CONNECTICUT
STATE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SECTION 5311 PROGRAM

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
FOR NONURBANIZED AREAS

November 2019
CONNECCTICUT
STATE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
FOR NONURBANIZED AREAS

This 2019 State Management Plan
Supersedes the Plan of July 2015

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND RIDESHARING
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CHAPTER 1.0 | INTRODUCTION

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5311 program makes federal funds available to the states to assist in the development, implementation and promotion of public transportation systems in rural and small urban areas, using a population based distribution formula. Under the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), the majority of rural formula funds (83.15 percent) are apportioned based on land area and population factors. The remaining rural formula funds (16.85 percent) are apportioned based on land area, vehicle revenue miles, and low-income individuals factors. A state may provide its Section 5311 program funds to subrecipients that are state or local governmental authorities, non-profit organizations, operators of public transportation services, or intercity bus operators to assist the financing of operating, capital, planning, and job access and reverse commute project costs. Funds are available to finance the administrative expenses of the state agency assigned the task of overseeing the program and also to provide technical planning assistance to non-urbanized areas.

Acting in accordance with 49 U.S.C. Section 5311, the Governor has designated the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) as the agency to apply for, receive and administer funds under the Section 5311 program.

CTDOT will administer the program in compliance with the regulations set forth in FTA Circular 9040.1G dated October 24, 2014. Along with these regulations, the State will incorporate goals and objectives tailored to Connecticut's non-urbanized systems.

A program of projects will be submitted at least annually to the Secretary of Transportation for approval. The program of projects denotes the fair and equitable distribution of funds within the State and ensures maximum feasible coordination with transportation services funded through other federal program sources.

This State Management Plan (SMP) has been prepared to incorporate policy changes in the administration of the Section 5311 program due to the issuance of FTA Circular 9040.1G which incorporates provisions the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), Public Law 112-141. The Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for the Formula Grants for Rural Areas Program is 20.509.

Any changes to federal regulations, state laws and/or policies governing the FTA Section 5311 program will automatically be incorporated as a part of CTDOT's management procedure, whether or not the State Management Plan has been updated to reflect these modifications. Any questions concerning this document may be addressed to:

Transit Manager (Operations)
Connecticut Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transportation
Office of Transit and Rideshare
Room 1137 NE
P.O. Box 317546
Newington, CT 06131-7546
CHAPTER 2.0 | GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 | Federal Program Objectives

The goals outlined by the Federal Government for the Section 5311 program are:

1. To enhance the access of people in nonurbanized areas to health care, shopping, education, employment, public services, and recreation.

2. To assist in the maintenance, development, improvement, and use of public transportation systems in rural and small urban areas.

3. To encourage and facilitate the most efficient use of all federal funds used to provide passenger transportation in nonurbanized areas through the coordination of programs and services.

4. To provide financial assistance to help carry out national goals related to mobility for all, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income individuals.

5. To encourage mobility management, employment-related transportation alternatives, joint development practices, and transit-oriented development;

6. To increase availability of transportation options through investments in intercity bus services.

7. To assist in the development and support of intercity bus transportation.

8. To provide for the participation of private transportation providers in nonurbanized transportation to the maximum extent feasible.

2.2 | State Program Objectives

Connecticut is committed to providing transportation alternatives to its citizens. Through the use of public transportation, the people of the rural communities will be able to take advantage of the many opportunities that balanced growth can bring to the area. In addition to the federal goals, Connecticut has established others for its systems. They are:

1. To maximize the level of public transportation services provided, subject to available funding.

2. To foster regional operations to increase efficiency, productivity, and coordination of all public transportation services.

3. To promote the necessary capital purchases within the limits of available program resources.

4. To assist the personnel of systems in procurement of appropriate educational training opportunities when funds for such programs are available.
Since each system has different physical, demographic, economic, and political characteristics, the degree to which the federal and state goals are achieved will not necessarily be the same for every system.

Eligible applicants who would like to apply for Section 5311 funds must submit to CTDOT data detailing the goals and objectives for their service for the upcoming year. This is submitted as part of the application. At the conclusion of the operating year, the objectives stated in the application are compared to the actual results of the system. All goals and objectives of the individual operators are incorporated into the development of the Section 5311 program for the State as a whole.
CHAPTER 3.0 | ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governor has designated the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) as the agency to apply for, receive and administer funds under the Section 5311 program.

3.1 | The responsibilities of CTDOT include, but are not limited to:

1. Documenting the State's procedures in a State Management Plan (SMP).
2. Notifying eligible local entities of the availability of the program.
3. Planning for future transportation needs, and ensuring integration and coordination among diverse transportation modes and providers.
4. Soliciting applications.
5. Developing project selection criteria.
6. Reviewing and selecting projects for approval.¹
7. Certifying the eligibility of applicants and project activities.
8. Ensuring compliance with federal requirements and applicable federal and state rules and regulations by all subrecipients.
9. Forwarding an annual program of projects and grant application to FTA.
10. Monitoring local project activity.
11. Overseeing timely and proper project audit review and close-out.
12. Filing a National Transit Database (NTD) report each year for itself and each subrecipient.
13. Ensuring that there is a fair and equitable distribution of program funds within the State.
14. Providing technical and management assistance to local recipients.

¹ The State must include its Section 5311 apportionment, along with all other federal highway and transit funds, in a Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) approved by FTA and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). FTA subsequently obligates Section 5311 funds and any flexible funds transferred to Section 5311 based on the program of projects included in the State's Section 5311 grant application. Before the State may expend federal funds on behalf of a subrecipient, the State must enter into an agreement with the subrecipient, and the subrecipient must have met all statutory and program requirements. The State certifies to FTA annually that the State and subrecipients have met, or will meet, all federal requirements.
15. Providing maximum feasible coordination of public transportation services assisted by FTA with transportation services assisted by other federal sources.

16. Coordinating statewide transportation system development.

17. Expending funds for the support of intercity bus transportation to the extent required by law.

18. Ensuring a process whereby private transit operators are provided an opportunity to participate to the maximum extent feasible.

19. Allocating funds for the continuation of the Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP).

3.2 | The responsibilities of subrecipients of Section 5311 funds include, but are not limited to:

1. Ensuring compliance with federal requirements and applicable federal and state rules and regulations by all subcontractors and third party contractors.

2. Preparing and submitting to CTDOT at the periods required by FTA, the certifications and assurances required to obtain Section 5311 funds.

3. Preparing and submitting to CTDOT for review and approval, a four (4) year grant application, including all estimated operating and capital needs for that period.

4. Submitting reports for each project as mandated by FTA and CTDOT no later than the 20th of the month for the preceding month’s operations. This proper reporting includes:
   a. Invoice Summary and Processing (ISP) form (or replacement).
   b. Support of claim for payment with current required form(s).
   c. Report on system’s operating statistics using current required form(s).

5. Maintaining safe and reliable operations through mechanical soundness of equipment and vehicles used for the operation of the system.

6. Supplying, within one hundred eighty (180) days of the conclusion of the project, or as required by the State, three (3) copies of an audit(s) from an accounting firm certified in the State of Connecticut as a certified public accountant.

7. Establishing objectives for quantitatively and qualitatively evaluating the operation of the transit system as that operation pertains to:
   a. The safety of passengers.
   b. The financial stability of the operation.
c. The personnel employed by the system.

d. Other items as applies to the individual systems.

8. Maintaining, at a minimum, a three (3) year capital needs and vehicle replacement schedule along with specific project description sheets on a continuing basis.

9. Participating as necessary in the development of a transit development plan.

Since the inception of the original Section 18 (now Section 5311) program in 1979, CTDOT has maintained a strong role in the development and promotion of rural transportation services throughout the State. Although the office responsible for administrative oversight of the Rural Transportation Program has been renamed, modified, downsized and relocated within CTDOT over the years, original management dedicated to the program remains and staff is trained in, and dedicated to, the proper oversight of all rural transportation activity. Rural transit operations in Connecticut today are dynamic modern systems that provide an invaluable service to residents, many of whom have no other transportation modes available to them.
CHAPTER 4.0 | COORDINATION

CTDOT requires Section 5311 subrecipients to make every effort to participate in the local planning process for coordinated public transit-human service transportation. CTDOT also makes every effort to provide for maximum feasible coordination with transportation services assisted by other federal sources and for the consolidation of transit services in their areas. CTDOT will make every effort to inform and include representatives from the intercity bus industry to attend and participate in planning meetings in order to address the intercity bus transportation needs of the targeted population of seniors, people with disabilities, and low income people during the local coordinated planning process.

4.1 | Participation

Section 5311 subrecipients, representatives of public, private, and non-profit transportation and human services providers are encouraged to coordinate with other affected stakeholders providing transportation services within their region. As many participants as possible should be involved in these coordination efforts. The process should be continued through planning, implementation, and operation of a project. This can be attained through coordination:

1. Of transit services with other transportation providers - public and private.

2. With public and private nonprofit agencies.

3. Through a transportation brokerage concept.

4. With human services agencies.

CTDOT will oversee the results of these efforts through:

1. Membership on technical and advisory boards.

2. Monitoring of transit service development.

3. Review of reports and materials developed under this and related programs.

CTDOT’s coordination with other agencies at the state level includes, but is not limited to, Area Agencies on Aging and the Departments of Social Services and Developmental Services.
CHAPTER 5.0 | ELIGIBILITY

5.1 | Eligible Subrecipients

1. Eligible subrecipients of Section 5311 funding may include:
   a. State agencies.
   b. Local government authorities.
   c. Transit districts.
   d. Private nonprofit organizations.
   e. Regional planning agencies.
   f. Indian tribes and groups.
   g. Operators of public transportation services.

2. All applications must be submitted to the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

3. Private for-profit operators of transit or paratransit services may participate in the program through contracts with eligible applicants.

5.2 | Eligible Services and Service Areas

Section 5311 funds are available for public transportation projects, including job access and reverse commute projects, and intercity bus transportation projects in rural and small urban areas.

Public transportation is defined to mean mass transportation by bus, rail, or other conveyance, either publicly or privately owned, which provides to the public general or special service on a regular and continuing basis. This does not include charter, sightseeing, or exclusive school bus transportation. Limitations on the provision of charter and school service are described in CHAPTERS 16.0 CHARTER RULE and 21.0 OTHER PROVISIONS, respectively. Guidance on funding for intercity bus transportation is found in CHAPTER 8.0 INTERCITY BUS TRANSPORTATION.

Rural Area - An area encompassing a population of less than fifty thousand people that has not been designated in the most recent decennial census as an “urbanized area” by the secretary of Commerce.

Urbanized Area (UZA) - An area encompassing a population of not less than fifty thousand people that has been defined and designated in the most recent decennial census as an “urbanized area” by the secretary of Commerce.
Urban Cluster - Urban clusters are defined based on the same criteria as urbanized areas, but represent areas containing at least 2,500 and less than 50,000 people.

CTDOT has developed the methodology to determine if Rural Transit Districts’ projects funded with the Section 5311 Program are eligible for Section 5311 funding. The methodology uses the Census data and it begins by calculating the percent of the urban population versus total population of each town served by the particular project. However, since Section 5311 funds are available “for people living in any area outside of an Urbanized Area (UZA) as designated by the Bureau of the Census” only the urban population in the UZA is used, excluding urban population residing in the Urban Clusters. CTDOT has determined that as long as the resulting urban population percentage (Adjusted Urban Population) is less than 75% of the total population, the project is still eligible to be fully funded with Section 5311 Program (up to 50% federal share). It is worth mentioning that every single town served by the Section 5311 Subrecipients has a total population of less than 50,000.

Section 5311 funded services may be designed to maximize usage by members of the general public who are transportation disadvantaged persons, including elderly persons and persons with disabilities. Coordinated human service transportation which primarily serves elderly persons and persons with disabilities, but which is not restricted from carrying other members of the public, is considered available to the general public if it is marketed as a public transit service.

The purpose of Section 5311 assistance is the provision of public transportation services. Incidental use of a Section 5311 vehicle for non-passenger transportation on an occasional or regular basis, for example, package delivery, must not result in a reduction of service quality or availability of public transportation service. This policy on incidental use does not preclude the use of Section 5311 assistance to support the transportation of passengers by a private provider not primarily engaged in passenger transportation.

Transit service providers receiving assistance under Section 5311 may coordinate and assist in providing meal delivery service for homebound persons on a regular basis if the meal delivery services do not conflict with the provision of transit services or result in a reduction of service to transit passengers. It is expected that the operating costs attributable to meal delivery will be borne by the nutrition program which provides the meals. Section 5311 capital assistance may not be used to purchase specialized equipment such as racks or heating or refrigeration units related to meal delivery.

Since the goal of Section 5311 is to enhance access of people living in nonurbanized areas to activities, Section 5311 projects may include transportation to and from urbanized areas.

