



FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Section 5310 Program Overview



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Section 5310 Program Purpose

“To improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities throughout the country by removing barriers to transportation services and expanding the transportation mobility options available.”

By Supporting

Transportation services *planned, designed, and carried out* (emphasis added) **to meet the special transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities** in all areas—large urbanized, small urbanized, and rural.

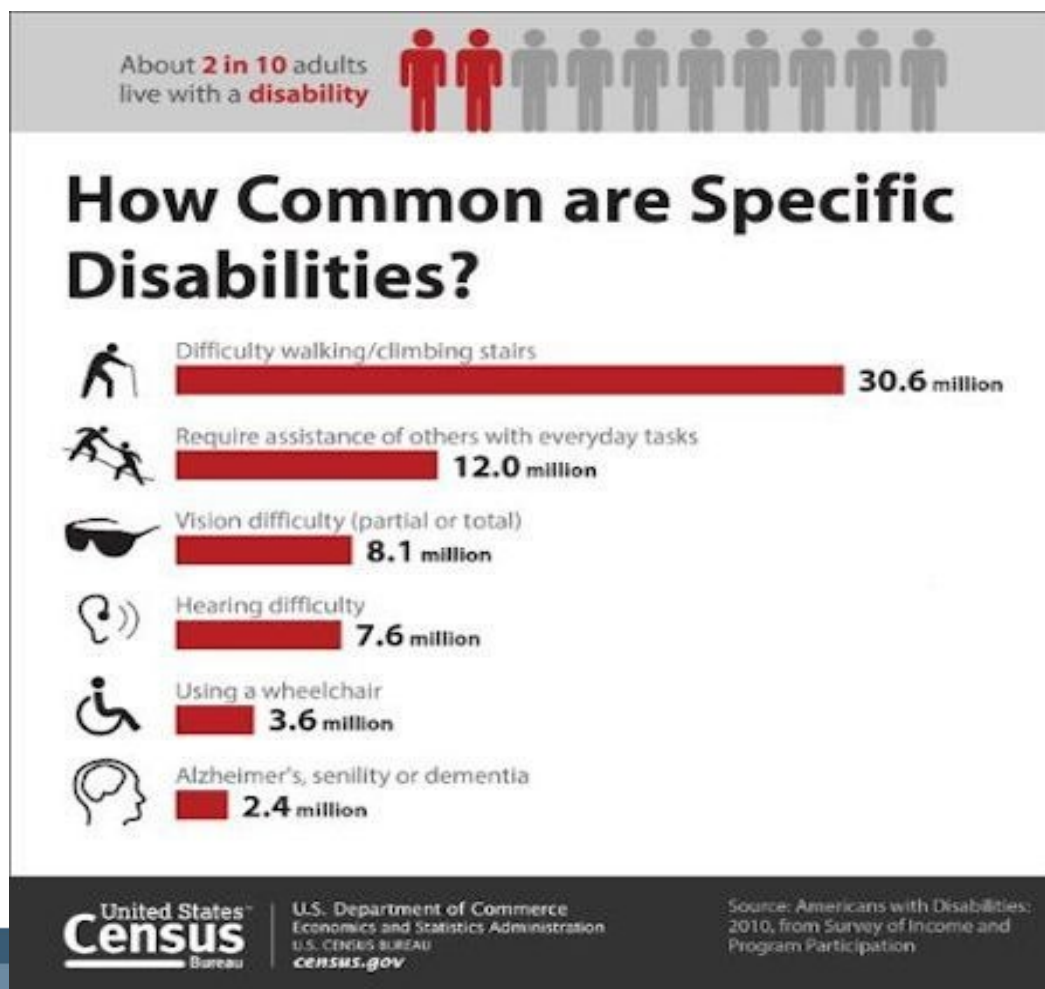
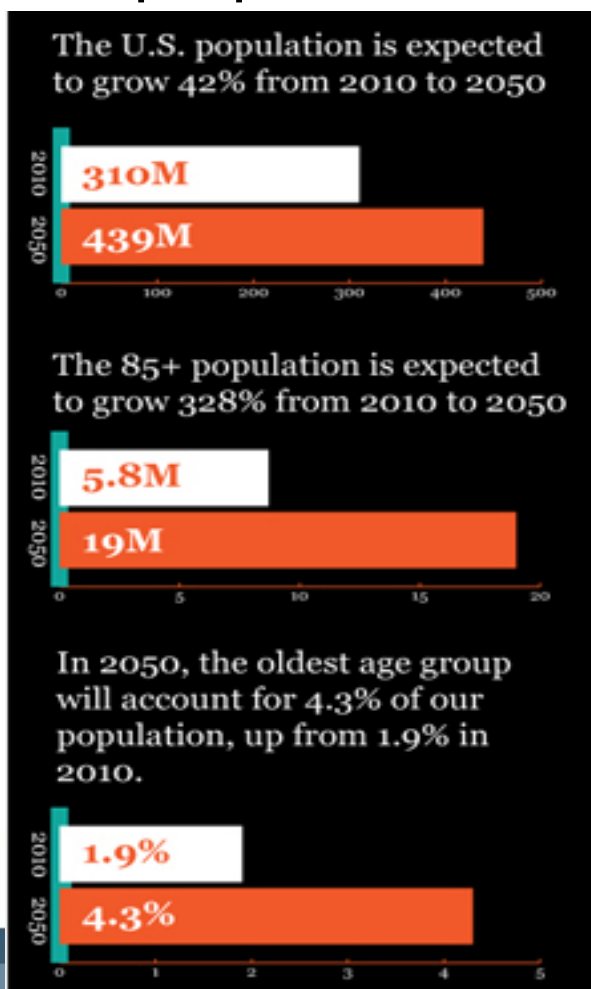
Section 5310 Program Is

