

Sub-part 6101 – Public Transit

Chapter 53002 Section 5310 Program Eligibility

Purpose

- 100 Provide guidance on recipient and service area eligibility requirements for grant assistance.
- 101 Describes types of eligible recipient and services that can be funded by the MDOT through the most recent version of the Section 5310 Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Program. (The Section 5310 description may be viewed at the Federal Transit Administration website – www.fta.dot.gov.)

Section 5310 Projects - Eligible Recipients

- 200 Eligible recipients of Section 5310 assistance include: private nonprofit organizations; public bodies that certify that no nonprofit corporations or associations are readily available in the area to provide the service; and public bodies approved by the state to coordinate services for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.
- 201 Local public bodies eligible to apply for Section 5310 funds as coordinators of services for elderly persons and persons with disabilities are those designated by the state to coordinate human service activities in a particular area.
- 202 The prioritization and selection of Section 5310 (i.e. elderly and persons with disabilities) projects for funding is the responsibility of MDOT as the designated state agency. Applicants for, or recipients of Section 5310 assistance will be evaluated based on the provisions of the most recent version of FTA Circular 9070.1E and the approved State Management Plan as appropriate. (Both documents are available from the Public Transit Division.)
- 203 The Public Transit Division shall utilize the guidelines contained in Chapter XIII, Part G of the most current approved State Management Plan in determining the eligibility of an applicant as an elderly person and persons with disability service provider.

Section 5310 Eligible Service Areas

- 300 Section 5310 funds are available to assist elderly persons and persons with disabilities transportation projects in urban and non-urbanized areas.
- 301 The MDOT uses the terms "*non-urbanized* and *rural* areas" synonymously to mean any area outside an urbanized area, as designated by the Bureau of the Census. An urbanized area consists of a core area and the surrounding densely populated area with a population of 50,000 or more, with boundaries fixed by the Census Bureau or extended by state and local officials. The goal of Section 5310 is for the primary purpose of providing transportation to

elderly and/or disabled persons. In addition to specific clients, transportation services may be made available to other elderly and disabled persons on a space available basis. Section 5310 vehicles may also serve the transportation needs of general public passengers on an incidental basis. The incidental basis refers to services that do not interfere with transportation services designed to meet the specific needs of elderly persons or persons with disabilities.

- 302 For purposes of this rule, “Elderly persons” refers to a person meeting the requirements for services under Title XX and Title IIIB of the Older Americans Act. In general, persons age 55 and older are considered eligible for Section 5310 transportation services. “Disabled person” means any individual who, by reason of illness, injury, age, congenital malfunction, or other permanent or temporary disability (including any person who uses a wheelchair or has semi-ambulatory capabilities), is unable without special facilities to utilize public transportation facilities and services effectively.