5.3 | Eligible Assistance Categories

Eligible project costs are determined in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 titled "Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments," as amended, and rules and regulations issued by the FTA and CTDOT. Expenditures shall be allowed for state administrative, planning and technical assistance, capital, operating, and project administrative expenses.
1. **State Administrative, Planning, and Technical Assistance**
   
a. CTDOT may use an amount not to exceed 10 percent (10%) of its apportioned Section 5311 funds, not including the Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) allocation, to administer the program and to provide technical assistance to local recipients.
   
   1. Allowable administrative costs include salaries, overhead expenses, supplies, and office equipment used to administer the program.
   
   2. Allowable technical assistance costs may include, but is not limited to project planning, program development, management development, coordination of public transportation programs (public and private for-profit and non-profit), development of vehicle and equipment specifications, and such research as the State may deem appropriate to promote effective means of delivering public transportation services in nonurbanized areas.
   
   b. CTDOT may pass any portion of these funds on to local recipients for the same purposes and, at its discretion, may impose a local share requirement. CTDOT recognizes the importance of continuing planning activity to ensure the maximum utilization of all rural operations and funding. Historically, CTDOT has made a portion of these funds available to local planning entities and will continue to do so contingent upon funding availability.

2. **Capital Expenses**

   a. Eligible capital expenses include the acquisition, construction and improvement of public transit facilities and equipment needed for safe, efficient and coordinated public transportation systems. Examples of eligible capital expenditures include, but are not limited to:
   
   1. Buses.
   
   2. Vans or other paratransit vehicles.
   
   3. Radios and other communications equipment.
   
   4. Passenger shelters, bus stop signs, and similar passenger amenities.
   
   5. ADA accessibility equipment (i.e., wheelchair lifts and restraints).
   
   6. Vehicle rehabilitation, remanufacture, or overhaul (the major overhaul of equipment to bring it up to "as new" operating condition).
   
   7. Preventive maintenance.
8. Extended warranties which do not exceed the industry standard.
9. Operational support such as computer hardware or software.
10. Installation costs; vehicle procurement, testing, inspection and acceptance costs.
11. Construction or rehabilitation of transit facilities including design, engineering, and land acquisition.
12. Facilities to provide access for bicycles to mass transit facilities or equipment for transporting bicycles on mass transit vehicles.
13. Lease of equipment and or facilities when a lease is more effective than purchase.
14. The introduction of new technology, through innovative and improved products, into public transportation.

3. Operating Expenses
   a. Operating expenses are those costs directly related to system operations and must include, but are not limited to:
      1. Fuel and oil.
      2. Replacement tires.
      3. Replacement parts which do not meet the criteria for capital items.
      4. Maintenance and repairs.
      5. Salaries and fringe benefits of drivers and mechanics.
      7. Licenses.
      8. Purchased Transportation Services.

4. Project Administrative Expenses
   a. Eligible project administrative costs incurred by a local recipient are those identified in FTA guidelines and may include but are not limited to, general administrative expenses and overhead costs such as:
1. Salaries of the project director, secretary, bookkeeper, or other personnel performing job duties of an administrative nature.

2. Office supplies.

3. Facilities and equipment rental.

4. Insurance premiums or payments to a self-insurance reserve.

5. Marketing expenses.


Depending upon federal funding availability, CTDOT may treat administrative costs as operating costs or may treat them differently and require subrecipients to report them separately. During the early years of the program, administrative costs were reported separately and reimbursed at a higher funding ratio. Most recently, they have been treated as operating costs. The future treatment of operating costs will depend on the availability of federal funding with every effort made to assist each rural operator in a fair and equitable manner.

b. Interest on Short Term Loans

Certain project expenses may be considered as project administrative expenses with the prior approval of CTDOT. An example is the interest on short term loans to finance project administration or operating costs where the loan was necessary because of a delay in the federal apportionment of Section 5311 funds or where there are delays in CTDOT’s execution of the Project Agreement.

5. Job Access and Reverse Commute Projects including all types of projects that were formerly eligible under the Section 5316 Program i.e.:

a. Late-night and weekend service.

b. Guaranteed ride home service.

c. Shuttle service.

d. Expanding fixed route public transit routes, including hours of service and coverage.

e. Demand responsive van service.

f. Ridesharing and carpooling activities.
g. Transit-related aspects of bicycling (i.e. bicycle racks)

h. Promotion and marketing efforts of use of transit by low-income and welfare recipients, use of transit voucher program, development of employer-provided transportation and use of transit pass program.

i. Supporting the administration and expenses related to voucher programs.

j. Supporting local car loan programs for vehicles for shared rides.

k. Supporting mobility management and coordination programs among public transportation providers and other human service agencies.

6. Meal Delivery

Transit service providers receiving assistance under Section 5311 may coordinate and assist in providing meal delivery service for homebound persons on a regular basis if the meal delivery services do not conflict with the provision of transit services or result in a reduction of service to transit passengers. Section 5311 capital assistance may not be used to purchase special vehicles used solely for meal delivery or to purchase specialized equipment such as racks or heating or refrigeration units related to meal delivery.

7. Other Incidental Use

Incidental use of a Section 5311 vehicle for non-passenger transportation on an occasional or regular basis, for example, package delivery, must not result in a reduction of service quality or availability of public transportation service. Prior approval must be obtained from CTDOT.

8. Ineligible Costs

a. OMB Circular A-87 defines items that are ineligible for reimbursement under all federal grant programs. Among the more common items are:

1. Entertainment expenses.

2. Fines and penalties.

3. Charitable donations.

4. Interest expenses on loans not previously approved by CTDOT.

b. Additionally, the following transit related costs are ineligible for Section 5311 assistance:

1. The costs incurred by advisory councils or transit district/authority board members.
2. Indirect transit related functions or activities of local public governing bodies performed as a normal or direct aspect of public administration (i.e., expenses of a city council in considering transit matters).

3. Depreciation accrued by public agencies on facilities or equipment purchased with federal and state funds.

4. Contributions to a capital reserve account.

5. Lobbying activities.
CHAPTER 6.0 | FUNDING PARTICIPATION RATIOS

For Connecticut, funding for the Section 5311 program is obtained from three sources: federal, state, and local. Since Connecticut contributes to the funding of Section 5311 programs, the State definition of "local" will supersede the federal definition. The term "local" for Connecticut's program will be defined as the subrecipient receiving Section 5311 funds.

6.1 | Operating Ratios

Operating expenses shall be determined each month and revenues subtracted from the total expenses.

1. Federal share may not exceed fifty percent (50%) of the deficit.¹

2. State share is contingent upon the availability of funds and may be up to thirty-three percent (33%) of the deficit.

3. Local share will be, at a minimum, seventeen percent (17%) of the deficit.

It is understood that the fifty/thirty-three/seventeen percent (50%/33%/17%) matching ratio will be followed for billing purposes until the federal and state contract maximums are attained. Any remaining expenses for the budget year will be the responsibility of the local operator.

6.2 | Administrative Ratios

Administrative expenses shall be determined each month.

1. Federal share may not exceed eighty percent (80%) of the deficit.

2. State share is contingent upon the availability of funds and may be up to ten percent (10%) of the deficit.

3. Local share will be, at a minimum, ten percent (10%) of the deficit.

It is understood that the eighty/ten/ten percent (80%/10%/10%) matching ratio will be followed for billing purposes until the federal and state contract maximums are attained. Any remaining expenses for the budget year will be the responsibility of the local operator.

6.3 | Capital Ratios

1. Federal share of eligible facilities and equipment shall not exceed eighty percent (80%) of the net project cost, except for the following:

¹ In accordance with 49 U.S.C. § 5311(g)(2)
a. Capital projects used to provide access for bicycles to transit facilities, or
to install racks or other equipment for transporting bicycles on transit
vehicles, which may have a ninety percent (90%) federal share.

b. The incremental cost of vehicle related equipment required to comply with
the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) or the Clean Air Act, which
may have a ninety percent (90%) Federal share.

2. **State share** is contingent upon the availability of funds and may be up to twenty
   percent (20%) of the net project costs.

3. **Local share** is contingent upon the amount of State funding available for the
   project.

6.4 | Variance in Cost Percentages

When federal Section 5311 funding is not available in sufficient amounts to cover the
federal share cost percentage ratios specified in Items 1, 2 and 3 above, the state share
and/or local share may, subject to the availability of funds, be increased beyond their
specified cost percentage ratios. When this situation occurs, CTDOT will make the
determination as to what level of financial participation the State can accommodate.

6.5 | Requirements/Restrictions on Funding Ratios

1. The net operating cost is determined by subtracting all project revenues from total
   operating expenditures, inclusive of contributed goods, services, and labor. Contra-
   expenses, defined as revenue items that directly offset transit expenses, should be
deducted from operating expenses before calculating the net operating cost. Examples of contra-expenses are:

   a. Interest income on working capital.

   b. Cash discounts and refunds which directly offset accrued expenses.

   c. Insurance claims and reimbursements which directly offset accrued
      liabilities.

   d. Rebates of sales and use taxes.

2. At least one-half of the local match must be provided for in cash. The remaining
   one-half of the local match may be provided for in cash, cash equivalent such as
   in-kind services, or from unrestricted federal funds.

   Non-cash shares such as donations, volunteered services or in-kind contributions
   are eligible to be counted toward the local match only if the value of each is
   formally documented and supported, and represents a cost which would
   otherwise be eligible under the project. Guidance on this subject is provided in
   the federal administrative rules for grants and cooperative agreements at 49 CFR
parts 18 and 19. The value of in-kind contributions is included in net project cost to the extent it is used as local match.

3. Federal funds are considered unrestricted when a federal agency permits its funds to match Section 5311 funds. Such unrestricted federal fund matches must be directly related to the operational functions of the project. Generally, projects can accrue unrestricted federal funds by three (3) methods:

a. Direct federal grant payments made to the project (not Section 5311 or other sources of FTA assistance).

b. Purchase of service contracts.

c. Contribution of goods, services, or labor from other organizations that have utilized an unrestricted federal funding source to finance the goods, services, or labor.

Use of Title III funds distributed by the Area Agency on Aging as local match is allowed at the request of the local agency with permission of the State. The amount of Title III funds used as local match may not exceed eight and one-half percent (8.5%) of the total deficit or one-half of the local share. Use of these funds is further restricted by maintenance of a reduced fare to eligible riders no higher than one-half the regular local passenger fare. Unrestricted federal funds must be used as revenue until the minimum reduced fare average of revenue per passenger level is reached.
CHAPTER 7.0 | PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA AND METHOD OF DISTRIBUTING FUNDS

7.1 | Project Selection Criteria

1. Local public transportation projects are evaluated by CTDOT using the following criteria:

   a. Demonstrated need and demand.

   b. Level of coordination among human service agencies, private for-profit public transportation companies, and the public transportation applicant.

   c. Adequacy of service to the elderly and persons with disabilities.

   d. Degree to which existing and proposed level of service meets the needs of the general public.

   e. Local commitment to transportation, which includes but is not limited to:

      1. Willingness of towns to provide input into the decision-making process through coordination and/or active involvement in planning committees, transit district boards, etc.

      2. Willingness to provide funding as necessary to meet service provider's (i.e. transit district’s) needs.

   f. Demonstration of proper control of all aspects of a proposed system:

      1. CTDOT will evaluate past experience in planning, developing, and implementing similar proposals and/or projects.

      2. For applicants without prior experience, CTDOT will review the organization's fiscal and administrative structure, as well as other aspects of the organization. This is necessary to insure that the applicant has the requisite components to carry out the proposed project in an effective, efficient, and competent manner.

2. Along with the federal requirements for eligibility for Section 5311 assistance, the following state criteria must be met for approval by CTDOT:

   a. Project proposals must include two-year projections of operating deficits and sources of deficit financing.

   b. In any given service area, the system must be designed to meet as many of the transportation needs of the general public as possible. The service must also address the transportation needs of persons with disabilities, elderly, and minority persons.
c. The applicant must demonstrate that the project service is coordinated to the maximum extent feasible with other transportation services in the service area. Also, existing transportation resources, particularly those of the private sector must be in use to the fullest extent possible.

d. Capital equipment purchases will only be approved when the applicant documents that existing public and/or private equipment is either unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to provide the intended service. The current availability of funds will be of prime consideration.

e. Reasonable fares, or third-party payments in lieu thereof, are required. While individual fare rates are permitted to vary, average annual revenue per passenger must equal or exceed one-half of the advertised local fare. This will be subject to periodic review by CTDOT for possible revision. CTDOT may suspend this requirement, temporarily or permanently, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the State.

f. Competitive applications in the same service area or alternative service proposals which exceed available funding will be evaluated and ranked according to the scope of service proposed and the extent to which coordination and energy conservation have been met.

g. The applicant must take positive steps to market the availability of transportation service to the general public, including, but not limited to, the publication, at periodic intervals, of the system's routes and schedules in the media serving the applicant's jurisdiction.

h. The applicant must post its routes and schedules in public places.

i. The applicant must submit, with the project application, the system's policy for charging fares to the general public and procedures for contracting transportation services to other agencies.

j. The applicant's vehicles must be clearly designated as open to the public.

k. The applicant's level of service to the public should be based upon the travel demand of the public. A procedure for receiving comments and suggestions regarding service from the public should be developed and submitted with the project application.

l. The applicant must submit with the project application an assurance substantiating that the transportation system is available to serve the general public.