A *flexible* **State-managed** program that connects seniors and individuals with disabilities to their communities.



Trends

The Section 5310 Program serves an ever growing aging population and people with disabilities.



5310 Means

Independence

“The program is helping me stay independent for as long as possible. Since I do not drive, the program allows me to go to various functions, appointments and shopping.”

Inclusion

“I got to visit a friend I hadn’t seen in 20 years. What a fun day! The outlets in Kittery? I never thought I would get there again.”

Access/Health

“I had to keep cancelling doctor’s appointments, but I’m able to get there now. It’s easy to make arrangements with this program. I just check in with my driver’s schedule and work around that.”

**Quotes from riders of 5310-funded programs*

At the Outset

5310 was established in 1975 with the following parameters:

- Discretionary capital assistance program
- Private nonprofits were eligible grantees
- Seen as a transportation gap-filling program
- Assets primarily used to transport human services agency clients

Recipients and Subrecipients: Definitions and Roles

Following the Dollars

Recipients Defined

5310 Funds are Apportioned to **Recipients**

- **States are recipients for rural and small urban areas**
- Designated recipients for large urban areas are chosen by state governors

Recipients' Role

- Document their procedures in a state management plan (SMP) or program management plan (PMP)
- Plan for future transportation needs, ensure integration and coordination among diverse transportation modes, and providers
- Develop project selection criteria consistent with the coordinated planning process
- Notify eligible local entities of funding availability

Recipients' Role (continued)

- Solicit applications from potential subrecipients
- Allocate funds to subrecipients on a fair and equitable basis
- Submit an annual program of projects (POP) and grant application to FTA
- Ensure compliance with FTA requirements

Subrecipients

For *Traditional* 5310 projects *

- Private nonprofit organizations
- A state or local government, if
 - approved by a state to coordinate services for seniors and individuals with disabilities; or
 - certifies that there are no nonprofit organizations readily available in the area to provide the service.

*Under MAP-21, 55% of a recipient's 5310 allocation must be spent on *traditional* 5310 projects.

Subrecipients (continued)

For *Other* eligible projects

- State or local governmental authority
- Private nonprofit organizations
- Operators of public transportation

Such *Other* projects reflect the inclusion of eligible uses from the former New Freedom program.

Examples of Traditional Section 5310 Projects

Capital Purchases

- **Vehicles** (i.e., buses, vans, or accessible taxis)
- Approved Vehicle Rehabilitation or Overhaul
- Related Vehicle Equipment (i.e., lifts, ramps, securement devices; etc.)
- Other Capital Equipment Purchases (i.e., communications equipment such as Mobile Data Terminals or Computers; security equipment such as camera systems for vehicles; fare collection systems; etc.)
- Mobility Management
- Cost of Leased or Contracted Services

Examples of “Other” Section 5310 Projects

- Mobility Management
- Travel Training
- Curb Cuts
- Sidewalks
- Pedestrian Signals or Other Accessible Features
- Volunteer Driver Programs (Mileage Reimbursement)

Examples of “Other” Projects (continued)

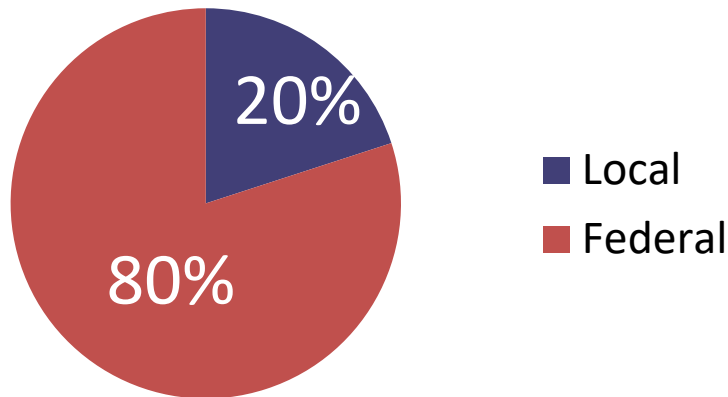
- Costs Directly Tied to Transit Operations
- Administrative Expenses
- Operation of Transportation Brokerages to Coordinate Providers, Funding Agencies, and Passengers
- Development and Operation of One-Call/One-Click Call Centers
- Voucher Programs

