

- **Does the notice of application intent have to be in the form of a paid newspaper advertisement? Other media acceptable? Timeframes of advertisements for public vs. non-profit sponsors?**
 - Application intent must be in a media format that reaches a broad audience in your community. Examples include: newspaper, radio, television, community newsletter and equivalent electronic means.

Section 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Applicants must:

- Publish a public notice in local media with the widest circulation no later than **two weeks prior to the application due date**. See [Appendix B](#) in the application for the required content of the public notice.

OR

- Send a letter to other human service, non-profit agencies, and private providers operating or located within the area to be served by the project no later than **two weeks prior to the application due date**.

Public Body Applicants must:

- Publish a public notice the local newspaper with the widest circulation by **February 12, 2017**. See [Appendix B](#) in the application for the required content of the public notice.
- Conduct a public hearing to consider the economic, social, and environmental effects of the applicant’s project. The public notice of the hearing should be published two weeks prior to the public hearing. The public hearing must be held in an accessible location.
- A copy of the published notice, an affidavit of publication, and a copy of the minutes/transcripts or summary from the public hearing must be submitted to NOACA

- **Are preventative capital maintenance projects eligible for funding?**
 - Yes, preventative capital maintenance projects are eligible for Section 5310 funding under Capital Expenses. See Section 14 of the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program Guidance and Application in the [FTA C 9070.1G Circular](#) under “ELIGIBLE CAPITAL EXPENSES THAT MEET THE 55 PERCENT REQUIREMENT.” See Chapter 6 of the [Unified Order of Accounts](#) to see eligible preventative maintenance activities.
- **Are vehicle replacements eligible if the original vehicle was also funded with federal dollars?**
 - Yes, in accordance with [FTA guidance \(Section 14\)](#) and [ODOT Useful Life Standards](#)
- **Are travel training or education materials, such as videos, eligible for funding under the program?**
 - This is currently under evaluation

- **Do applicants have to show proof of certifications (drivers, maintenance staff, etc.) as a condition of application?**
 - No, but prospective grantees must certify and assure to the Federal Transit Administration that they will abide by all Federal standards and requirements.
- **Do projects funds have to be expended within 1 year of the NOACA/ sponsor agreement?**
 - Yes, all funds must be expended within 1 year of the signed contract between NOACA/grantee. A mutually agreed upon timeline is included as a part of the contract.
- **What are the standards that determine and define disabilities?**
 - Please refer to the Americans with Disabilities Act: <https://www.ada.gov/cguide.htm>
- **Are funds awarded solely based on application scores?**
 - Scores are used as a baseline. Eligibility requirements, demonstrated need, agency efficacy, and overall benefits to cost are also considered.
- **Can a grantee be awarded funds less than the requested amount?**
 - Based upon available funds, grantees may receive an award that is less than requested. For example, availability of funds may dictate that an awardee receives funding for two of the four vehicles requested.
- **How are safety projects defined?**
 - See Chapter 5 “Strategies for the Future” (page 81) in the [Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan for Northeast Ohio](#) for guidance on improving safety through goals and objectives defined through the public outreach process for the plan.
- **Can a non-profit coordinate application through a transit agency for the 60% funding available to those agencies?**
 - All requests for transit allocation must come directly from a federally-defined transit agency. Coordination between non-profits and transit agencies is acceptable.
- **Should trip calculations be for 1 or 2 year cycles?**
 - Trips should be calculated for a one year time frame.
- **Can a non-profit purchase vehicles through ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Program/State Contract?**
 - No, per Ohio state law, only political subdivisions of the state may be eligible to purchase from the state contract. [ODOT CPP guidelines](#) state: ‘Defined in Section 5513.01 (B) of the Ohio Revised Code and as used in this section, A Political Subdivision means any County, Township, Municipal Corporation, Conservancy District, Township Park District, Park Districts created under Chapter 1545 of the Revised Code, Port Authority, Regional Transit Authority, Regional Airport Authority, Regional Water and Sewer District, County Transit Board and State University or College as in Division (A)(1) of Section 3345.32 of the Revised Code.’

- However, the State of Ohio contract only includes vehicles which are Buy America compliant, an FTA requirement. Grantees can use the contract as a guide to researching approved vehicles/cost estimates that meet their transportation needs. Grantees will procure vehicles (which must meet FTA compliance) from their preferred vendor based on their internal procurement process.

The following vehicles are on the contract.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----|
| Accessible Vans | 12/31/2017 | Public Transportation | 252-16 (Bid/Pricing) | Yes |
| Dedicated Mobility Access Vehicle | 12/31/2017 | Public Transportation | 251-16 (Bid/Pricing) | Yes |
| Modified Mini Vans | 12/31/2017 | Public Transportation | 253-16(Bid/Pricing) | Yes |

Click the appropriate “Bid/Pricing” number under “Award Tab” [here](#) for pricing details.

[Here](#) is the 2014-2015 ODOT Vehicle Catalog and Selection Guide, which is the most up to date guide of ODOT (and Buy America) approved vehicles (for reference only).

- **Can applicants apply for Ford Transit or other similar vehicles?** Yes, applicants can apply for Ford Transit or other similarly designed accessible vehicles. This could be considered either an Accessible Van or a Modified Minivan.
- **Can applicants apply for capital leases through the 5310 Program?**

Applicants can apply for capital lease funds this round. Please follow FTA’s guidance on demonstrating cost effectiveness of leasing over purchasing as illustrated in Part 639 Subpart C here:

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2007-title49-vol7/pdf/CFR-2007-title49-vol7-part639.pdf> and include it as an attachment to your application.