

FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

APTA Rail Safety Committee

State Safety Oversight Program Certification

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FTA

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Agenda

- FTA's Goals
- State Safety Oversight Program Requirements
- State Safety Oversight (SSO) Final Rule
- SSO Certification
 - Which States are affected
 - Deadlines
 - Financial Penalty
 - What FTA is doing for SSOAs
- What the Rail Transit Industry can do?
- Questions

FTA's Goals

Continue to Improve and Strengthen
SSO Programs for Oversight of Rail
Transit Operations

SSO Final Rule

State Safety Oversight Program Requirements

In order to obligate funds apportioned under section 5338 to carry out this chapter, effective 3 years after the date on which a final rule under this subsection becomes effective, an eligible State shall have in effect a State safety oversight program approved by the Secretary under which the State :

- Assumes responsibility for overseeing rail fixed guideway public transportation safety;
- Adopts and enforces Federal and relevant State laws on rail fixed guideway public transportation safety;
- Establishes a State safety oversight agency;
- Determines, in consultation with the Secretary, an appropriate staffing level for the State safety oversight agency that is commensurate with the number, size, and complexity of the rail fixed guideway public transportation systems in the eligible State;

State Safety Oversight Program Requirements

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In order to obligate funds apportioned under section 5338 to carry out this chapter, effective 3 years after the date on which a final rule under this subsection becomes effective, an eligible State shall have in effect a State safety oversight program approved by the Secretary under which the State :

- Requires that employees and other designated personnel of the eligible State safety oversight agency who are responsible for rail fixed guideway public transportation safety oversight are qualified to perform such functions through appropriate training, including successful completion of the public transportation safety certification training program established under subsection (c); and
- Prohibits any public transportation agency from providing funds to the State safety oversight agency or an entity designated by the eligible State as the State safety oversight agency under paragraph (4).

Purpose of the SSO Final Rule

- States assume greater responsibility for overseeing safety
- FTA reviews and approves each State's SSO program standard
- FTA can impose penalties on States
- Strengthens an SSOA's authority

Requirements for SSOs

Every eligible State must establish an SSO program with a State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) that:

- Is financially and legally independent;
- Has investigative and enforcement authority;
- Does not directly provide public transportation services in an area with an RTA;
- Does not employ any individual responsible for administering an RTA;

Requirements for SSOs

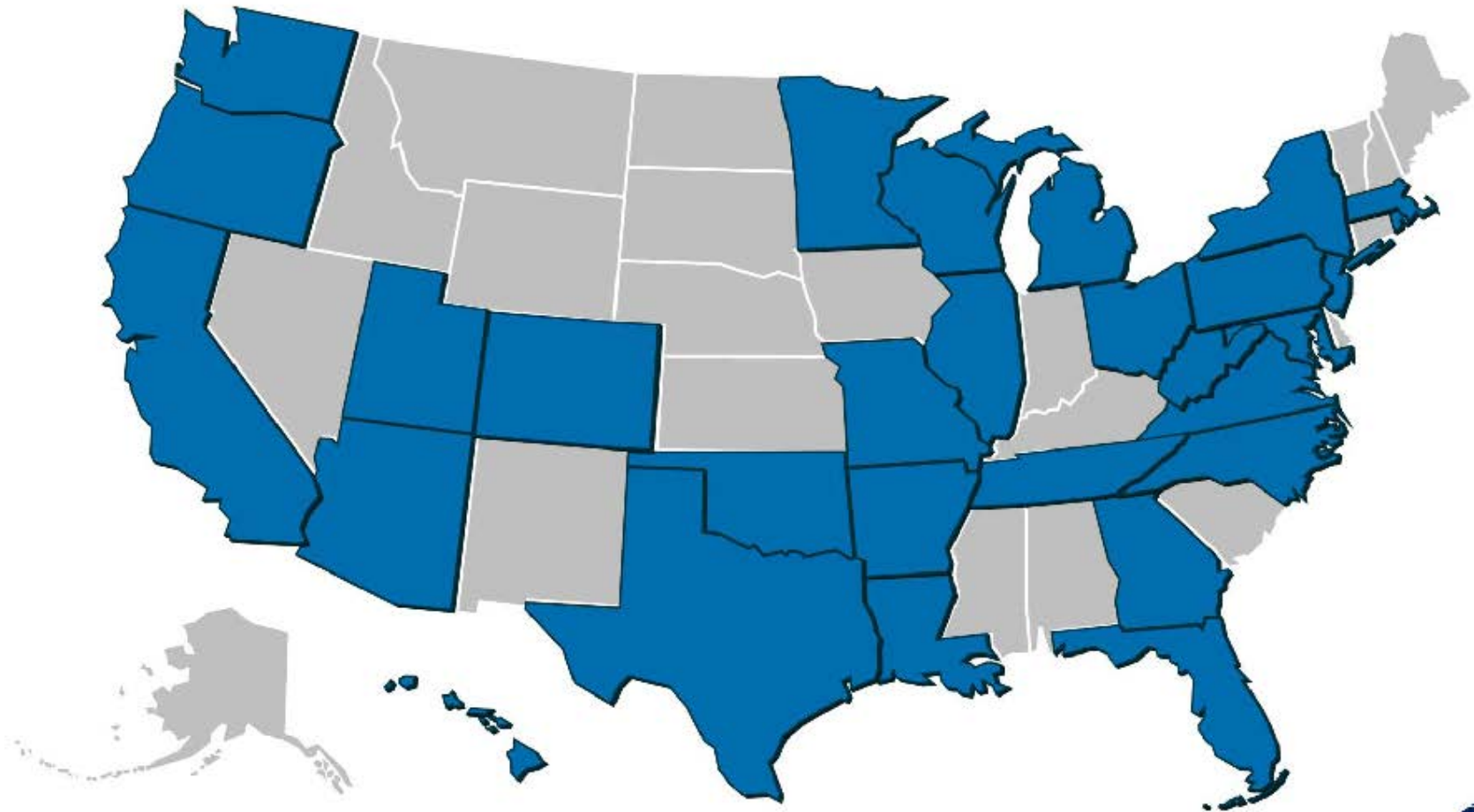
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Every eligible State must establish an SSO program with a State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) that:

- Has authority to review, approve, oversee, and enforce a safety plan for an RTA;
- Audits every RTA's safety compliance at least once every three years; and
- Reports the status of RTA safety to the Governor, the FTA, and the RTA board of directors or equivalent entity at least once a year

SSO Certification

States with Rail Transit Required to Meet State Safety Oversight Program Certification Deadline



- Required to have State Safety Oversight Program Certification for Rail Transit by April 15, 2019
- Not Required to have State Safety Oversight Program Certification for Rail Transit by April 15, 2019



Deadlines

- Compliance deadline-States must have an approved and certified SSO Program no later than April 15, 2019
- In order to meet the compliance deadline, States should submit their certification applications by April 15, 2018 (preferred submission date), but no later than September 30, 2018, to ensure that FTA has sufficient time to review applications

Financial Penalty

If a State fails to meet the April 15, 2019 deadline, FTA will be prohibited from obligating Federal financial assistance apportioned under Chapter 53 (49 U.S.C. 5338) to any entity in the State that is otherwise eligible to receive that Federal financial assistance.

What FTA is doing for SSOAs

- \$90 million in grant funds
- Technical assistance workshops
- Monthly One-On-One Calls
- Quarterly conference calls
- Site Visits
- Certification toolkit

What the Rail Transit Industry can do?

Support your State in its certification efforts

Questions?

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