FAST Act Authorized Funding for Section 5310

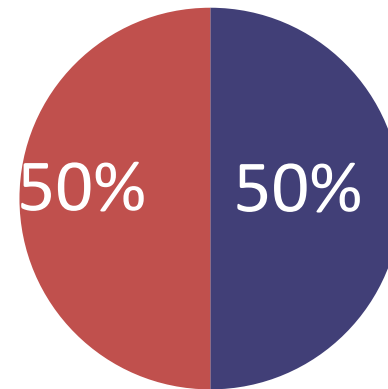
	FY 2016 (in millions)	FY 2017 (in millions)	FY 2018 (in millions)	FY 2019 (in millions)	FY 2020 (in millions)
5310 Formula Grants	\$262.95	\$268.21	\$273.84	\$279.65	\$285.58
Discretionary Pilot Program	<u>\$2.00</u>	<u>\$3.00</u>	<u>\$3.25</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>	<u>\$3.50</u>
5310 Total	\$264.95	\$271.21	\$277.09	\$283.15	\$289.08

Local Match Requirements

Capital Expenses



Operating Expenses



Exceptions:

Vehicle acquisitions to support compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or the Clean Air Act have an 85% and 90% Federal match, respectively, for vehicle-related equipment and facilities.

The Project Selection Process

Making Choices To Address Needs

Steps in Project Selection

Section 5310 Recipients are responsible for:

- Developing project selection criteria consistent with the **coordinated planning process**
- Notifying eligible local entities of funding availability
- Soliciting applications from potential subrecipients
- Allocating funds to subrecipients on a fair and equitable basis
- Submitting an annual program of projects (POP) and grant application to FTA

Project Selection is Flexible

Recipients are afforded a great deal of flexibility in how they select projects.

The selection process may be:

- Formula-based
- Competitive
- Discretionary

Selection Process Requirements

Whatever the selection process, it must ensure:

- Equitable distribution among eligible groups
- Projects selected are included in the Coordinated Plan
- The Coordinated Plan was **developed and approved** in cooperation with stakeholders, including individuals with disabilities and seniors utilizing transportation services

Additional Resources

FTA Resources:

[Section 5310 Fact Sheet](#) - Provides a brief overview of the program's allocation, purpose, and other provisions

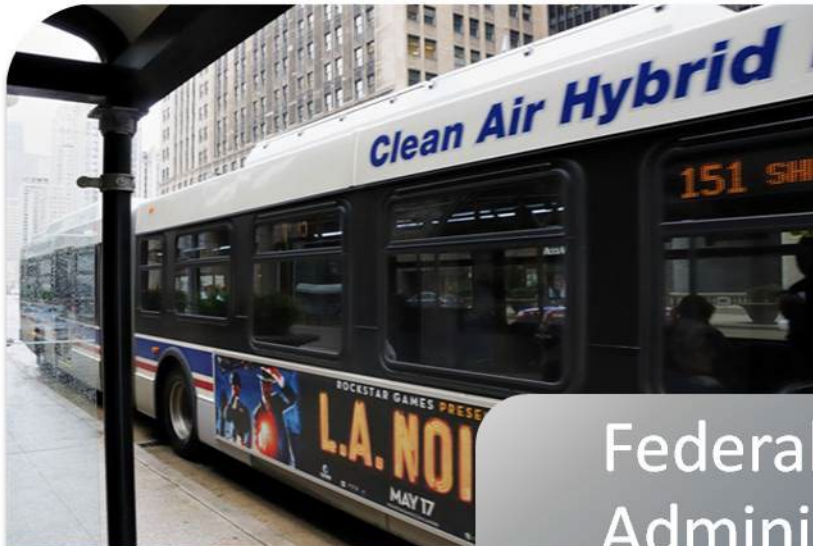
[Section 5310 Circular \(June 6, 2014\)](#) – The authoritative document on the requirements of the 5310 program

[NTD Glossary](#) - Terms used in the National Transit Database, explained

Section 5310 Technical Assistance

To find out more about the NADTC, request technical assistance, webinars, online courses, in-person events, or to sign up for the Center's e-News, send an email to: contact@nadtc.org or call (866) 528-6278





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