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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! [Developing Community-Based Public Safety Programs for Transit Webinar](#): Provides information on how community-based public safety programs can improve rider experience and includes best practices and lessons learned from transit agencies.

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

New! [National Transit Database \(NTD\) Transit Worker Assault Data](#): Provides information on the NTD's expanded reporting of assaults on transit workers and updated Safety & Security Time Series.

New! [Prevention of Alcohol Misuse and Prohibited Drug Use in Transit Operations](#): FTA published a notice in the *Federal Register* to announce the calendar year 2024 drug and alcohol random testing rates for specific recipients of FTA financial assistance. The minimum random drug testing rate will remain at 50 percent and the random alcohol testing rate will remain at 10 percent.

[FTA-Sponsored Training Courses](#): This page provides information on FTA-sponsored training delivered by the Transportation Safety Institute. General registration for Fiscal Year 2024 courses is open.

[Using Your Safety Management System \(SMS\) to Protect Transit Workers from Assaults](#): Provides technical resources to help transit agencies conduct safety risk assessments related to assaults on transit workers and develop safety risk mitigations. FTA-sponsored courses provide additional information on how to reduce the likelihood of assault incidents during revenue service and prevent, respond to, and recover from workplace violence.

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.

Webinar Mailbag Episode

Your Questions Answered

Coming in January 2024!

State Safety Oversight (SSO) NPRM

On November 15, 2023, FTA published an NPRM in the [Federal Register](#) (Docket No. FTA-2023-0008) proposing revisions to the SSO regulation to implement new requirements of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (enacted as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)), remove outdated references, and simplify notification requirements. [Submit comments on the proposed changes by February 15, 2024.](#)

FTA hosted a webinar about the NPRM on November 30, 2023.

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



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:

What are the PTASP safety training requirements for a transit agency's employees and contractors?

FTA Response:

The PTASP regulation at [49 CFR § 673.29\(a\)](#) requires transit agencies to establish and implement a comprehensive safety training program for all agency employees and contractors directly responsible for safety in the agency's public transportation system. The program must include refresher training, as necessary. Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, transit agencies that receive Section 5307 funding and serve an urbanized area with a population of 200,000 or more (large urbanized area) must ensure that their training program includes maintenance personnel and de-escalation training. Given the different sizes of transit operators and the varying operating environments of systems across the nation, the PTASP regulation gives each transit agency flexibility to determine the level of training that is adequate for its comprehensive safety training program.

In addition, the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP) regulation (49 CFR Part 672) sets forth Federal requirements for the certification and training of State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) personnel and contractors who conduct safety audits and examinations of rail fixed guideway public transportation systems (RFGPTS) and a transit agency's designated personnel and contractors who are directly responsible for safety oversight of an RFGPTS. Each recipient that operates an RFGPTS must designate its personnel and contractors who are directly responsible for safety oversight and ensure they are enrolled in the PTSCTP and complete the safety training curriculum within three years of their initial designation ([§ 672.13\(a\)](#) and (c)).

Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM)

On October 30, 2023, FTA published an ANPRM on Transit Worker Hours of Service and Fatigue Risk Management in the *Federal Register* (Docket No. FTA-2023-0018). FTA seeks information on these two topics to better understand current industry practices, priorities, requirements, and the costs and benefits of Federal requirements. [Submit comments](#) on hours of service and fatigue risk management programs by January 29, 2024.

FTA hosted a webinar about the ANPRM on December 5, 2023.

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

Proposed General Directive 24-1: Required Actions Regarding Assaults on Transit Workers

On December 20, 2023, FTA published a proposed General Directive on Required Actions Regarding Assaults on Transit Workers in the *Federal Register* (Docket No. FTA-2023-0032).

[Submit comments](#) on the proposed general directive by February 20, 2024.