3. A regional management organization (i.e., transit district) may be established and perform the following functions:

a. Contract with the State for all Section 5311 services provided in the region.
b. Provide or contract with others to provide all Section 5311 services.

c. Perform the function of a transit broker (i.e., locate existing underutilized transit equipment and maximize its use through arrangements including ridesharing, third party contracts, user-side subsidies, etc.)

d. Arrange for maintenance of all equipment.

e. Purchase all new or additional supplies, parts, and related equipment as required.

f. Provide or coordinate marketing.

g. Provide or coordinate business and accounting services.

4. CTDOT coordinates with planning agencies statewide, meets with them as necessary to disseminate information relative to the Section 5311 Program and to advise them of any requirements needed for project submission, and works cooperatively with them in this effort.

7.2 | Method of Distributing Funds

CTDOT makes every effort to have Section 5311 funding available for all rural areas. The original Section 18 (now Section 5311) Policy developed by CTDOT in 1979 programmed a specific percentage of funding for each town, based on rural population density. After several years of experience with the program, it became apparent that only a few rural areas were interested in implementing service.

Since 1980, Section 5311 federal funding has been held relatively constant with few increases other than those necessary to cover the cost of inflation. As all operations increased in scope and cost, federal funding became no longer sufficient to allow for new or expanded services. At this point in time, to allow new areas to make use of Section 5311 funding would necessitate removing essential funding from existing operators, thereby diminishing the services they provide. CTDOT elected not to do this. Therefore, by act of omission from the CTDOT Policy Statement Manual which was issued April 15, 1988, the original rural funding policy was eliminated. This does not preclude a rural area from approaching the Department with requests for rural demonstration project funding. Since 1988, top priority for the expenditure of Section 5311 funding has been the continuation of existing rural transit services. CTDOT is under no obligation to expand rural operations to other areas of the State. If increased funding levels permit the development of a new project, applications will be solicited, received and reviewed by CTDOT for feasibility of implementation.
CHAPTER 8.0 | INTERCITY BUS TRANSPORTATION

8.1 | Program Summary

Intercity service is defined by the FTA as regularly scheduled bus service for the general public which operates with limited stops over fixed routes connecting two (2) or more urban areas not in close proximity, which has the capacity for transporting baggage carried by passengers, and which makes meaningful connections with scheduled intercity bus service to more distant points, if such service is available. Package express service may also be included, if incidental to passenger transportation.

Commuter service (service designed primarily to provide daily work trips within the local commuting area) is excluded from the definition. Intercity service is not limited by the size of the vehicle used or by the identity of the carrier. Air, water and rail service are not included.

8.2 | Program Objectives

CTDOT will implement Section 5311(f) as part of its management of the Section 5311 program and will continue to evaluate the intercity bus environment as deemed necessary to provide the best public transportation system to its users in the rural areas that meets their mobility needs in an efficient, economical and reliable manner.

Objectives of Section 5311(f) include:

1. Supporting the connection between nonurbanized areas and the larger regional or national system of intercity bus service.

2. Supporting services to meet the intercity travel needs of residents in nonurbanized areas.

3. Supporting the infrastructure of the intercity bus network through planning and marketing assistance and capital investment in facilities.

8.3 | Governor’s Certification

CTDOT is required to expend at least 15 percent (15%) of its apportionment for an intercity bus program, unless "the chief executive officer of the State certifies to the Secretary of Transportation, after consultation with affected intercity bus service providers, that the intercity bus service needs of the State are being met adequately." The required percentage applies only to the amount of FTA’s announced annual apportionment of Section 5311 funds to the State, not to any funds the State subsequently transfers to its nonurbanized area formula program from another program.

CTDOT will document and follow the steps (elements) of the consultation process requirements stated within (Section 8.4 Consultation Process Requirements) in order to determine whether its intercity bus service needs are adequately being met or if any part of its Section 5311 apportionment should be set aside for the support of future services.
Upon completing its consultation with affected intercity bus service providers, CTDOT will forward an intercity bus certification letter to the Federal Transit Administrator, with a copy to the regional office supporting the results of the process.

8.4 | Consultation Process Requirements

CTDOT has developed the list of elements it will implement in its efforts to consult with affected intercity bus service providers and as necessary, will modify these elements to include and update its list of intercity bus service consultation process activities in order to continue meeting its intercity bus service objectives and to comply with future FTA requirements.

1. Identification of intercity bus service providers in the State.

   CTDOT will identify and update its list of affected intercity bus service providers serving in the State of Connecticut by researching related intercity bus service information including but not limited to the following resources;

   a. Russell’s Official National Motor Coach Guide,

   b. Websites of private intercity bus operators,

   c. Bus Industry Directories,

   d. State regulatory agency listings, and

   e. Trade associations, such as the American Bus Association and the United Motorcoach Association.

2. Activities the State will perform as part of consultation with identified intercity bus service providers and the intercity bus industry.

   a. CTDOT will inform and invite identified intercity bus service providers to participate in the following meetings that are held regularly throughout the state, which CTDOT facilitates or attends:

      1. Quarterly Transit meetings,

      2. Monthly Connecticut Association for Community Transportation (CACT) meetings,

      3. Monthly Connecticut Public Transportation Commission (CPTC) meetings,

      4. ‘Transit for Connecticut’ meetings, and

      5. Locally Developed, Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan (LOCHSTP) meetings.
b. CTDOT will meet periodically with identified intercity bus service providers to keep them abreast of transit activities statewide and to seek their continued involvement and input during the intercity bus service consultation process.

c. CTDOT will notify statewide rural and urban transit districts and other affected parties seeking their input and comments regarding intercity bus services in the State.

d. CTDOT will coordinate, meet, and follow-up with intercity bus service representatives from neighboring States to discuss intercity bus service issues.

e. CTDOT will update and include intercity bus service providers/services information on its main website located at www.ct.gov/dot

3. An opportunity for intercity bus service providers to submit proposals for funding as part of the State’s distribution of its annual apportionment.

a. CTDOT will document and periodically assess its statewide intercity bus service needs no more than four years before the date of its certification.

b. CTDOT will provide an opportunity through direct mailings and public notices via statewide newspapers for intercity bus service providers or other affected parties to submit proposals regarding the results of CTDOT’s assessment of its intercity bus service needs.

c. CTDOT will solicit comments through advertising in newspapers of the State’s intention to certify unless needs are identified.

4. A direct correlation between the results of the consultation process and a determination that the State’s intercity service needs are adequately being met.

Upon completing the first three (3) elements of the consultation process, CTDOT will forward a letter to the FTA Administrator documenting its ICB consultation process efforts and explaining the results certifying whether the State’s determination of intercity bus service needs are adequately being met or if any part of its Section 5311 apportionment should be set aside for the support of future services.

8.5 | Eligible activities

Eligible activities under Section 5311 (f) must support intercity bus service in rural areas and includes:

1. Planning and marketing.
2. Capital grants for intercity bus shelters, joint-use stops and depots.
3. Operating grants through purchase-of-service agreements.
4. User sides subsidies and demonstration projects.
5. Coordination of rural connections between small public transportation operations and intercity bus carriers.

8.6 | Feeder Service

The “coordination of rural connections between small transit operations and intercity bus carriers” may include the provision of service which acts as a feeder to intercity bus service, and which makes meaningful connections with scheduled intercity bus service to more distant points. The feeder service is not required to have the same characteristics as the intercity service with which it connects. For example, feeder service may be demand responsive, while intercity service is by definition fixed route. Examples of eligible costs include marketing and extended hours of service in order to connect with scheduled intercity service. Where feasible, intercity bus feeder service may also provide access to intercity connections with rail or air service.

8.7 | In-Kind Match for Intercity Bus

In the case of intercity bus project that includes both feeder service and an unsubsidized segment of the intercity bus service to which the feeder service connects, the local match may be derived from the costs of a private operator for the unsubsidized segment of intercity bus service as an in-kind match for the operating costs of connecting rural intercity bus feeder service.
CHAPTER 9.0 | ANNUAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL PROCESS

9.1 | State Application to FTA

The State application to FTA for Section 5311 funds consists of an annual program of projects which identifies the local recipients, gives a brief description of each project, an indication of the total project cost and the amount of the federal share. Funds programmed to support rural transit service operations and administration, capital needs and planning are clearly identified, grouped separately and subtotaled. Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) projects are described in either a separate or combined program of projects. Also included is the funding necessary for CTDOT administration, planning, and technical assistance. Amendments to the annual program may be submitted when CTDOT deems it necessary.

9.2 | Categories of Approval

Since all projects may not be at the same stage of development at the time the State application must be submitted, projects can be included in the following categories when the application is made:

1. **Category A** - includes those projects certified by the State as having met all statutory and administrative requirements for approval.

2. **Category B** - includes projects the State anticipates approving during the upcoming year, but which have not yet met all statutory and administrative requirements.

9.3 | Subrecipient Application to CTDOT

Applications for Section 5311 funds from local recipients are received by CTDOT on a continuing basis but are consolidated into a program of projects or an amendment and submitted to FTA at least annually. Exceptions to this rule will be considered on a case by case basis. Applicants may contact their regional planning agency for assistance with the Section 5311 application or they may work with CTDOT staff that administers the Section 5311 program.

CTDOT has developed an application format that follows requirements established by FTA. Appendix A - Subrecipient Grant Application Format and Contents, is a guide for a local recipient application. CTDOT will review proposed applications for inclusion in a program of projects to be submitted to FTA for approval.

All administrative and operating grants shall coincide with the State's fiscal year of July 1 through June 30 of the following year. CTDOT may reconsider this grant period based on each project's circumstances, upon written request from the applicant. Grant requests for administrative and operating funds may be submitted for a two-year operating period.
1. Opposition to the grant application

If negative comments are received regarding the grant application, the applicants must assess how this will impact private operators and consider measures to alleviate that impact. Both parties must meet to negotiate an acceptable arrangement. If necessary, the proposal must be modified in light of the concerns raised, and the private operator must agree to sign off on the proposal.

If an acceptable arrangement cannot be resolved, the subrecipient that received the negative comment must notify CTDOT. Once CTDOT is made aware of a complaint, it will review the situation and work cooperatively with the subrecipient to achieve a fair and equitable solution in the following manner:

a. The Section 5311 Program Coordinator requests a meeting with the subrecipient and the complainant.

b. In the event that an equitable solution cannot be reached at this meeting, the complainant will have ten (10) working days from the time of the meeting to file a written grievance with the Transit Manager, Office of Transit and Ridesharing, Bureau of Public Transportation. The Transit Manager (Operations) will review all aspects of the situation, will coordinate with the Section 5311 Program Coordinator and staff, and will issue a decision within ten (10) working days of receipt of the grievance.

c. If this decision is unsatisfactory to the private operator, a second appeal should be made, in writing, to the Bureau Chief, Bureau of Public Transportation. The Bureau Chief will issue a written decision within thirty (30) working days of receipt of the appeal. The decision of the Bureau Chief will be final. At the Bureau Chief's option, this function may be delegated to the Transit and Ridesharing Administrator, Bureau of Public Transportation.

Unless the objection is resolved to the satisfaction of all parties concerned and the opposition is withdrawn, the applicant will not be funded.

In addition to the above responsibilities, CTDOT staff will be available to answer questions and to provide technical assistance relative to the Section 5311 program. This assistance may be obtained by writing to:

Transit Manager (Operations)
Connecticut Department of Transportation
Bureau of Public Transportation
Office of Transit and Rideshare
Room 1137 NE
P.O. Box 317546
Newington, CT 06131-7546
9.4 | FTA Approval and the State Agreement Process

Concurrent with the submission of the State application to FTA, CTDOT will prepare an agreement between the State and the subrecipient. When notification of approval is received from FTA, the agreement package will be forwarded to the subrecipient for execution. As instructed in the transmittal letter, the subrecipient will return the executed agreement to CTDOT, along with a current resolution authorizing the signatory to enter into a contractual agreement with the State. The current resolution must be signed on or before the day the signatory will sign the agreement.

When required, CTDOT simultaneously puts in place the State match of a project’s expenses. Upon full execution of the agreement, the subrecipient can begin submitting reimbursement requests stipulated in the agreement. Payment by the State is processed as soon as all financial paperwork has been completed.
CHAPTER 10.0 | TRANSFER OF FUNDS

10.1 | Transfer of Funds

Section 5311 funds can be transferred to supplement the State's Section 5307 allocation that FTA apportioned to the State for urbanized areas with populations under 200,000. The amount transferred is subject to any limitations applicable to the original apportionment of such amounts. Likewise, the State's Section 5307 apportionment for small UZAs can be transferred by the governor to supplement the State's Section 5311 program.

