



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



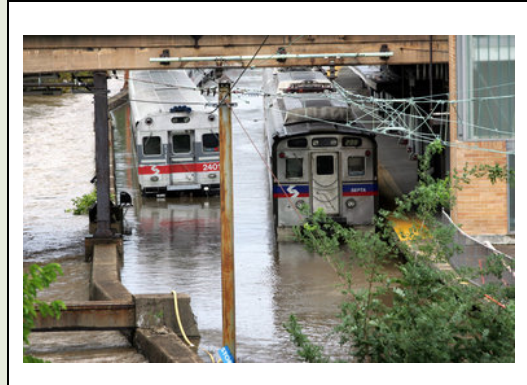
FACT SHEET:
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM
SECTION 5324

Purpose

This program helps states and public transportation systems pay for protecting, repairing, and/or replacing equipment and facilities that may suffer or have suffered serious damage as a result of an emergency, including natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes. The program also improves coordination between U.S. DOT and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to expedite assistance to public transit providers in times of disasters and emergencies.

Statutory References

49 U.S.C. Section 5324 / MAP-21 Section 20017



Eligible Recipients

States and governmental authorities, including public transportation agencies.

Eligible Activities

- Capital projects to protect, repair, reconstruct, or replace equipment and facilities of a public transportation system, including on an Indian reservation, which are in danger of, or have suffered serious damage, as a result of an emergency. Emergencies are defined as natural disasters affecting a wide area or as catastrophic failures resulting from an external cause, and as a result, the governor of a state has declared as an emergency and the Secretary of Transportation has concurred, or the President has declared a major disaster.
- Operating costs related to evacuation, rescue operations, temporary public transportation service; or reestablishing, expanding or relocating public transportation route service before, during, or after an emergency.

Funding

- Funds will be appropriated by Congress as necessary.
- The grants are only for expenses that are not reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- Grants made under this program are subject to terms and conditions that the U.S. Secretary of Transportation determines are necessary.
- The federal share for capital and operating costs is 80%, with a 20% non-federal share, although FTA may waive the local match.
- Operating costs are eligible for one year beginning on the date of declaration or for two years if the Secretary of Transportation determines there is a compelling need.

Memorandum of Agreement

U.S. DOT and DHS will enter into a memo of agreement (MOA) in order to improve coordination between the departments and to expedite the provision of federal assistance for public transportation systems relating to a major disaster or emergency.

(cont.)

Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program

Memorandum of Agreement (cont.)

- Prior to entering into the agreement, U.S. DOT and DHS, in consultation with state, local and tribal governments that have experienced a major disaster or emergency, will review after action reports to identify areas where coordination should be improved.
- The Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall jointly brief the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate by March 31, 2013, and provide quarterly briefings to the Committees subsequent to execution of the MOA.

For additional information on FTA and MAP-21, visit www.fta.dot.gov/map21.