



Funding Summary and Application Process

This information includes a synopsis of grant opportunities and the application process for programs funded by the Federal Transit Administration and administered by the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Section 5311, Rural Public Transportation

Federal and State funding is available to support public transportation projects in rural Nebraska. This support includes reimbursement for operating expenses subsidies to purchase transit vehicles and awards to construct or renovate transit-related facilities. Eligible subrecipients of funds to administer a public transportation project include private nonprofit organizations, state or local governmental authorities, operators of public transportation services or intercity bus operators.

The Section 5311 program awards grants for operating assistance on a two-year grant cycle. Applications are due in March prior to the grant cycle ending on September 30 of that fiscal year. However, NDOT may allow new applicants to apply for funding at any time on a case-by-case basis. Existing 5311 program participants can apply for vehicles throughout the fiscal year. Startup rural transit agencies should apply for operating assistance and vehicle(s) at the same time.

Section 5310, Specialized Transportation for the Elderly and Disabled

Federal funding is available to support the transportation needs of the elderly and disabled in Nebraska. Funding is provided to subsidize the purchase of vehicles or to provide purchase of service from other transportation providers. Eligible subrecipients include nonprofit agencies incorporated within the state of Nebraska and governmental entities that certify there are no nonprofit agencies in the service area capable of providing the service.

NDOT receives 5310 funding for applicants in rural areas, small urban cities, and Lincoln. Applications for funding are released twice per fiscal year in March and September. Additional applications may be released depending on funding availability.

Section 5339, Bus and Bus Facilities

Federal funding is available for transit bus and bus facilities projects. NDOT receives funding for rural and small urban areas of the state.

Section 5303 and 5304, Metropolitan and Statewide Planning

NDOT receives Federal funding for planning activities in the Metropolitan areas of the state (Lincoln, Omaha, Grand Island and Sioux City). The Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) apply to NDOT annually for Section 5303 funds. The funds are disbursed using a formula that is based on population.

NDOT also receives planning funds for statewide projects through the Section 5304 program. These funds are expended for projects selected by NDOT and may be in rural or urban areas of the state.

For more information about these programs and how to submit an application, please contact the NDOT Transit Programs Specialist at 402-479-4694.