Beginning with funds apportioned in fiscal year 2013, Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Formula Program) funds may not be transferred to the Section 5311 program.

CTDOT may transfer Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds, and certain other flexible funds, from FHWA to FTA to use for transit projects selected in cooperation with affected local officials in rural and urban areas with populations less than 50,000.
In accordance with FTA Circular 9040.1G dated October 24, 2014, CTDOT utilizes up to ten percent (10%) of its apportioned Section 5311 funds for administration and oversight of the program.

These funds in conjunction with State funds are used primarily for the salaries and overhead of personnel whose duties include the administration, planning, and oversight of the Section 5311 program.

These administrative, planning, and oversight functions include but are not limited to:

1. Reviewing grant applications submitted by local transit districts.
2. Preparing and submitting of FTA Grant applications.
3. Project planning.
4. Program and policy development.
5. Coordination of public transportation programs.
6. Coordination with inter-departmental staff to include Section 5311 projects in STIP/TIP process.
7. Preparing and processing of contracts and budget addenda with transit districts.
8. Coordinate with inter-departmental staff to program state matching funds.
9. Reviewing and approving payment of reimbursement requests submitted by transit districts.
10. Coordinate with transit districts to assess future budgetary needs.
11. Ensuring local Section 5311 subrecipients are in compliance with audit requirements.
12. Close-out of previous Section 5311 projects.
13. Performing site visits to local operators.
14. Disseminating information on federal/state regulations.
15. Responding to verbal and written correspondence with federal, state, local agencies and the general public.
16. Holding/attending meetings and public hearings related to the Section 5311 program.

17. Studying various elements of rural transportation.

CTDOT has also made available funds within ten percent (10%) state administration cap available to regional planning agencies for research and transit studies to further promote public transportation in nonurbanized areas of the State.

It has been past practice to use the ten percent (10%) state apportionment for the above-mentioned uses while Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) funds have been primarily used for travel, training, a scholarship program, and an annual state-wide bus rodeo.
CHAPTER 12.0 | RURAL TRANSIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

12.1 | Program Summary

The Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) provides a source of funding to assist in the design and implementation of training and technical assistance projects and other support services tailored to meet the specific needs of transit operators in nonurbanized areas. In implementing the Rural Transit Assistance Program, CTDOT will apply for funds that have been allocated to the State specifically for RTAP. This will normally be done in the annual application to FTA.

12.2 | Program Objectives

Objectives of the RTAP Program include:

1. To promote the safe and effective delivery of public transportation in nonurbanized areas and to make more efficient use of public and private sectors.

2. To foster the development of state and local capacity for addressing the training and technical assistance needs of the rural transportation community.

3. To improve the quality of information and technical assistance available through the development of training and technical assistance resource materials.

12.3 | Funding Ratio

For Connecticut, funding for the Section 5311(b)(3) program requires no local (subrecipient) match.

12.4 | Eligible Assistance Categories

CTDOT will use RTAP funds to support nonurbanized transit activities in four (4) categories: training, technical assistance, research, and related support services. The purchase of equipment to support one of the four (4) eligible activities is an eligible expense. Planning projects and administrative costs are not eligible under this program.

12.5 | Program Development/Delivery

CTDOT’s approach with regard to the utilization of RTAP funding is to create a Statewide Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP Consortium). A contractor selected in the process of a competitive solicitation will be designated to administer and coordinate all aspects of the RTAP Consortium and serve as a liaison between CTDOT and Section 5311(b)(3) program subrecipients. The RTAP Consortium administrator will be responsible for implementing and performing activities including but not limited to the following:
1. **Statewide Bus Roadeo** – Conduct the Annual Statewide Bus Roadeo which provides opportunities to drivers of all public transit services to enhance their driving skills and knowledge of transit service and safety regulations in a statewide transit competition. The first place individual in each bus type category is sent to the Annual National Bus Roadeo competition to represent the State of Connecticut. The second and third place individuals are awarded with a plaque.

2. **Scholarship Program** - Review and approve annual scholarship requests (applications) submitted by eligible participants, FTA Section 5311 transit operators and FTA Section 5310 recipients (nonprofit organizations that receive federal and/or state funding for the procurement of transit vehicles), seeking funding to send their administrative staff, drivers or maintenance personnel to training events, conferences, and seminars.

   Scholarship funds are limited to the reimbursement of seminar registration fees, travel and transportation, lodging and meals up to $1,000 per trip per individual. All scholarship requests will be approved based on the basis of demonstrated need, applicability of the training opportunities to the proposed attendee(s), and availability of funding. Each application request must be approved by CTDOT.

3. **Training Program** - Submit an annual schedule to CTDOT for approval containing a list of proposed transit related training courses to be provided to RTAP Consortium participants. The approved list of training courses (schedule) will constitute the annual training program.

   Training courses to be provided may include but are not limited to the following: defensive driver, customer relations, passenger assistance, wheelchair lift and securement, and safety orientation (i.e. bloodborne pathogens, accident investigation).

5. **RTAP Advisory Committee** - Establish an RTAP Advisory Committee dedicated to providing guidance on the State’s program development and delivery. In cooperation with CTDOT, the committee will encourage the participation of rural transit operators in the State to identify and establish priority areas of need for training, technical assistance, research, and other related support services.
13.1 | Private Sector Participation

Under the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 5323(a)(1) States or local governmental authorities may use FTA funds to operate public transportation service in competition with or in addition to transportation service provided by an existing public transportation company, only if the grantee “provides for the participation of private companies engaged in public transportation to the maximum extent feasible.”

Private providers of transportation services cannot apply directly to CTDOT for Section 5311 funding. Application to provide service must be done through an applicant (subrecipient) that is eligible to receive Section 5311 funds (refer to CHAPTER 5.0 ELIGIBILITY, Section 5.1 Eligible Subrecipients). CTDOT must make assurances to FTA regarding private sector participation in the provision of transit services. To facilitate this matter, the local eligible recipients shall follow the guidelines stated in this section.

Each subrecipient shall adopt a policy statement detailing a set of procedures, which shall include:

1. A statement of intent to fully comply with the intent of FTA Circular 9040.1F.
2. Establishment of a process for notification of all private operators.
3. Establishment of a process to provide opportunity for the involvement of private operators at the earliest stage of study development.
4. Providing the opportunity for continued involvement throughout the planning process, including participation in final recommendations.
5. Maintaining a listing of all private operators in the project service area.
14.1 | Title VI Program Requirements

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 601, states:

"No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." Applicants must submit to CTDOT an assurance indicating the above statement is true.

FTA’s Title VI requirements for States and local recipients are described in FTA Circular 4702.1B “Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients” www.fta.dot.gov/laws/circulars/leg_reg_5956.html This circular also implements 49 U.S.C. 5332, which includes age and sex as prohibited bases for discrimination.

Both CTDOT and the local recipient must file on a one-time basis a signed DOT Title VI Standard Assurance and signed FTA Civil Rights Assurance. CTDOT submits its assurance to FTA on a one-time basis and retains those it has received from subrecipients. It is unnecessary for CTDOT or subrecipients to submit new assurances with each new grant application.

14.2 | General Reporting Information

CTDOT must have on file the following Title VI general reporting information from Section 5311 subrecipients:

1. A concise description of any lawsuits or complaints alleging discrimination in service delivery filed against the subrecipients within the past year.

2. A statement of the status or outcome of each lawsuit or complaint.

3. A summary of all civil rights compliance review activities conducted by the subrecipient in the last year. The summary should include:

   a. The purpose or reason for the review.

   b. The organization conducting the review (i.e. a city civil rights office, MPO, or consultant).

   c. A summary of the findings and recommendations of the review.

   d. A report on the status or disposition of findings.

4. An analysis of any environmental and or social economic impacts as the result of proposed construction projects, including the impact on minority communities. This
14.3 | Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Requirements

1. Applicants are required to provide equal employment opportunity. CTDOT is responsible for maintaining the information submitted by applicants and assuring FTA that all applicants have met the EEO requirements, as detailed in FTA Circular 4704.1, prior to receipt of Section 5311 funds.

2. All applicants, regardless of size or level of funding, must submit to CTDOT an assurance that they "shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin, and that they shall take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin." CTDOT also requires all applicants to submit an assurance that "no person shall on the grounds of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any project, program, or activity for which this recipient receives federal financial assistance from the Federal Transit Administration."

3. In addition, those applicants with fifty (50) or more mass transit related employees which have received federal capital or operating assistance grants, or any combination thereof, of $1,000,000 or more in the previous Federal Fiscal Year, will be required to submit to CTDOT an EEO program consistent with the criteria set forth in FTA Circular 4704.1.

14.4 | Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Requirements

1. All Section 5311 applicants will adhere to the requirements as specified in the U.S. Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) regulations set forth in 49 CFR part 26 'Disadvantage Business Enterprise' www.fta.dot.gov/civilrights/12889.html

2. Subrecipients must report to CTDOT semiannually on the DBE contracting activities. The report (Uniform Report of DBE Commitments and Payments) addresses the contracting opportunities of CTDOT and Subrecipients. It also must submit to CTDOT a DBE program and set DBE goals.

3. Contracting opportunities are counted in the aggregate, and include FTA funded purchase orders, capital projects, professional services, TIFIA loan funded projects, and contracting activities of subrecipients.

4. DBE goals will be monitored continually by CTDOT from the application phase through project close-out.
CTDOT’s “DBE program with DBE goals” reports are prepared and completed by the CTDOT, Bureau of Administration, Division of Contract Compliance section. Also, the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Directory is now available on the Internet www.ct.gov/dot/cwp/view.asp?a=2288&q=307380
15.1 | Vehicle Use/Maintenance

The project applicant (subrecipient) must have an up-to-date maintenance plan and shall be responsible for utilizing vehicles in the manner and for the service described in the subrecipient's application to CTDOT, maintaining property records, conducting physical inventories, implementing adequate property control systems, and maintaining equipment acquired with Section 5311, according to its maintenance plan. These records are subject to periodic reviews by CTDOT.

CTDOT will conduct subrecipient site visits and Transit System Audit (refer to CHAPTER 20.0 TRANSIT SYSTEM AUDIT) to inspect vehicles awarded and/or funded by the program to ensure the proper maintenance and good operating order of vehicles and equipment, including ADA accessibility features.

At these site visits and during these Transit System Audit Reviews, CTDOT will:

1. Request and review the list of inventory of equipment and vehicles,

2. Request and review the subrecipient’s vehicle maintenance plan and service contract agreement,

3. Review the subrecipient’s maintenance log (vehicle history),

4. Select a vehicle(s) at random and compare the vehicle’s maintenance log to its scheduled maintenance according to the manufacturers plan,

5. Request and review the log of routine (daily) system checks of ADA features to ensure they are in good operating condition,

6. Prepare a report of any findings,

7. Forward a letter to the subrecipient with the results of the visit listing the items that were found in compliance and findings of non-compliance, including, if necessary, a plan of action and time frame to bring non-compliant items into full compliance, and

8. Schedule a follow-up visit, if necessary.
CHAPTER 16.0 | CHARTER RULE

16.1 | Charter Rule

Subrecipients under section 5311 are not subject to the charter rule when using FTA-funded vehicles to provide public transportation or coordinated human service transportation or to serve groups of individuals with disabilities, the elderly, or low income individuals. The charter rule does apply, however, if the FTA recipient wants to provide other charter service using FTA-funded vehicles. The provision of any charter service by Section 5311 Subrecipients shall require the written approval of CTDOT.

I. Definition of Charter

1. Transportation provided at the request of a third party for the exclusive use of a bus or van for negotiated price. The following features may be characteristics of charter service:
   a) a third party pays a negotiated price for the group;
   b) any fares charged to individual members of the group are collected by the third party;
   c) the service is not part of the regularly scheduled service, or is offered for a limited period of time;
   d) a third party determines the origin and destination of the trip as well as scheduling.

2. Transportation provided to the public for events or functions that occur on an irregular basis or for a limited duration and:
   a) a premium fare is charged that is greater than the usual or customary fixed route fare; or
   b) the service is paid for in whole or in part by a third party.

II. Exemptions. These services are not considered charter service; require no notifications to registered charter providers, record-keeping, quarterly reporting, or other requirements.

The following services are exempt from charter service regulations:

1) Transportation of Employees, Contractors, Government Officials, official guests to or from transit facilities or projects within its geographic service area for the purpose of conducting oversight functions such as inspection, evaluation or review;
2) Private Charter Operators;
3) Emergency Preparedness Planning and Operation;
4) Section 5310, 5311, 5316, and 5317 for program purposes only;
5) Emergency Response.

