, the FTA Section 5317 New Freedom grant program was repealed and New Freedom projects become eligible under FTA Section 5310, without a specific set aside funding level. Similarly, the FTA Section 5316 Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program is consolidated within Sections 5307 and 5311. In order to efficiently utilize any reverted and unallocated funds under these programs, and in order to maximize flexibility to utilize all available funds most efficiently, separate grant applications for each grant program will continue to be required. In this way DRPT retains the flexibility to award available JARC and New Freedom Funds awarded to Virginia in previous federal fiscal years and to allocate, for example, a portion of FFY16 Section 5310 funds to support projects similar to those previously supported with New Freedom funds.

### **MAP-21 – Designated Recipients; Northern VA Urbanized Area Applications to COG**

Under MAP-21, funds are apportioned based on each state's share of the targeted populations. MPO's and other entities are allowed, under MAP-21, to be designated recipients for large urbanized areas (over 200,000).

In accordance with Federal Transit Administration (FTA) guidance related to implementation of MAP-21, and by mutual agreement, DRPT will serve as the designated recipient for the Richmond/Petersburg, Roanoke, and Hampton Roads Urbanized Areas. The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) will serve as the recipient of Section 5310 funds for the Washington D.C., MD, and VA Urbanized Area and applicants serving this area should apply to COG.

To be clear, **all eligible applicants, including those in rural areas, small urban areas, and those in large urbanized areas of Richmond, Roanoke, and Hampton Roads, should apply to DRPT for funding to support projects under Section 5310, and for projects formerly eligible under the New Freedom grant programs, in accordance with this guidance document.**

**Additionally, Virginia based entities, primarily serving Northern Virginia** communities in the Washington D.C., MD, and VA Urbanized Area should apply to GOG.

## **Federal Aid Grant Program Common Application Procedures**

Application procedures vary across the Federal Aid Grant Programs administered by DRPT. Specifics are detailed in each grant program's individual section. However, all Federal Aid Grant Program applications must include certain certifications required by the federal government. Certifications requirements are summarized in Section 5.1.1.

### **Certifications and Assurances**

The certifications are a subset of the application information to be provided by applicants.

Applicants for Federal Aid Grant Programs must provide certifications and assurances relevant to the grantee's application for assistance. Twenty-four categories of certifications and assurances are included in the FTA's Grant Management System, TEAM-Web, under the "Recipients" option and include:

1. Assurances Required for Each Applicant
2. Lobbying
3. Procurement Compliance
4. Protections for Private Providers of Public Transportation
5. Public Hearing
6. Acquisition of Rolling Stock for Use in Revenue Service
7. Acquisition of Capital Assets by Lease
8. Bus Testing
9. Charter Service Agreement
10. School Transportation Agreement
11. Demand-Responsive Service
12. Alcohol Misuse and Prohibited Drug Use
13. Interest and Other Financing Costs
14. Intelligent Transportation Systems
15. Urbanized Area Formula Program
16. Clean Fuels Grant Program
17. Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Formula Program and Pilot Program
18. Nonurbanized Area Formula Program for States
19. Job Access and Reverse Commute Program
20. New Freedom Program
21. Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program
22. Tribal Transit Program
23. TIFIA Projects
24. Deposits of Federal Financial Assistance to State Infrastructure Banks

Note: Categories 3 through 23 are required for some, but not all, applicants and projects.

FTA's annual certifications and assurances permit the applicant to submit a single certification to cover all of the programs for which it anticipates submitting an application. If available, the certification and assurances form will be included as part of the application for each program. Compliance with applicable certifications and assurances and circular provisions is required, as a condition of funding. Electronic signature of the certifications and assurances will be enabled in OLGA, when the effective edition of the document becomes available.