



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



FACT SHEET:
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND DEPLOYMENT PROJECTS
SECTION 5312

	FY 2013 (in millions)	FY 2014 (in millions)
Section 5312	\$70.0	\$70.0

Purpose

To support research activities that improve the safety, reliability, efficiency, and sustainability of public transportation by investing in the development, testing, and deployment of innovative technologies, materials, and processes; carry out related endeavors; and to support the demonstration and deployment of low-emission and no-emission vehicles to promote clean energy and improve air quality.

Statutory References

49 U.S.C. Section 5312 / MAP-21 Section 20011

Eligible Recipients

Federal government agencies, state and local governments, providers of public transportation, private or nonprofit organizations, technical and community colleges, and institutions of higher education.



Eligible Activities

Research

Public transportation research supporting the development and deployment of innovative ideas, practices and approaches that improve public transportation. These focus areas could include research on performance management, capital and operating efficiencies, alternative fuels, safety improvements, energy efficiency, data and communication systems, and other topics that advance the interests of public transportation.

Innovation and Development

Projects that seek to improve public transportation systems nationwide by developing, testing, and evaluating technologies, materials, and processes that may provide more efficient and effective delivery of public transportation services.

Demonstration, Deployment and Evaluation

Activities that promote the early deployment and demonstration of innovation in public transportation that have broad applicability to the transit industry. Project evaluation is required within two years of award. This activity also includes a Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment program that includes eligibility for acquiring or leasing low- or no-emissions vehicles, constructing or leasing facilities and

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Eligible Activities (cont.)

equipment, and rehabilitating or improving existing public transportation facilities to accommodate low- or no-emission vehicles.

Funding

- Federal share is 80% with a required 20% non-federal share for all projects (non-federal share may be in-kind).
- Low- or no-emission bus projects and low- or no-emission bus facilities projects must comprise 65% and 10%, respectively, of the total annual appropriation.

What's New?

- The previous Section 5312 (Research, Development, Demonstration, and Deployment Projects) and Section 5314 (National Research Programs) are now consolidated into one program under Section 5312.
- Amends the government share for the program, such that 80% of funding is federal share with a 20% non-federal share (state, local, or private funds).
- FTA is required to report annually on research activities to Congress. This includes a description of projects, an evaluation of each project funded, and a proposal of allocations of assistance for the next fiscal year.
- Funds under the Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program are subject to the requirements of Section 5307.

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