III. Exceptions. These services are considered charter service and have administrative, record-keeping and reporting requirements. For specific information regarding reporting please go to 49 CFR Part 604.
The following services are exceptions to charter service:

1) Service provided to Government Officials for official government business which can include non-transit related purposes within its geographic service area and when no revenue is generated from this service;
2) Service provided to Registered Qualified Human Service Organizations (QHSO) for the purpose of serving persons with mobility limitations related to advanced age, with disabilities and with low income;
3) Leasing of Equipment and Driver to registered charter provider which vehicle capacity is exceeded and/or exhausted;
4) No response by Registered Charter Providers;
5) Agreement with All Registered Charter Providers;
6) Petition to the Administrator for events of regional or national significance or when providing the service would cause hardship to registered charter providers.

IV. Charter Service Reporting. Subrecipients providing approved charter service under the above exceptions: 1) Government Officials, 2) Qualified Human Service Agencies, 3) Leasing, and 4) No Response by Registered Charter Providers, must report trip information to CTDOT for reporting to FTA. The charter service reporting form which can be obtained from FTA’s website www.fta.dot.gov/about/15740.html must be completed and submitted to CTDOT on a quarterly basis as follows:

1) Period of January 1 to March 31, reports due by April 10
2) Period of April 1 to June 30, reports due by July 10
3) Period of July 1 to September 30, reports due by October 10
4) Period of October 1 to December 31, reports due by January 10

Additional information on charter regulations can be found at www.fta.dot.gov/laws/leg_reg_179.html
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. 794, prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of federal financial assistance. In addition, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, assures the civil rights of disabled individuals to receive transportation services which are equal to those of non-disabled individuals.

Section 5311 recipients must comply with 49 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38, implementing the ADA and amending the Section 504 rule. Among other requirements, the regulations: prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities; require that vehicles acquired be accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals using wheelchairs (with limited exceptions for demand responsive systems providing equivalent service to individuals with disabilities or a demonstration of inability to obtain an accessible used vehicle despite good faith efforts to do so); and require that public entities operating fixed route transit plan for and provide complementary paratransit for individuals with disabilities who cannot use accessible fixed route transit.

In the years following passage of the ADA, CTDOT worked in concert with many transit operating entities statewide to determine which entities would provide the ADA paratransit services to complement all State contracted fixed route systems throughout the State. As operators were determined, the process of forming these ADA systems began. Utilizing input from public meetings and hearings with the disabled communities, the means of defining eligibility, certifying ADA clients, scheduling trips, handling service disputes and complaints and handling appeals was determined based on standards developed at the local level.

17.1 | ADA Responsibilities

Responsibilities for the implementation of ADA include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Section 5311 subrecipients operating fixed route transit must submit to CTDOT on a monthly basis an update on comparable paratransit services. This update report will include such elements as passenger trips provided, trip denials statistics, miles and hours of operation and a breakdown of wheelchair and non-wheelchair trips provided as well as the mileage of all vehicles engaged in ADA paratransit service.

2. CTDOT will ensure that all vehicles acquired with Section 5311 funds are equipped, maintained, and operated in accordance with the regulation and that service provided does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities.

3. The acquisition of ADA vehicles by Section 5311 subrecipients is subject to the CTDOT Capital Management Process, which requires that each subrecipient submit for approval a descriptive of the vehicles to be purchased. In addition, by State Statute, all vehicles purchased for public transportation must be fully accessible.
4. All Section 5311 subrecipients must maintain an updated maintenance plan for all vehicles used in the provision of ADA services. This must also incorporate all new vehicles acquired by the subrecipient. On-site inspections (refer to CHAPTER 15.0 MAINTENANCE) include a review of maintenance records to insure compliance with the schedule and inspection and random testing of ADA paratransit vehicles to assure that accessibility features are in working order.

5. CTDOT provides on-site inspection and on-board monitoring to insure that operators of Section 5311 ADA paratransit vehicles are adequately trained and skilled to safely operate the accessibility features of these vehicles. Additionally, RTAP funding is made available to Section 5311 agencies for the training of operators.

6. Newly constructed facilities, including joint use stops and depots for intercity bus transportation, must comply with ADA accessibility standards. For intercity bus transportation, recipients are encouraged to consider the provision of additional optional accessibility equipment, such as portable lifts.

7. In addition, recipients of Section 5311 funds should be aware that they also have responsibilities under other provisions of the ADA in the areas of employment, public accommodations, and telecommunications.

17.2 | ADA Re-certification Process

CTDOT has initiated a program with ADA providers to periodically re-certify ADA clients through a consultant in order to strive for statewide conformity of eligibility for clients. Section 5311 subrecipients will be scheduled for participation in this program and training of their respective staff personnel.

CTDOT monitors all facets of this program, utilizing the monthly operating reports, on-site observations and client letters or calls when they occur. CTDOT becomes especially involved in situations where service complaints or trip denials come to our attention, making the local operators accountable through the client complaint or appeals process.
CHAPTER 18.0 | REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

18.1 | Annual Proposed Operating Budgets

CTDOT’s financial assistance provided to subrecipients of Section 5311 funds for each state fiscal year shall be determined based on the budgetary needs of subrecipients and in consideration of the availability of federal and/or state funds. Subrecipients are required to submit their proposed operating budgets for the next state fiscal year on the forms provided by CTDOT (see Appendix C - Proposed Budget Format) six (6) weeks before the beginning of that fiscal year. To fulfill this requirement each subrecipient must provide to the State financial and performance statistical information related to its operating services to be provided, including but not limited to the following items:

1. Operational/administrative expenses,
2. Revenues,
3. Deficits,
4. Mileage,
5. Hours, and
6. Passengers.

18.2 | Monthly Financial and Performance Statistical Reports

Subrecipients shall submit no later than twenty (20) days after the end of each calendar month, monthly financial and operating reports for each state project included in each Budget Addendum that has been executed as part of their Agreement with CTDOT. These reports will include but not be limited to the following:

1. A financial statement setting forth the results of the subrecipient’s operations for said calendar month and consolidated for the calendar year-to-date. The financial statement shall be completed using FTA Section 5335 National Transit Database (NTD) reporting forms (see Appendix D - Expense/Revenue Formats), form 201 - Revenue Summary Schedule; form 305 - Expenses Classified by Function, and form 301 - Summary of Expenses Classified by Function, and
2. An Operating Statistic Report per each state project with monthly and year-to-date total expenses, revenues, deficit, mileage, total hours and total linked and unlinked passengers.

18.3 | Annual Audits

Subrecipients of Section 5311 funds are required to submit to CTDOT within one hundred eighty (180) days of the conclusion of the project, three (3) copies of their audits. The contents of the audit report must be in accordance with government auditing standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

1. Federal Single Audit - Subrecipients that expend a total amount of federal awards equal to or in excess of $500,000 in any fiscal year shall have either a single audit made in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments
and Non-Profit Organizations or a program specific audit (i.e. an audit of one federal program). Less than $500,000 shall be exempt for such fiscal year.

2. **State Single Audit** - Subrecipients that expend a total amount of State financial assistance equal to or in excess of $100,000 in any fiscal year shall have an audit made in accordance with the State Single Audit Act, Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) §§ 4-230 to 4-236, hereinafter referred to as the State Single Audit Act or a program audit. Less than $100,000 in any fiscal year shall be exempt for such fiscal year.

3. **Supplementary Program Information (SPI) forms** - Each Section 5311 subrecipient is required to fill out and submit together with their audit, Supplementary Program Information Forms (see Appendix B - Supplementary Program Information Format) providing the following program/grant information: the program/grant number, CTDOT project number, federal project number, phase and expenditures by phase. The sum of project expenditures should agree, in total, to the program/grant expenditures in the audit report. Federal and state programs/grants should be listed separately.

4. **Requests for Extension** - In the event the subrecipient is unable to submit their annual audit report to CTDOT within the timeframe required by state law and regulations, the subrecipient must request an approval for an extension beyond that deadline by submitting a written request for an extension, prior to the deadline, to:

   DOT Accounting Manager (Division of Internal Audits)
   Connecticut Department of Transportation
   2800 Berlin Turnpike
   P. O. Box 317546
   Newington, CT 06131-7546

   A carbon copy of the request must be sent to:

   Transit Manager (Operations)
   Connecticut Department of Transportation
   Bureau of Public Transportation
   Office of Transit and Rideshare
   Room 1137 NE
   2800 Berlin Turnpike
   P.O. Box 317546
   Newington, CT 06131-7546

18.4 | Annual National Transit Database (NTD) Reports

CTDOT acting as a direct recipient of Section 5311 funds is required by FTA to submit specific data annually to the National Transit Database (NTD) in which FTA collects transit financial and operating data from nationwide mass transportation system providers. To fulfill this requirement each subrecipient of Section 5311 funds must submit to CTDOT
annual reports containing information on capital investments, operations, and service provided including but not limited to the following data items:

1. Modal classification,
2. Service area,
3. Volunteer resources,
4. Number of vehicles and characteristics,
5. Number and ownership of maintenance facilities,
6. Annual operating expenses,
7. Operating revenues,
8. Annual capital costs and sources,
9. Annual vehicle miles, hours and passenger trips,
10. Safety information, and
11. Information on intercity bus.

Specific reporting requirements are included in the NTD reporting instructions manual issued each year and available on the NTD website www.ntdprogram.gov

18.5 | Four (4) Year Grant Application

CTDOT has developed an application format (see Appendix A - Subrecipient Grant Application Format and Contents) that subrecipients of Section 5311 funds are required to prepare and submit to CTDOT for review and approval every four (4) years. Subrecipients must provide information including but not limited to following contents;

1. Description of applicant’s organization,
2. Description of services,
3. Description of service area, and
4. Proposed operating budget(s).

For additional information, please refer to CHAPTER 9.0 ANNUAL PROGRAM OF PROJECTS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL PROCESS, Section 9.3 Subrecipient Application to CTDOT.

18.6 | Title VI General Reporting Information

For information on Title VI reporting requirements, please refer to CHAPTER 14.0 CIVIL RIGHTS, Section 14.2 Title VI General Reporting Information.

18.7 | Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Reports

For information on DBE reporting requirements, please refer to CHAPTER 14.0 CIVIL RIGHTS, Section 14.4 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Requirements.

18.8 | Annual Preventive Maintenance Plan Certification

In the initial year of a subrecipient’s Agreement with the State, the subrecipient shall provide the State with a copy of its Preventive Maintenance Plan for every vehicle type it operates along with a certification that this plan has been implemented. Annually,
thereafter, a subrecipient shall provide to the State a certification that the subrecipient continues to revise, update and implement its maintenance plan, as necessary.
CHAPTER 19.0 | STATE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

19.1 | Procurement and Third Party Contracting

Procurement and third party contract activities are the responsibility of the local Section 5311 applicant. The project applicant may use its own procurement system as long as it conforms to applicable federal and state standards. The applicant is also responsible for resolving all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurement undertaken with Section 5311 financial assistance.

Applications for capital equipment shall be subject to local bidding requirements and procedures. Vehicle specifications must be made available to CTDOT should CTDOT request such a review prior to bid advertisement. The local project applicant shall maintain procurement records sufficient to detail the history of the procurement in accordance with the requirements of 49 CFR part 18. FTA's Third Party Contracting Guidelines, FTA Circular 4220.1F [link](http://www.fta.dot.gov/legislation_law/12349_8641.html) shall be followed for third party contracts.

To assist subrecipients in the location of circulars, laws and regulations, CTDOT has developed an Appendix listing all federal and state documents referred to in the service agreement. This Appendix has been made available to all Section 5311 subrecipients. Since some of the documents are voluminous, the Appendix contains the hyperlinks with the Internet addresses where these documents can be located and/or copied. By accessing federal and state laws and regulations directly through the Internet, subrecipients will be able to keep abreast of any and all changes as they occur.

To ensure that subrecipients comply with procurement requirements when procuring goods and services with Section 5311 federal funds, CTDOT will:

1. Require Section 5311 subrecipients to have a written procedure for the procurement of goods and services that complies with federal and state regulations. The procedure should be reviewed and approved by their board of directors.

2. Request Section 5311 subrecipients to submit a copy of their procedure for CTDOT's review and approval.

3. At site visits, review procurement documentation for goods and services, including pre-award and post-award delivery reviews, bus testing, Buy America requirements etc., as may be necessary.

To ensure that all federally required clauses are included in subrecipient agreements and the service agreement, CTDOT will:

1. Prepare a list of all federally required clauses.

2. Include in the subrecipient agreement, a clause requiring the subrecipient to include all federally required clauses in all agreements with subcontractors and subrecipient service providers.
3. Include in the CTDOT subrecipient agreement, a clause requiring the subrecipient to include in their bid documents and/or their Request for Proposals (RFP), a list of all federally required clauses the successful bidder must comply with, and a list of all certifications and assurances the successful bidder must sign.

