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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! Using ASP Reviews and Updates to Advance Your Safety Management System (SMS): Provides information to help agencies advance their SMS as they perform the required annual ASP review and update.

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Video Recording](#)

New! Spotlight on Safety: Transit Rail Grade Crossings Webinar: Discusses transit rail grade crossing safety from operational, public education, and outreach perspectives, and highlights research on engineering aspects related to rail grade crossing safety.

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Video Recording](#)

New! FTA Safety Advisory 23-1: Bus-to-Person Collisions: Recommends that transit agencies that provide bus service consider mitigation strategies to reduce bus-to-person collisions. FTA held a webinar on October 5, 2023 to review key elements from the Safety Advisory and share resources available to assist transit agencies with safety risk assessments and mitigation implementation pertaining to bus-to-person collisions.

[Webinar Presentation](#) | [Webinar Video Recording](#)

Using ASP Reviews and Updates: Provides information on how agencies can use ASP reviews and updates to advance their SMS.

Key Points for Developing Agency Safety Plans for Recipients with Contractors and Other External Service Providers Fact Sheet: Shares key points for how a recipient with a contractor or other external service provider can develop an ASP.

Access the entire TAC Resource Library by visiting FTA's [PTASP TAC website](#).

Need Assistance?

Contact the PTASP TAC at



PTASP-TAC@dot.gov



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



Contact the TAC for **one-on-one technical sessions** for Agency Safety Plan (ASP) development and implementation support and voluntary ASP reviews.

Upcoming Webinar Mailbag Episode

Your Questions Answered

When: November 2023



Please note: The Q&A Highlights below, as well as the [PTASP Frequently Asked Questions](#), pertain to the [PTASP Final Rule](#) in effect as of July 19, 2019, and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law [statutory requirements in 49 U.S.C. 5329\(d\)](#). They do not pertain to the PTASP [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) published April 26, 2023 in the *Federal Register*.

Q & A Highlights

Question 1:

What kind of training on de-escalation is required by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law?

FTA Response:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law requires certain transit agencies to include de-escalation training in their comprehensive safety training program. This requirement applies to Section 5307 recipients serving a large urbanized area (population of 200,000 or more). Transit agencies may choose how they satisfy this training requirement. For example, agencies may use FTA's training resources, including the National Transit Institute's [Assault Awareness and Prevention for Transit Operators](#) course.

Question 2:

What are the PTASP requirements for contractors? Are contractors required to have their own ASP, or do they fall under the transit agency's ASP?

FTA Response:

The PTASP regulation applies to all operators of public transportation systems that are recipients or subrecipients of certain FTA grant funds. Specifically, if an agency operates public transportation and is a recipient or subrecipient of Urbanized Area Formula Grant program (Section 5307) funds or operates a rail transit system that is subject to FTA's State Safety Oversight program, then it must comply with the PTASP requirements.

If your agency contracts with another entity to operate transit service, your agency is responsible for ensuring that each of the requirements of 49 U.S.C. § 5329(d) and Part 673 are satisfied through the terms and conditions of the contract. Your agency is also responsible for ensuring that your contractor carries out the processes as described in the ASP.

A transit agency could request that its contractor(s) develop elements of the ASP, but the transit agency is responsible for ensuring compliance with the PTASP regulation and 49 U.S.C. § 5329(d) and certifying compliance annually. It may be beneficial to collaborate with the contractor during ASP development or updates to help ensure the ASP is realistic, implementable, and fits the unique needs of the transit system.

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.