

# Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program

## *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*

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**Paulina Seider**

*Director, Office of System Safety*

**Phil Monty**

*Program Analyst, Office of System Safety*  
Office of Transit Safety and Oversight (TSO)  
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)



# Purpose and Agenda

The purpose of this webinar is to review the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP) Rule (49 CFR part 672) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

## **Webinar Agenda:**

- PTSCTP Overview
- PTSCTP NPRM Overview
- Proposed Changes
- NPRM Timeline
- Public Review and Comment
- Questions

# PTSCTP Overview

The PTSCTP Rule (49 CFR part 672) establishes a uniform safety training curriculum to enhance the Safety Management System (SMS) skills and knowledge of transit safety personnel.

This regulation applies to:

- **State Safety Oversight Agencies (SSOAs)** and their employees and contractors that conduct safety reviews, inspections, examinations, and other safety oversight activities
- **Rail transit agencies (RTAs)** and their employees and contractors that are directly responsible for the safety oversight of rail fixed guideway public transportation systems



# PTSCTP NPRM Overview

FTA published three key proposed updates for the NPRM in the *Federal Register*, including:

**Aligning definitions** to reflect the proposed updates and with the existing regulatory framework

**Streamlining** PTSCTP training enrollment and **clarifying** voluntary PTSCTP participation and refresher training requirements

**Updating administrative requirements** by creating flexibility in course requirements and establishing a communication process



# PTSCTP NPRM Overview

Stakeholders will have **60 days** to submit comments to the docket. Key areas of interest for public comment include:

**The proposal to maintain the existing minimum training requirements for:**

- SSOA personnel who conduct RTA oversight activities; and
- RTA employees and contractors directly responsible for the safety oversight of a rail fixed guideway public transportation system

Considering if future mandatory PTSCTP participation **should extend to bus transit agencies** and personnel



# New Definitions (1 of 2)

FTA proposes six new definitions which do not impact existing requirements and are added to provide clarity. These new definitions are:

New Items	Justification
<b>Initial training</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clarify the phrase used to define which courses must be completed within three years of enrollment</li></ul>
<b>PTSCTP curriculum</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clarify which courses must be completed to receive a certificate of completion</li></ul>
<b>Rail transit agency</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Synchronize the definition with its definition in other transit safety regulations</li></ul>

# New Definitions (2 of 2)

FTA proposes six new definitions which do not impact existing requirements and are added to provide clarity. These new definitions are:

<b>New Items</b>	<b>Justification</b>
<b>Refresher training</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complement the definition of initial training to clarify the training that must be completed every two years after completing the initial training</li></ul>
<b>Safety review</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify the term used to identify mandatory PTSCTP participants at SSOAs</li></ul>
<b>Voluntary participant</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify which individuals are not subject to the PTSCTP requirements and confirm that they may participate in the PTSCTP voluntarily</li></ul>

# Updated Definitions

FTA proposes three updated definitions, which do not impact existing requirements and are added to provide clarity. These updated definitions are:

Updated Item	Justification
<b>Federal Transit Administration</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Synchronize the definition with other transit safety regulations</li></ul>
<b>Designated Personnel</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify the applicability of RTA and SSOA employees and contractors</li></ul>
<b>Rail fixed guideway public transportation system</b> (§ 672.5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Synchronize the definition with its definition in other transit safety regulations</li></ul>



# New Training Requirements

FTA proposes new enrollment requirements and refresher training requirements for designated PTSCTP participants. These new requirements include:

New Items	Justification
<b>Enrollment requirements</b> (§ 672.11(b) and .13(b))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Require SSOAs and RTAs to ensure designated personnel are enrolled in the PTSCTP within 30 days of designation, to ensure timely obtainment of knowledge and skills</li></ul>
<b>Refresher training</b> (§ 672.11(d) and .13(d))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Maintain existing requirements for agency-defined training and add a component for refresher training defined by FTA to ensure adequate refresher training is completed</li></ul>
<b>Voluntary participants</b> (§ 672.17)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clarify existing processes related to PTSCTP voluntary participants and define what voluntary participation entails</li></ul>

# Updated Training Requirements

FTA proposes an update to clarify the evaluation processes for course equivalency submissions. This updated requirement is:

Updated Items	Justification
<b>Evaluation of prior certification and training</b> (§ 672.15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify the process for evaluation of prior certification and training</li></ul>

# New Administrative Requirements

FTA proposes establishing new administrative requirements for recipients subject to the PTSCTP rule. These new requirements include:

<b>New Items</b>	<b>Justification</b>
<b>PTSCTP-related communication</b> (§ 672.21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish reporting requirements to support FTA’s PTSCTP compliance monitoring</li></ul>
<b>Point-of-contact</b> (§ 672.21(b-d))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Require SSOA and RTA recipients to identify a single point-of-contact for FTA regarding PTSCTP records</li><li>• Establish required responsibilities for point-of-contact</li><li>• Create semiannual reporting requirements for point-of-contact</li></ul>

# Updated Administrative Requirements (1 of 2)

FTA proposes updating administrative requirements to clarify required courses and grantee responsibilities. These updated requirements include:

Updated Items	Justification
<b>Appendix A</b> (§ 672.21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide flexibility in course requirements by removing Appendix A from 49 CFR part 672 and instead publishing required courses on the FTA website</li></ul>
<b>Grantee responsibilities</b> (§ 672.21(a))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify applicable grantee responsibilities to ensure designated personnel meet the PTSCTP requirements</li></ul>

# Updated Administrative Requirements (2 of 2)

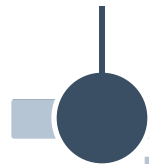
FTA proposes updating an administrative requirement for the SSOA Technical Training Plan (previously included in Appendix A). This updated requirement is:

Updated Items	Justification
<b>Technical Training Plan</b> (§ 672.21(e))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify the existing requirement for SSOAs to submit their Technical Training Plan to FTA</li><li>• Replace reference to “System Safety Program Plan” with “Agency Safety Plan”</li><li>• Require training records to include minimum passing scores to support FTA evaluation</li></ul>

# NPRM Timeline

FTA published PTSCTP  
NPRM in Federal  
Register

*October 26, 2023*



Public comment and review  
period

End of public review  
and comment  
period

*December 26, 2023*



FTA reviews and considers  
public comments

FTA publishes updated  
PTSCTP final rule in  
Federal Register

*TBD*



# Public Review and Comment

FTA has published the [PTSCTP NPRM](#) on [federalregister.gov](https://www.federalregister.gov) for notice and comment.

[Tips For Submitting Effective Comments](#), published by Regulations.gov, offers tips that help the public submit impactful comments and that help agency policy makers improve federal regulations.



Open for  
Comment From  
**October 26 –  
December 26,  
2023**

# Questions?

- Comments on the NPRM, including on specific provisions, should be submitted to the rulemaking docket
- Please submit any immediate technical questions into the Q&A box (e.g., in which section of the rule text did FTA add or update a requirement)





# Contact Information

**For program matters, contact Phil Monty, Office of Transit Safety and Oversight,  
(202) 366-7412 or philip.monty@dot.gov.**

**For legal matters, contact Mark Montgomery, Office of Chief Counsel,  
(202) 366-1017 or mark.montgomery@dot.gov.**

The slide deck and a recording of this webinar will be available at  
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/TSOWebinars>





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