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This issue of the Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) Technical Assistance Center (TAC) Update focuses on recent questions to the TAC.

Featured Resources

New! <u>Causal Factors in Safety Investigations (Part 2):</u> <u>Causal Analysis Activities</u>: Examines safety event investigation activities and the "Five Whys" analysis method.

New! Tools for Implementing a Comprehensive Safety Training Program Webinar: Provides examples of ways agencies can meet the PTASP requirement for implementing a comprehensive safety training program. Transit leaders share their agencies' experiences and lessons learned.

Webinar Presentation | Webinar Recording

<u>PTASP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</u>: Address a broad range of PTASP topics, including the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law changes to PTASP requirements.

<u>PTASP Contractors and Other External Service</u>
<u>Providers</u>: Provides an overview of FTA's 2018 PTASP
Final Rule for contractors and other external service
providers.

<u>Safety Risk Management Fact Sheet</u>: Provides information on how to develop the Safety Risk Management component of an ASP.

Need Assistance? Contact the PTASP TAC at



PTASP-TAC@dot.gov



1-87 PTASP-AID 1 (877) 827-7243



Contact the TAC for oneon-one technical sessions

for ASP development and implementation support and voluntary Agency Safety Plan (ASP) reviews.

Updates to the National Public Transportation Safety Plan

As part of continuing efforts to enhance transit safety for transit workers and riders across the county, the Federal Transit Administration published proposed updates to the National Public Transportation Safety Plan in the Federal Register. The National Public Transportation Safety Plan will be open for public comment for 60 days, concluding on July 31, 2023.

<u>First-Time Bus Applicants of Section 5307 Funding Fact Sheet</u>: Reviews resources to help new Section 5307 applicants start developing an ASP that meets the requirements of the existing PTASP regulation (49 CFR Part 673).

<u>ASP Directory</u>: Contains publicly available transit agency ASPs as a resource. FTA has not assessed whether any of the plans meet applicable statutory or regulatory requirements. This directory is provided for technical assistance only.

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's PTASP TAC website.



Please note: These Q&As pertain to the PTASP Final Rule that is currently in effect as of July 19, 2019 and statutory requirements in 49 U.S.C. 5329(d). They do not pertain to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for PTASP published on April 26, 2023, in the Federal Register.

Upcoming Webinar

<u>Talking SMS: Safety</u>

Communication
When: July 19, 2023

Register Here

Q & A Highlights

Question 1:

Where in the ASP should we address the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law PTASP requirement regarding minimizing exposure to infectious diseases?

FTA Response:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requires that ASP include strategies to minimize exposure to infectious diseases, consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or State health authority guidelines. Agencies should consider identifying mitigations or strategies related to exposure to infectious diseases through the Safety Risk Management process described in the agency's ASP. However, transit agencies may address this wherever they deem appropriate in their ASP.

Question 2:

We are working with a county that is trying to become a direct recipient of American Rescue Plan (ARP) 5307 funds. They serve a small urbanized area and would meet the small public transportation provider definition. Will this agency need to certify compliance with the PTASP requirements before they are eligible to receive the ARP funds, or can they prepare their ASP once they have been awarded funding?

FTA Response:

The PTASP regulation applies to recipients and subrecipients of <u>Urbanized Area Formula Grants</u> (Section 5307), not including ARP funds; Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funds; or other Federal funds flexed to the Section 5307 program. Since this agency will receive only ARP funds, they would not be required to develop an ASP.

However, if the county wants to be eligible to receive Section 5307 funds (not including funds flexed to the Section 5307 program), they will need to certify compliance with the PTASP regulation before receiving such funds from FTA.

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and subgrantees should refer to FTA's statutes and regulations for applicable requirements.