4. Request and review a copy of the Bid and/or RFP for CTDOT approval prior to release of any public notice.

5. Request and review copy of any agreement with subcontractors for CTDOT approval prior to signature.

6. Forward a letter to subrecipients requesting that subrecipients sign and date all required certifications and assurances.

7. Prepare findings report.

8. Forward a letter of compliance or non-compliance to subrecipient, including if necessary, the requirement that they prepare a plan of action that includes a time frame necessary to bring itself into compliance.

9. Request and review, approve and/or reject, an updated agreement, if necessary.

10. Conduct a follow-up visit, if necessary.

19.2 | Property Management/Disposition

All property acquired under the Section 5311 program shall be utilized and disposed of in accordance with FTA Circular 9040.1G.

Title to all property shall be vested in the name of the project applicant except in those instances where CTDOT, acting on its own behalf or on behalf of the project applicant, institutes and carries out the bidding process and advertisement for equipment. The final determination as to the vesting of property shall rest with CTDOT.

The project applicant shall fully utilize the capital equipment for the duration of the useful life of the capital equipment with all practical dispatch in a sound, economical, and efficient manner. “Useful life” shall generally mean, in regard to vans, four (4) years or 100,000 miles; in regard to small buses, five (5) years or 125,000 miles; in regard to large buses, a minimum of seven (7) years or 200,000 miles.

The project applicant may dispose of equipment at the end of its useful life after notifying and receiving disposition approval from CTDOT. At CTDOT's discretion, proceeds from the disposition of equipment may be applied toward the cost of replacement equipment and/or applied toward the reduction of operating expenses.
19.3 | Construction or Renovation of Facilities

Construction or renovation (rehabilitation) of project facilities may be necessary to provide for an efficient and coordinated rural public transportation system. The costs of construction or rehabilitation of rural public transportation facilities are an eligible capital expense. Included in these costs are advance planning, land acquisition, architectural/engineering services, design, and construction.

CTDOT will work with the project applicant during each phase of project review. The provision of technical and management assistance will ensure a timely progression of the project in accordance with federal and state regulations.

Facilities constructed or renovated with Section 5311 funds shall be the property of the project applicant as long as the facility is used for public transportation purposes. If, for any reason, the facility is no longer needed for purposes of public transportation services in non-urbanized areas, the provisions of 49 CFR Part 18, pertaining to the disposition of real property, shall apply.

To ensure that Section 5311 subrecipients maintain federally funded facilities in good operating order, CTDOT will, during annual site visits:

1. Request and review list of all facility maintenance plans from subrecipients.
2. Perform a checklist review (i.e. physical condition of facility, compliance with environmental and OSHA regulations etc.).
3. Prepare a report of findings.
4. Forward letter to the subrecipient containing the results of the visit, listing all findings (items that were found in compliance and in non-compliance, including a proposed date of compliance).
5. If necessary, request updated project description forms (re: facility improvement etc.) to incorporate into the capital plan.
6. Schedule a follow-up visit, if necessary.

To ensure that real property funded with Section 5311 assistance continues to be used for program purposes, CTDOT will conduct site visits of each subrecipient on an annual basis. At these visits, CTDOT will:

1. Request and review a list of all real property lease agreements between subrecipients and subcontractors and perform a checklist review.
2. Prepare a report of findings.
3. Forward a letter of compliance or non-compliance to subrecipient.
4. Conduct a follow-up visit, if necessary.

19.4 | Accounting System

The project applicant shall maintain books and records in accordance with the applicable section of the FTA Industry Uniform System of Accounts and Records and Reporting Systems and in accordance with sound accounting principles consistently applied.

19.5 | Project Monitoring

CTDOT requires each Section 5311 subrecipient to provide, by the 20th of each month, a report of operating statistics for the previous month's operations. This report shall include:

1. Total expenses, revenue and deficit with a breakdown of operating and administrative results.
2. Ridership data.
3. Vehicle hours in service.
4. Vehicle miles in service

This data will be used to help evaluate current operations and future grant requests. CTDOT is working cooperatively with Section 5311 subrecipients to find additional, and/or modify existing, service criteria that will best reflect transit efficiencies. Monthly operating reports are collected from transit agencies to track productivity and cost-effectiveness.

Quarterly transit meetings will be held with all transit agencies. In addition, CTDOT will make periodic field reviews of each project and will require that the project applicant make every effort to survey its riders to ensure that the service is meeting its area's needs. Surveys should be conducted at least once every three years, but more frequent surveys are encouraged.

19.6 | Audit/Close-Out

The project applicant shall within one hundred eighty (180) days of the completion of each full fiscal year, have prepared and uploaded to the Office of Policy and Management - Electronic Audit Reporting System (EARS) www.appsvcs.opm.ct.gov/Auditing/Home.aspx an audit performed by an independent Certified Public Accountant as defined by Chapter 389 of the Connecticut General Statutes. This audit shall be performed in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and shall contain:

2. Statement of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balances.
4. Schedule of questioned costs.

Additionally, the project applicant shall prepare and submit along with the audit, supplementary schedules as depicted in their agreement with CTDOT.

A project will be closed out with FTA immediately after all work activities for the program of projects are completed and upon review and acceptance of the audit by CTDOT. A Final Financial Status Report (SF 269A or similar) and a final budget and revised program of projects will be submitted to FTA at the time of closeout.

Please refer to CHAPTER 18.0 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, Section 18.3 Annual Audits for additional information.

19.7 | Reporting Requirements for CTDOT

CTDOT is required to provide FTA with a brief narrative report containing information on transit operations, the number and type of vehicles purchased, the status and type of major construction projects and any other significant data relative to the Section 5311 program. This is done on an annual basis to cover the Federal Fiscal Year October 1 through September 30.
20.1 | Background

During a combined State Management and Triennial Review conducted every three (3) years by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), FTA evaluates the Connecticut Department of Transportation’s (CTDOT) administration of the "Nonurbanized Area Formula Program Guidance and Grant Application Instructions," Section 5311. In its oversight of those subrecipients who receive federal assistance under this program, CTDOT acting as the grantee is required to ensure that subrecipients comply with the federal requirements depicted in FTA Circular 9040.1G dated October 24, 2014.

20.2 | Scope of Work

CTDOT has addressed this area by developing a transit system audit of all Section 5311 subrecipients. The scope of work to be performed will include an evaluation of the subrecipient’s procedures verifying that contractual agreements are implemented and adhered to in accordance with FTA rules and regulations. Below is a list of procedures which will be performed;

1. Review administrative and operational procedures used by each subrecipient,
2. Check maintenance records for vehicle upkeep,
3. Visit subrecipient’s office, garage and/or maintenance facility,
4. Inspect the vehicles awarded and/or funded by the program, and
5. Ride the transit service(s).

20.3 | Questionnaire/Areas Reviewed

CTDOT has developed a questionnaire (refer to Appendix E - Transit System Audit Questionnaire) to be provided to each Section 5311 subrecipient to complete during the audit review. The responses provided by the subrecipient to this questionnaire will assist CTDOT in its evaluation of the subrecipient’s administrative procedures pertaining to the following areas of the Section 5311 program;

1. Program Management/Administrative Requirements,
2. Intercity Bus Transportation,
3. Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP),
4. Procurement and Third Party Contracting,
5. Vehicle Use/Maintenance,
6. Civil Rights,
7. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA),
8. Charter Service,
9. School Bus Service,
10. Drug and Alcohol Testing Program,
11. Marketing,
12. Bus Ride(s), and
13. Bus Schedule(s).

CTDOT has developed this questionnaire and list of areas to be reviewed in its efforts to perform a transit system audit of all Section 5311 subrecipients and as necessary, will modify this questionnaire and/or list of areas to be reviewed in order to ensure subrecipient’s compliance with State regulations and FTA requirements under the Section 5311 program.

20.4 | Reports

CTDOT will prepare and complete ‘Transit System Audit’ Reports which will be issued to subrecipients indicating those deficient areas requiring the subrecipient to submit an appropriate corrective action plan in order to bring the subrecipient into compliance.

CTDOT will continually improve upon future triennial transit system audits by:

1. Notifying Section 5311 subrecipients of program changes; and

2. Coordinating with and seeking input from Section 5311 subrecipients to better provide technical assistance and guidance.
CHAPTER 21.0 | OTHER PROVISIONS

This chapter describes some of the more significant federal requirements that apply to the Section 5311 program. Both the State and subrecipients must comply with federal requirements to the extent those requirements apply to the various activities the State or subrecipients undertake.

21.1 | Employee Protection Provisions of Section 5333(b)

Each project will contractually assure compliance with the provisions of Section 5333(b) of the Federal Transit Act. The subrecipient should indicate that the project will be carried out in such a manner and upon such terms and conditions as will not adversely affect employees of the Section 5311 grant applicant and of any other surface public transportation provider in the service area of the project. The Department of Labor (DOL) is responsible under federal law for the administration of Section 5333(b).

Each local recipient of Section 5311 funding must agree in writing to the standard Section 5333(b) warranty for Section 5311 and must supply to CTDOT an up-to-date listing of all existing transportation providers in their transportation service area, and any labor organizations representing the employees of such providers.

CTDOT will certify to the Department of Labor (DOL) that each recipient has agreed in writing to the warranty. The State must make this certification to DOL for each Category A subrecipient prior to FTA grant approval and for all other subrecipients prior to moving their projects to Category A. CTDOT will also provide to DOL an up-to-date listing of all existing transportation providers which are eligible recipients of transportation assistance funded by the project and any labor organizations representing the employees of such providers. This listing is updated annually when preparing the application for FTA Section 5311 funds.

21.2 | Environmental Protection

1. Section 5311 projects must comply with the joint FHWA/FTA guidelines on protection of the environment titled "Environmental Impact and Related Procedures" (23 CFR §771).

2. The regulation categorized projects in three classes according to degree of environmental impact:
   a. Class I projects have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
   b. Class II projects do not normally have a significant environmental impact and as such are "categorically excluded" from the requirement to prepare further environmental assessment or impact studies.
   c. Class III projects are those where the significance of the environmental impact cannot readily be determined and require a brief Environmental Assessment.
Most transit funded under Section 5311 will be classed as categorical exclusions (CEs). Larger construction projects or projects in sensitive areas may require the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA).

All potential projects will be screened by CTDOT to make an initial determination as to which projects meet the criteria for categorical exclusions and which may require additional documentation. Any other related environmental laws and directives, which may apply to Section 5311 projects, will be coordinated with the FTA.

21.3 | Buy America Provisions

Section 5323(j) provides that, with exceptions, federal funds may not be obligated for mass transportation projects unless steel, iron, and manufactured products used in such projects are produced in the United States. Section 5311 recipients must conform with the FTA regulations, 49 CFR part 661, and any amendments thereto. Buy America requirements apply to all purchases, including materials or supplies funded as operating costs, if the purchase exceeds the threshold for small purchases (currently $100,000). Requests for Buy America waivers must be submitted to FTA for approval. There are four exceptions to the basic requirement which may be the basis for a waiver:

1. The requirement will not apply if its application is not in the public interest.

2. The requirement will not apply if materials and products being procured are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality.

3. The requirement will not apply in a case involving the procurement of buses and other rolling stock (including train control, communication and traction power equipment) if the cost of components and subcomponents which are produced in the United States is more than 60 percent of the cost of all components and subcomponents of the vehicles or equipment, and if final assembly takes place in the United States. The meaning of final assembly is further described in the FTA Guidance on Buy America Requirements, dated March 18, 1997, which applies to all buses purchased with FTA funds.

4. The requirement will not apply if the inclusion of domestic material will increase the overall project contract by more than twenty-five percent (25%). Buy America waivers under the non-availability, price differential, and public interest exceptions require FTA approval but the waiver for rolling stock meeting the domestic content and final assembly requirements does not. FTA has issued a general waiver for selected items, including all purchases under the federal small purchase threshold, currently $100,000.

21.4 | Pre-Award and Post-Delivery Reviews

Procurements for vehicles, other than sedans or unmodified vans, must be audited in accordance with FTA regulation, “Pre-Award and Post-Delivery Audits of Rolling Stock Purchases,” 49 CFR part 663. Additional guidance is available in a manual, “Conducting
Pre-Award and Post-Delivery Reviews for Bus Procurements,” published May 1, 1995. The regulation requires any recipient that purchases rolling stock for use in revenue service with funds obligated after October 24, 1991, will be conducted to ensure compliance with bid specifications, Buy America and Federal Motor Vehicle Safety requirements. Purchase of more than ten vehicles, other than unmodified vans or sedans, requires in-plant inspection. In the case of consolidated state procurements on behalf of multiple recipients, the in-plant inspection requirement is triggered only if any single recipient will receive more than ten of the vehicles.

21.5 | Prohibition of Exclusive School Transportation

Section 5323(f) prohibits the use of FTA funds for exclusive school bus transportation for school students and school personnel. The implementing regulation (49 CFR part 605) does permit regular service to be modified to accommodate school students along with the general public. For the purpose of FTA’s school bus regulation, Headstart is a social service, not a school program. FTA recipients may operate vehicles, which meet the safety requirements for school transportation, but may not provide exclusive school service.

