FTA
FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

PTASP TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program and Agency Safety Plan Training Requirements

The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Public Transportation Safety Program includes two separate requirements for training:

- FTA's Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program regulation, 49 CFR Part 672, specifies "a uniform safety certification training curriculum and requirements to enhance the technical proficiency of **individuals who conduct safety audits and examinations of public transportation systems** and **those who are directly responsible for safety oversight of public transportation agencies**." (§672.1(a))

- FTA's Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP) regulation, 49 CFR Part 673, requires **each covered public transportation agency** 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 training program "must include refresher training, as necessary." (§673.29(a))

Below is a summary of both sets of requirements.[1]

Training Requirements Under 49 CFR Parts 672 and 673

49 CFR Part 672	Compliance	49 CFR Part 673
Rail transit agency (RTA) and State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) personnel and contractors who conduct safety audits and examinations.		Transit agencies that receive Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program funds, including bus and rail transit agencies.

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[1] The guidance in this document is not legally binding in its own right and will not be relied upon by the Federal Transit Administration as a separate basis for affirmative enforcement action or other administrative penalty. Compliance with the guidance in this document (as distinct from existing statutes and regulations) is voluntary only, and noncompliance will not affect rights and obligations under existing statutes and regulations.

49 CFR Part 672   **49 CFR Part 673**

Affected Parties

Applies to RTA employees and contractors designated by the agency as **directly responsible for safety oversight** and SSOA employees and contractors who conduct - or manage or supervise those who conduct - safety audits or examinations.

Part 672 does not specify which individuals at an RTA are directly responsible for safety oversight; it is up to the RTA to identify those individuals. This could include employees and contractors whose primary job function(s) include developing, implementing, or monitoring the Agency Safety Plan or any processes or procedures required by the SSOA's Program Standard.

Applies to transit agency employees and contractors designated by the agency as **directly responsible for safety.**

Part 673 does not specify which individuals at a transit agency are directly responsible for safety; it is up to the transit agency to identify these individuals. This could include employees and contractors who work as part of the agency's safety function, such as safety officers and analysts, as well as operations and maintenance functions, such as managers, supervisors, and front-line employees.

Some RTA employees and contractors may be directly responsible for both safety and rail safety oversight. These individuals must comply with training requirements in both Parts 672 and 673.

Requirements

Employees and contractors required to comply with the regulation must complete the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP) curriculum, listed below, within three years, and subsequently complete refresher training every two years:

- Safety Management Systems (SMS) Awareness
- SMS Safety Assurance
- SMS Principles for Transit
- SMS Principles for State Safety Oversight Programs (required for SSOA employees and contractors only)

Transit agencies must establish a comprehensive safety training program that includes refresher training, as appropriate, to ensure employees and contractors are current with the agency's safety practices and procedures.

Agencies can leverage their current safety training programs and enhance existing or create new courses that reflect the agency's processes and procedures under their SMS. Agencies also can develop curricula with courses that reflect specific job functions as they relate to safety.

Requirements (Continued)

- Transit System Safety Program (individuals who previously completed the program do not need to re-take these courses)
    - Transit Rail System Safety
    - Effectively Managing Transit Emergencies
    - Transit Rail Incident Investigation

In addition, SSOAs must develop and implement technical training plans for designated personnel and contractors that conduct safety audits and examinations. These plans cover 17 technical competencies identified by FTA's PTSCTP.

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