

2023 5310 Project Call Questions

Does this grant pay for a volunteer manager position?

This is an eligible expense, per the FTA Circular: Supporting volunteer driver and aide programs. Volunteer driver programs are eligible and include support for costs associated with the administration, management of driver recruitment, safety, background checks, scheduling, coordination with passengers, other related support functions, mileage reimbursement, and insurance associated with volunteer driver programs. The costs of enhancements to increase capacity of volunteer driver programs are also eligible. FTA encourages communities to offer consideration for utilizing all available funding resources as an integrated part of the design and delivery of any volunteer driver/aide program.

What type of supporting documents do we need to provide?

Supporting documentation isn't necessarily required but available for the application if it's appropriate to support the narrative response in the section. For example, in the experience section, you can provide previous award letters, grant agreements, 5310 documentation you provide CapMetro, anything that shows you have previous experience with this program or a similar grant program. The supporting documents are there to provide proof of the narrative response and strengthen the claims made in the application.

What type of information are you looking for in the methodology section?

For the methodology, you need to show how you are defining your ridership provided in that section and how you are calculating the numbers. Because providers track their ridership differently, applicants need to provide the methodology information so that we can convert and compare accurately across applicants.

For example, define one instance of serving a rider, is this a one-way trip or a round trip pickup and drop off from a home to a medical appointment and back home? For the estimated number of riders, is that based on your previous year's numbers? Applicants must clearly define all the information in this section, if it is not provided, we will not be able to complete an accurate cost-benefit analysis for the project.

DUNS/UEI Number Clarification

The application originally asked for your DUNS number. The federal government has switched to the Unique Entity Identifier so the application was updated to provide a space for this information. The Unique Entity Identifier is the official identifier for doing business with the U.S. Government as of April 4, 2022. If you are previous sub-recipient of 5310 you should have a number assigned. If you do not, or do not know your number, please enter that into the field.

Regarding Projects Supporting the 2022 RTCC Plan

Regarding the plan there is a lot of flexibility in how applicants can address this section. We are looking to see that the service supports the plan goals overall and how the project address specific strategies identified. No single project can cover all of the goals, strategies, and activities, so applicants should emphasize as many specifics in the plan as possible that their project supports directly.