21.6 | Drug and Alcohol Testing

Section 5311 subrecipients will be required to comply with regulations issued by the Federal Transit Administration on drug and alcohol testing, 49 CFR part 655. Among other requirements, these regulations require that all safety sensitive employees be tested for drug and alcohol use pre-employment (drug only), randomly, and post accident, that certifications be made, and that reports be submitted. There are limited exceptions to the testing requirements for contract maintenance workers under Section 5311 and for volunteers. The rule requires annual reporting of the results of testing on Management Information System (MIS) forms. Subrecipients submit the MIS forms to the State, which transmits them to FTA.

Direct grantees must comply with the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. § 701 et. seq.) and 49 CFR part 32. The requirements, including a drug-free workplace certification, apply only to the States as FTA’s direct grantees, not to subrecipients.

21.7 | New Model Bus Testing

Any new bus models must be tested at the FTA sponsored test facility in Altoona, PA, before FTA funds can be expended to purchase them (49 CFR part 665). This requirement applies to all buses and modified vans, but not to unmodified vans, including vans with raised roofs or lifts installed in strict conformance with the original equipment manufacturer modification guidelines.

A new model is defined as one that has not been used in mass transportation service in the United States before October 1, 1988, or that has been used in such service but which, after September 30, 1988, is being produced with a major change in configuration or components. A major change in "configuration" is defined as a change which may have a significant impact on vehicle handling and stability or structural integrity. A major change in "components" is defined as a change in one or more of the
vehicle's major components such as the engine, transmission, suspension, axle, or steering.

Purchasers of new model buses should ensure that the manufacturer has complied with the testing requirement by requesting a copy of the bus testing report, from the Altoona Bus Testing Center www.altoonabustest.com. Before expending any FTA funds for a new model bus, the purchaser must certify that it has obtained the report. Information in the reports may be useful to operators early in the vehicle procurement process, for example, when writing specifications.

21.8 | Debarment and Suspension

CTDOT and Section 5311 Subrecipients must ensure that federal assistance funds are not provided to anyone who has been debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in federally-assisted transactions. U.S. DOT regulations require that disclosure of the status of persons and entities participating in:

(1) Subrecipients contracts and third party contracts of $25,000 or more at any tier;

(2) Subrecipients contracts of any amount for federally-required audit services (such as those required under the Single Audit Act Amendments); and

(3) Subrecipients and third party contracts requiring official DOT approval.

Subrecipients and third party contractors of any tier are expected to assure the status of persons participating therein.

(1) The awarding party must verify that the person is not excluded or disqualified by:

   (a) Checking the System for Awards Managements (SAM) available at www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1

   (b) Collecting a certification from the prospective awardee; or

   (c) Adding a clause or condition to the Subrecipient or third party contract with that awardee.

In addition, CTDOT and Subrecipients participating in lower tier transactions are required to extend these requirements to their awardees.

(1) The prospective awardee in turn must notify CTDOT or Subrecipient (person at the next higher tier) if it knows whether or not it or any of its principals is presently excluded or disqualified under these regulations.

21.9 | Safety

Under Section 5329, FTA may withhold further financial assistance from any grantee who fails to correct any condition which FTA believes "creates a serious hazard of death or
injury." FTA's authority to investigate and make findings in certain safety-related areas is permissive, not mandatory.

21.10 | Commercial Drivers License (CDL)

Effective April 1, 1992, all drivers of vehicles designed to transport more than 15 persons (including the driver) must have a Commercial Drivers License (CDL). Mechanics who drive the vehicles must also have a CDL.

21.11 | Restrictions on Lobbying

FTA recipients are prohibited from using federal financial assistance to influence any Member of Congress or an officer or employee of any agency in the connection with the making of any federal contract, grant, or cooperative agreement. CTDOT and Section 5311 recipients of grants exceeding $100,000 must sign a certification so stating and must disclose the expenditure of non-federal funds for such purposes (49 CFR part 20). Other Federal Laws also govern lobbying activities. For example, federal funds may not be used for lobbying Congressional representatives or senators indirectly, such as by contributing to a lobbying organization or funding a grass-roots campaign to influence legislation (31 U.S.C § 1352). General advocacy for transit and providing information to legislators about the services a recipient provides in the community are not prohibited, nor is using non-federal funds for lobbying, so long as the required disclosures are made.

21.12 | Clean Air Act

1. The Clean Air Act, as amended, establishes many substantive requirements in order to bring air quality regions which violate the national ambient air quality standards into attainment by prescribed dates.

2. The principal requirement that the State and Section 5311 subrecipients must be aware of is the transportation/air quality conformity review process. In general, transportation plans, programs, and projects must be found to "conform" with approved State (air quality) implementation plans before they can be funded by FHWA or FTA. Most of the projects typically funded under Section 5311 have been exempted by regulation from the conformity review process. These include, but are not limited to:

   a. Operating assistance.

   b. Purchase and rehabilitation of transit vehicles.

   c. Operating equipment.

   d. Construction of most storage and maintenance facilities.

A complete list of exempted highway and transit projects is found in 40 CFR § 93.126. Other types of projects may require detailed air quality analysis (either burden analysis or dispersion modeling) in order to determine whether the project would create a
violation of a standard or make an existing violation worse. While this is not an issue for most Section 5311 projects, it could be for certain large facilities, e.g., transit terminals and park-and-ride facilities.
CHAPTER 22.0 | OTHER FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAMS

22.1 | Urbanized Area Formula Assistance Program (Section 5307) Program

The Section 5307 program provides funding for capital assistance, planning, and operating assistance for public transportation in small urbanized areas with populations less than 200,000. These funds can also be available for capital and planning assistance for public transportation in large urbanized areas with populations over 200,000.

Further information on the Section 5307 program can be found at www.fta.dot.gov/

22.2 | REPEALED PROGRAMS

MAP-21 repealed a number of public transportation programs that existed under the previous authorization. Funds that were authorized under these programs remain available for obligation in a grant until the applicable statutory period of availability expires or until the funds are fully expended.

1. Bus and Bus Facilities Program (Section 5309) provided funding for bus transit projects and was replaced with the Section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Formula Program.

Further information on the Section 5339 program can be found at www.fta.dot.gov/

2. Job Access and Reverse Commute Program (JARC) (Section 5316) was a formula program for projects that improve access to employment-related transportation services for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals, and that transport residents of urbanized and rural areas to suburban employment opportunities. These projects are now an eligible project type under the Rural Area Formula Program.

3. The Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program (Section 5310) and New Freedom Program (Section 5317) made financial assistance available for capital purchases for transportation services carried out to meet the special needs of elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities, and provided new public transportation services beyond those required by the ADA to assist individuals with disabilities with transportation, including transportation to and from jobs and employment support services. Under MAP-21 this program merged with revised Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and individuals with Disabilities Formula Program.

Further information on the Section 5310 program can be found at www.fta.dot.gov/
APPENDIX A - SUBRECIPIENT GRANT APPLICATION FORMAT AND CONTENTS

The Section 5311 Program makes federal funds available for the development, implementation, and promotion of public transportation systems in rural and small urban areas. The application has been developed to assist eligible subrecipients in applying for operating, administrative, capital, and/or technical assistance under this program. The information provided by the applicant is intended to justify their request for funding. It is used by CTDOT to evaluate all proposed projects and to complete its annual application to FTA. The contents of the Section 5311 Subrecipient Grant Application are as follows:

- Overview
- Eligible Subrecipients
- Technical Assistance
- Application Instructions
- Timeline
- Application Due Date & Submittal

1.0 | Applicant Information

2.0 | Description of Organization

   2.1. Table - List of Past Training
   2.2. Table - List of Future Training

3.0 | Description of Transportation Services

   3.1. Table - List of Transportation Services
   3.2. Table - List of Third Party Contractors
   3.3. Table - Fare Structure
   3.4. Annual Operating Statistics
       Table - Transit Service 1
       Table - Transit Service 2
       Table - Transit Service 3
   3.5. Table - Vehicle Fleet Inventory

4.0 | Description of Service Area

   4.1. Table - List of Towns and Population
   4.2. Table - Percentage of Population

5.0 | Title VI

6.0 | Justification

7.0 | Four (4) Year Budget

8.0 | Public Notification Process
9.0 | Coordination

10.0 | Private Enterprise Involvement

  10.1. Table - List of Other Transportation Providers

11.0 | Marketing

12.0 | Authorizing Resolution

13.0 | Opinion of Counsel

Attachment A - Sample Public Notice

Attachment B - Sample Notification Letter

Attachment C - Sample Authorizing Resolution

Attachment D - Sample Opinion of Counsel

Attachment E - Four (4) Year Operating Budget Form

Attachment F - Federal Assistance Forms 424

Attachment G - Capital Project Description Sheets

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- **B1.01** Operating Salaries & Wages: 0
- **B1.02** Other Salaries: 0
- **B1.03** Fringe Benefits: 0
- **B1.04** Services: 0
- **B1.05** Fuel & Lubricants: 0
- **B1.06** Tires and Tubes: 0
- **B1.07** Other Materials and Supplies: 0
- **B1.08** Utilities: 0
- **B1.09** Casualty and Liability Cost: 0
- **B1.10** Taxes: 0
- **B1.11** Purchased Transportation: 0
- **B1.12** Miscellaneous Expenses: 0
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- **B2.05** Purchase Lease Payments: 0
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- **B2.07** Other Recouping Items: 0

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| **DEFICIT - TOTAL** | $0.00 | $0.00 |

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- **Transfers**: [Blank]
- **Unlinked Passengers**: [Blank]
- **Miles**: [Blank]
- **Hours**: [Blank]
- **Days of Operation**: [Blank]
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**EXPENSES CLASSIFIED BY FUNCTION**

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**EXPENSES CLASSIFIED BY FUNCTION**

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**S03 SERVICES**

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**S04 MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES CONSUMED**

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**S05 UTILITIES**

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**Period Ended:**

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**506 CASUALTY & LIABILITY COSTS**

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**Subtotal Carried Forward to Page 4**

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#### MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

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| 11  | Total Miscellaneous Expenses |                  |                         |                         |                             |                           | 0.00                        |

#### EXPENSE TRANSFER

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| TOTAL EXPENSE TRANSFER | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

#### TOTAL EXPENSES LESS RECONCILING ITEMS

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| 16  | Interest Expense   |                         |                         |                             |                           |                          |
| 17  | Leases and Rentals |                         |                         |                             |                           |                          |
| 18  | Depreciation       |                         |                         |                             |                           |                          |
| 19  | Amortization of Intangibles | | | | | |
| 20  | Purchase Lease Payments |           |                         |                             |                           |                          |
| 21  | Related Parties Lease Payments | | | | | |
| 22  | Other Reconciling Items |          |                         |                             |                           |                          |

| 23  | Total Reconciling Items |                  |                         |                             |                           |                          | 0.00                      |

<p>| 24  | TOTAL EXPENSES FOR PUBLISHED REPORT |                |                         |                             |                           |                          | 0.00                      |</p>
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APPENDIX E - TRANSIT SYSTEM AUDIT QUESTIONNAIRE

I. Program Management/Administrative Requirements

1. How does the subrecipient ensure that its subcontractor(s) or third party contractor(s) comply with applicable Federal and/or State regulations?

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

2. Please describe the procedure(s) used by the subrecipient in its efforts to implement and complete its annual operating budget(s), (i.e. timetable, subrecipient approval, etc.).

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

3. Please describe the procedure(s) used by the subrecipient in its efforts to change its rates of fare and/or transit services.

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

4. Please describe the procedure(s) used by the subrecipient in its efforts to implement and complete its annual audit (i.e. hiring of CPA/Audit Firm, submission of audit to the State, submission due date, request for extension, etc.).

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

5. Are there any findings and/or reportable conditions stated within the subrecipient’s past three (3) fiscal years (2010-2012) audits?

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

   If so, please explain the subrecipient’s corrective action plans that addressed these findings.

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

   Also, please provide the status (i.e. open, closed) of each of these issues.

   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:
6. Upon completion of the audit does the subrecipient perform its own project financial reconciliations to determine whether any state and/or federal balances may be due to/from the State?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

If so, please explain the steps taken by the subrecipient to verify these balances.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

II. | Intercity Bus Transportation

1. Is intercity bus service (ICB) available in your transit service region area?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

If so, please explain.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

2. Does the subrecipient provide any available transit service which makes connections to an ICB service?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

If so, please explain.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

3. Does the subrecipient believe that ICB service in its service area is adequately being met?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

If not, please explain.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

III. | Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP), (Section 5311 subrecipients only)
1. Is the subrecipient aware of the availability of annual RTAP funding, which is provided to send administrative staff, drivers or maintenance personnel to training events, conferences and seminars?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

2. Is the subrecipient aware that additional funding is made available through the RTAP Consortium (Scholarship Program)?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

3. Does the subrecipient plan to use any RTAP funds?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

   If yes, please explain.
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

IV. | Procurement and Third Party Contracting

1. Does the subrecipient have a written procedure (policy) in place for its procurement of goods and services, which complies with Federal and State regulations?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

2. Does the subrecipient have any third party contract(s) (lease and/or operating) service agreement(s) in place?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

   If so, please explain.
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

   CTDOT'S COMMENTS:

V. | Vehicle Use/Maintenance

1. Does the subrecipient lease any of its vehicles to subcontractors or any other transit organizations?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

If yes, please explain.

