

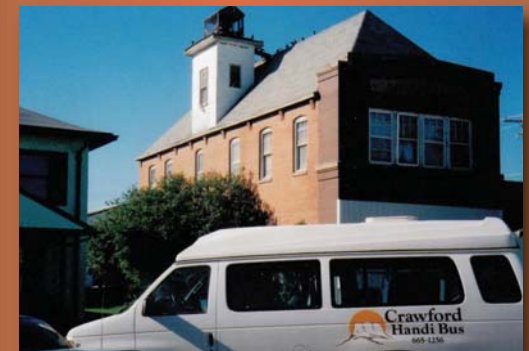
RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



Rail & Public Transportation Division

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RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

49 U.S.C. 5311 authorizes federal money for capital and operating assistance to public transportation in small urban and rural areas (less than 50,000 population). Operating assistance is used to help offset the net cost of providing public transportation. Shopping, medical appointments, community events, dining and work are typical types of trips provided by this funding.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

Local agencies, local public bodies, Indian Tribes, public transportation services and private-nonprofit organizations may be eligible recipients under the program. Private-nonprofit organizations must fulfill the requirement as a public purpose organization as defined in Section 19-3903 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943. Private-for-profit operators of transit or paratransit services may participate in the program through contracts with eligible applicants.

INTERCITY BUS

Intercity bus service is defined as scheduled, fixed route services connecting two or more urban areas not in close proximity, with limited stops in the urban areas. It must also have the capacity for carrying passenger's

baggage and connecting with scheduled services to more distant points. It does not have to be provided by a private intercity carrier or use intercity-type buses. The "coordination of rural connections between small transit operations and intercity bus carriers" may include the provision of service which acts as a feeder to intercity bus services. Projects funded under this section should service rural intercity passengers.

NDOR may contract for an intercity bus system with either a publicly-owned provider or a provider owned by a qualified public-purpose organization.

VEHICLE PURCHASE PROGRAM

49 U.S.C. 5310 is designed to supplement the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) other capital assistance programs by funding capital transportation projects (vehicle purchases or purchase of transportation services) for elderly persons and persons with disabilities in all areas – urbanized, small urban and rural.

Private-nonprofit corporations and public bodies are eligible applicants. For a public body such as a county, city or village to be eligible, they must certify to the Governor that no nonprofit corporations or associations are readily available in an area to provide the service.

Transportation-Related Websites

Statewide directory of urban, rural, and intercity bus services, along with taxi services in Nebraska.
<http://www.transportation.nebraska.gov/rpt/transit-dir/transitdir-all.pdf>

Metro Rideshare – a carpool matching service for those commuters traveling to or from the Omaha Metro area, including the Lincoln – Omaha or Omaha – Lincoln route. (free site)
<http://www.mapacog.greenride.com>

eRideshare – A nationwide carpooling resource that allows you to search by state for potential carpoolers. (free site)
<http://www.erideshare.com/>

Federal Transit Administration – information on federal transit programs and funding.
<http://www.fta.dot.gov>

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration – information on Interstate Operating Authority
<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov>

Nebraska Association of Transportation Providers
<http://www.neatp.org>