

BIL Provisions for the Tribal Transit Program

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Regional Administrator

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History of the Tribal Transit Program

- Purpose: Provides funds directly to tribal entities for the purposes of capital, operating, planning, and administrative expenses for public transit projects that meet the growing needs of rural tribal communities



History of the Tribal Transit Program

- **Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU); FY 2006-2012**
 - Created the Tribal Transit Program
 - Administered as a discretionary program at approximately \$15M per year
- **Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21); FY 2013-2015**
 - Continued and Modified TTP
 - Formula Program: \$25M per year
 - Competitive Program: \$5M per year
 - **TTP totaled \$30M per year**



History of the Tribal Transit Program

- **Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST);
FY 2016-2021**
 - Continued the Tribal Transit Program and increased the formula program
 - Formula Program : \$30M per year
 - Competitive Program: \$5M per year
 - **TTP totaled \$35M per year**



The Tribal Transit Program today

- **The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; FY 2022-2026**
 - Continued and increased the Tribal Transit Program
 - Instead of a flat amount each year, the Tribal Transit Program now grows with the rural transit program
 - **TTP now totals \$229M over five-year period**
 - Formula funds: \$183M
 - Competitive funds: \$45.8M
 - **Supports 132 American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes with transit service**



The Tribal Transit Program today

- **The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; FY 2022-2026**
 - TTP Annual Funding: \$43.76M in FY 22; \$47.99M in FY 26
 - Formula Program: \$35M-\$38M (FY 22-26)
 - Competitive Program: \$8M-\$9.6M (FY 22-26)

Fiscal Year	2022 (in millions)	2023 (in millions)	2024 (in millions)	2025 (in millions)	2026 (in millions)
5311 Rural Formula	\$781	\$797	\$818	\$835	\$856
Public Transportation on Indian Reservations (Formula)	\$35	\$36	\$37	\$37	\$38
Public Transportation on Indian Reservations (Competitive)	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$10



Section 5311(c) Tribal Transit Program Formula

- FY22: \$35 Million, 100% federal funds, no local match required
- May be used for operating assistance, capital projects, or planning
- Tribes receiving FTA funding are required to submit data to the National Transit Database
- Tribes providing transit service without receiving federal funds may submit data to the NTD
- Appropriated annually to qualifying tribes using the formula below



Section 5311(c) Tribal Transit Program Formula

Tier	Split	Criteria
Tier 1	50% of Funds Divided Proportionally by	Vehicle Revenue Miles reported to NTD
Tier 2	25% of Funds Divided Equally by	Tribal Transit Agencies reporting over 200,000 Vehicle Revenue Miles to NTD
Tier 3	25% of Funds Divided Proportionally by	Low-income population in service area if there are over 1,000 low-income persons (max \$300,000)



Section 5311(c) Tribal Transit Competitive Program

- In FY22, \$8.75 million is authorized

Eligible Projects	Eligible Federal Share	Funding Availability
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ \$25,000 cap	100%	3 years (Year of Allocation + 2 FY)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capital<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ New Services✓ Replacement (bus,equip,facility)✓ Expansion (bus,equip,facility)	100%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operating<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ All eligible recipients	100%	



FY2022 Tribal Transit Competitive Program

- FTA published a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) on February 16, 2022
- Applications are due on **May 25, 2022** at 11:59 pm Eastern Time
- Apply through Grants.gov:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=338127>
- For more information, visit the FTA NOFO page here:
<https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/public-transportation-indian-reservations-program-fy-2022-notice-funding>



Section 5339(b) Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive

Purpose: Makes federal resources available to states and direct recipients to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities



- Competitive program requiring application
- Capital projects for vehicles and vehicle facilities
- 80% federal share for vehicles and facilities
 - 85% or 90% federal funding if certain requirements are met

Section 5339(c) Low & No Emissions Competitive

Purpose: Provides funding to state and local governmental authorities for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses as well as acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities.

- Competitive program requiring application
- Capital projects for low/no emission vehicles, equipment, and facilities
- 85% federal funds for vehicles, 90% federal funds for equipment and facilities



Section 5311 Rural Area Formula Program

Purpose: Provides capital, planning, and operating assistance to states to support public transportation in rural areas with populations of less than 50,000.

- 80% federal share for capital
- 50% federal share for operating assistance
- 80% federal share for ADA non-fixed route paratransit service
- The program is administered by states and Tribes are eligible subrecipients



Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Formula

Purpose: Provides formula funding to meet the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities

- 80% federal share for capital
- 50% federal share for operating assistance
- 100% federal share for administration, planning, and technical assistance (no more than 10% of the total award)
- Administered by states in rural areas and Tribes are eligible subrecipients



Links and Resources

- [Tribal Transit Formula Grants - 5311\(c\)\(1\)\(B\) | FTA \(dot.gov\)](#)
- [Public Transportation on Indian Reservations Program; Tribal Transit Program | FTA \(dot.gov\)](#)
- [Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program | FTA \(dot.gov\)](#)
- [Low or No Emission Vehicle Program - 5339\(c\) | FTA \(dot.gov\)](#)
- [Formula Grants for Rural Areas - 5311 | FTA \(dot.gov\)](#)
- [Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities - Section 5310 | FTA \(dot.gov\)](#)





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