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

2. Does the subrecipient lease any vehicles from another organization?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

If yes, please explain.

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

3. Does the subrecipient use all of its Section 5307 or Section 5311 funded vehicles for the purpose of providing only urban or rural transit service(s) to the general public in its service area?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

4. Does the subrecipient have a vehicle preventive maintenance plan in place?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

5. Does the subrecipient or its subcontractor(s) maintain its vehicles in accordance with the preventive maintenance plan (manufacturer’s recommended maintenance schedule)?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

6. Does the subrecipient or its subcontractor(s) perform pre-trip and post-trip inspections?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

VI. | Civil Rights

1. Please describe your understanding of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as it pertains to the subrecipient providing public transportation.

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:
2. Who is the individual responsible for coordinating and ensuring that Title VI Program requirements, Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program (DBE) requirements are fulfilled by the subrecipient?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

3. Does the subrecipient have an approved Title VI Plan in place which includes the following documents;
   a) Title VI Policy Statement?
      SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

      CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

   b) Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan?
      SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

      CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

   c) Procedures for handling and documenting Title VI complaints?
      SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

      CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

4. What steps has the subrecipient taken to ensure meaningful access to the benefits, services, information, and other important portions of your programs and activities for individuals who are limited English proficient?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

5. How does the subrecipient notify the public of their rights under Title VI?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

6. How does the subrecipient identify, investigate and track Title VI complaints?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

7. Do these procedures afford the public due process for resolving complaints?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:
8. How does the subrecipient ensure that its Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) requirements are fulfilled?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

9. What reasonable efforts are made by the subrecipient to ensure that Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms are afforded the opportunity to be hired in the award of federally funded contracts?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

10. Please provide a concise description of any lawsuits or complaints alleging discrimination in service delivery filed against the subrecipient within the past three (3) years (January 2010 through December 2012) and describe the status or outcome of each lawsuit or complaint.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

11. Does the subrecipient have Title VI notice with information on the protections afforded under Title VI, and how to file a complaint posted in areas readily accessible to your service users and the public? Please describe these areas.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

VII. | Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

1. Does the subrecipient have an ADA policy in place?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

2. If complimentary ADA paratransit service is provided how does the subrecipient accept reservations on all days prior to days of service (e.g. weekends/holidays)?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

3. Does the subrecipient make stop announcements on its fixed route vehicle?

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**

**CTDOT’S COMMENTS:**

4. Please explain subrecipient’s policy for securing wheelchairs on its vehicles.

**SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:**
CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

5. How does the subrecipient ensure that its lifts are in working condition prior to service being provided?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

6. If a lift malfunctions while service is being provided, is alternative transportation readily available to be provided?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

If so, please explain.
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

7. Is the subrecipient’s personnel trained to proficiency so that they operate vehicles and equipment safely and properly? What type of training has been provided to personnel (i.e. drivers, contractors)?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

8. Are requests for reservations accepted during normal business hours on all days prior to days of service (e.g., weekends, holidays) even if the administrative office is closed? How are reservations accepted when the administrative office is closed?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

9. When making reservations, are there priorities based on trip purposes?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

10. What percentage of service is subscription?
    SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

VIII. | Charter Service

1. Please describe the process the subrecipient should follow in order to provide charter bus service.
2. Is the subrecipient aware of exemptions and exceptions to the charter service (i.e. record keeping, reporting requirements)?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

3. How would the subrecipient ensure that the cost of providing charter service is not charged/billed to the Federal or State governments?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

IX. | School Bus Service

1. Does the subrecipient provide exclusive school bus transportation for school students and school personnel?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

   If so, please explain.
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

2. Does the subrecipient provide “tripper service” which is open to the public and modified to accommodate the needs of school students and personnel?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

   If so, please explain.
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

X. | Drug and Alcohol Testing Program

1. Does the subrecipient have in place its Drug and Alcohol Testing Program policy?
   SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:
   CTDOT’S COMMENTS:
2. Please explain how the subrecipient is informing its employees of the dangers of drug abuse and the availability of drug counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

3. To the best of your knowledge, is required drug and alcohol testing being performed on safety-sensitive employees?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

4. Have there been any instances within the past thirty six (36) months whereby a safety-sensitive employee has refused to be tested?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

If so, please explain.

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

5. Does the subrecipient keep its drug and alcohol testing records (documentation) in a secure place?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

XI. | Marketing

1. Please describe the subrecipient’s efforts to market its transit services to the general public?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:

2. Please describe the media used by the subrecipient to market its transit services to the general public?

SUBRECIPIENT RESPONSE:

CTDOT’S COMMENTS:
CONNECTICUT STATE MANAGEMENT PLAN | SECTION 5311 PROGRAM

APPENDIX F - DEFINITIONS

1. Chief Executive Officer of a State means the Governor of any of the 50 States or Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, the mayor of the District Columbia, or his/her designee.

2. Consultation means one party confers with another identified party in accordance with an established process and, before taking action(s), considers that party’s views and periodically informs that party about action(s) taken.

3. Federally Recognized Indian Tribal Government means the governing body or a governmental agency of any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, (including any native village as defined in Section 3 of the Alaska native Claims Settlement Act, (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) certified by the Secretary of the Interior as eligible for the special programs and service provided through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

4. Intercity Bus Service means regularly scheduled bus service for the general public that operates with limited stops over fixed routes connecting two or more urban areas not in close proximity, that has the capacity for transporting baggage carried by passengers, and that makes meaningful connections with scheduled intercity bus service to more distant points, if such service is available.

5. Local Governmental Authority includes (A) a political subdivision of a State; (B) and authority of at least one State or political subdivision of a State; (C) and Indian Tribe; or (D) a public corporation, board, or commission established under the laws of a State.

6. Mobility Management consists of short-range planning and management activities and projects for improving coordination among public transportation and other transportation-service providers carried out by a recipient or subrecipient through an agreement entered into with a person, including a government entity, under 49 U.S.C Chapter 53 (other than Section 5309). Mobility management does not include operating public transportation services.

7. Other than Urbanized (Nonurbanized) Area means any area outside of an urbanized area. The term “nonurbanized area” includes rural areas and urban areas under 50,000 in population not included in an urbanized area.

8. Pre-Award Authority means authority given under specific and limited circumstances to incur costs for eligible projects before a grant is made without prejudice to possible federal participation in the cost of the project(s). Applicants must comply with all federal requirements. Failure to do so will render a project or costs ineligible for FTA financial assistance.

9. Program of Projects: A list of projects to be funded in a grant application submitted to FTA by a State. The program of projects lists the subrecipients and indicates whether they are private non-profit agencies, public bodies, or private providers of transportation service, designates the areas served (including Congressional Districts), and identifies any tribal entities. The program of projects also identifies intercity bus and RTAP projects. In
addition, the program of projects includes a brief description of the projects, total project cost and federal share for each project, and the amount of funds used for program administration from the 15 percent allowed.

10. **Public Transportation** means surface transportation by a conveyance that provides regular and continuing general or special transportation to the public, which includes buses, subways, light rail, commuter rail, monorail, passenger ferry boats, trolleys, inclined railways, people movers, and vans but does not include school bus, charter, or intercity bus transportation or intercity passenger rail transportation provided by AMTRAK. Public transportation can be either fixed-route or demand-responsive service.

11. **Recipient** means a State or Indian tribe that receives a federal transit program grant directly from the Federal Government.

12. **Rural Area** means an area with low population and density outside the boundaries of an urban area. However, the term rural is commonly used to refer to all areas other than urbanized areas and is so used in this State Management Plan.

13. **Subrecipient** means a State or local governmental authority, a non-profit organization, or operator of public transportation or intercity bus service that receives federal transit program grant funds indirectly through a recipient.

14. **Takedown** means an amount or percentage subtracted from the total dollar amount appropriated for a federal program before other apportionment or allocation of the funds.

15. **Urban Area** means an area that includes a municipality or other built-up place that the Secretary, after considering local patterns and trends of urban growth, decides is appropriate for a local public transportation system to serve individuals in a locality.

16. **Urbanized Area** means an area encompassing a population of not less than 50,000 people that has been defined and designated in the most recent decennial census as an “urbanized area” by the Secretary of Commerce. Small urbanized areas as used in the context of FTA formula grant programs are urbanized areas with population of at least 50,000 but less than 200,000.
APPENDIX G - REFERENCES

1. Federal Transit Laws, Title 49, United State Code, Chapter 53.


11. Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.


33. FTA regulations, 49 CFR Chapter VI.

34. Executive Order 12898, “Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations.” (February 11, 1994).

35. Executive Order 13330, “Human Service transportation Coordination.” (February 24, 2004).


42. U.S General Services Administration, “Lists of Parties Excluded from federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.”

43. FTA Master Agreement FTA MA(13), dated October 1, 2006

APPENDIX H - U.S. DOT REGULATIONS


11. U.S. DOT regulations, "Transportation Services for Individuals with Disabilities (ADA)," 49 CFR part 37.


APPENDIX I - FTA CIRCULARS

1. 4220.1F, Third Party Contracting Guidance, dated 11-01-08.

2. 4702.1B, Title VI Requirements and Guidelines for Federal Transit Administration Recipients, dated 10-01-12.

3. 5010.1D, Grant Management Requirements, dated 11-01-08.

4. 9030.1E, Urbanized Area Formula Program: Program Guidance and Application Instructions, dated 01-06-14.


6. 9070.1G – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Guidance and Application Instructions, dated 07-07-14.

7. 9300.1B – Capital Investment Program Guidance and Application Instructions, dated 11-01-08.
APPENDIX J - WEBSITES

1. **49 CFR References**

   Part 26 - Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises in Department of Transportation Financial Assistance Programs

   Parts 27, 37 and 38 - Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities

   Part 40 - DOT Wide Regs Drug & Alcohol

   Part 604 - Charter Service

   Part 605 - School Bus Operations

   Part 639 - Capital Leases

   Part 655 - Prevention of Alcohol Misuse and Prohibited Drug Use in Transit Operations

   Part 661 - Buy America Requirements

   Part 663 - Pre-Award and Post-Delivery Audits of Rolling Stock Purchases

   Part 665 - Bus Testing

2. **FTA Circulars**

   5010.1D - Grant Management Requirements

   9030.1E Urbanized Area Formula Program: Program Guidance and Application Instructions

   9040.1G - Formula Grants for Rural Areas: Program Guidance and Application Instructions
3. Guidance

FTA Grants
http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants.html

Best Practices Procurement Manual
www.fta.dot.gov/grants/12831_6037.html

Transit Safety and Oversight
www.fta.dot.gov/tso.html

4. Other Useful Websites

American Public Transportation Association
http://www.apta.com

Community Transportation Association of America
http://www.ctaa.org

Federal Transit Administration
http://www.fta.dot.gov

National Transit Institute
http://www.ntionline.com

Transportation Safety Institute
http://www.tsi.dot.gov

Transportation Research Board
http://www.nationalacademies.org/trb/

National RTAP Program
http://www.nationalrtap.org/

Transportation Cooperative Research Program
http://www.trb.org

Department of Labor, Division of Statutory Programs
http://www.dol.gov/olms/regs/compliance/compltransit.htm
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<tr>
<td>DBE</td>
<td>Disadvantaged Business Enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEO</td>
<td>Equal Employment Opportunity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FTA</td>
<td>Federal Transit Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHWA</td>
<td>Federal Highway Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICB</td>
<td>Intercity Bus Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISTEA</td>
<td>Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCHSTP</td>
<td>Locally Developed, Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTD</td>
<td>National Transit Database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMB</td>
<td>Office of Management and Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Preventive Maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFP</td>
<td>Request for Proposal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTAP</td>
<td>Rural Transit Assistance Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAFETEA-LU</td>
<td>The Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP-21</td>
<td>Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMP</td>
<td>Connecticut State Management Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>STIP</td>
<td>Statewide Transportation Improvement Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEA-21</td>
<td>Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. DOT</td>
<td>United States Department of Transportation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

USOA  Uniform System of Accounts
APPENDIX L - CTDOT CONTACT INFORMATION

Address

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Administration Building
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT 06111

Mailing Address

Connecticut Department of Transportation
Office of Transit and Rideshare
Room 1137 NE
P.O. Box 317546
Newington, CT 06131-7546

Contact Person(s)

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