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Be energy efficient!*

January 13, 2012

CALL FOR PROJECTS
FTA SECTION 5316 - JOB ACCESS REVERSE COMMUTE (JARC)
FTA SECTION 5317 - NEW FREEDOM (NF)

The California Department of Transportation's (Department) Division of Mass Transportation is pleased to announce a call for projects for federal fiscal year 2011 and 2012.

- Estimated federal funding is \$13.5 million for JARC-Small Urban and JARC-Non-Urban (Rural).
- Estimated federal funding of \$5.8 million for New Freedom-Small Urban and New Freedom-Non-Urban (Rural).
- Applicants in small urbanized areas that have local transportation planning agencies included in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to conduct the first level application review and scoring should submit their application to the applicable Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) or Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) on or before Wednesday, February 22, 2012. Please refer to the enclosed Small Urbanized Areas Application Contact list for identification of MPOs and RTPAs who are included in the MOU.
- Applications from non-MOU small urbanized areas and rural areas are due to the Department on or before Friday, March 23, 2012.
- Application workshops will be held via video conferencing the last week of January.

Enclosed are program fact sheets, the listing MOUs with participating local planning agencies in small urbanized areas, the list of RTPAs, and a flyer for the upcoming application workshops. This information is available in alternate formats by request. Additional information is available at the Department's JARC and New Freedom websites below. We look forward to working with you in this application cycle.

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5316.html>

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5317.html>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Lange".

MICHAEL LANGE
Acting Office Chief
Federal Transit Grants Programs

Enclosures



California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)

Division of Mass Transportation (DMT)

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - Section 5316

Job Access and Reverse Commute Transit Program (JARC)

PROGRAM FACT SHEET AND TIMELINE

Federal Fiscal Year 2011/2012

PROGRAM PURPOSE

To improve access to transportation services to employment-related activities for welfare recipients and eligible low-income individuals and to transport residents of urbanized areas and nonurbanized areas to suburban employment opportunities.

FUNDS AVAILABLE:

Approximately \$10.5 million in federal funds (including Toll Credits) are available for this cycle to be applied to urbanized areas 50,000 to 199,999 in population.

Approximately \$3 million in federal funds (including Toll Credits) are available for this cycle for non-urbanized areas less than 50,000 in population.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- Private non-profit organizations
- State or local government authority
- Operators of public transportation services, including private operators of public transportation services

LOCAL MATCHING REQUIREMENTS:

This grant cycle will not require a minimum local match, as 100% in federal funds will be made available upon FTA approval of Toll Credits to be used for local match requirement.

COORDINATED PLANNING:

All projects selected for funding must be derived from a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan as required by federal guidance. Grant applications must include a Coordinated Plan Certification.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY:

Funds from the JARC program are available for capital, planning, and operating expenses that support the development and maintenance of transportation services designed to transport low-income individuals to and from jobs and activities related to their employment, and to support reverse commute projects.

Applicants may apply for up to three (3) years of funding per project with a maximum of \$400,000 per year. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to capital, planning, and operating assistance to support activities such as:

- Late-night weekend service
- Guaranteed ride home service
- Shuttle service
- Demand-responsive service
- Supporting the administration and expenses related to voucher programs
- Subsidizing the costs associated with adding reverse commute bus, train, carpool van routes or service from urbanized areas and nonurbanized areas to suburban work places
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
- Transit vehicles
- Mobility management activities

PLANNING REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible for funding, JARC projects in urbanized areas must be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan prepared and approved by the metropolitan planning organization (MPO), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) developed by the State, and jointly approved by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Projects outside the urbanized areas must be included in, or consistent with, a long-range transportation plan and be included in the STIP.

Department of Transportation
Division of Mass Transportation
FTA Section 5316
Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC)

JARC project applications will be evaluated in accordance with the scoring criteria published in the Application Instructions to determine the extent to which the proposed project meets the overall program goals and objectives. Applicants in small-urban areas which have an MPO/RTPA who are MOU participants, will submit their application to the Small Urban Area Local Agency (see Grant Application Instruction for list of MOU Participants.) Caltrans DMT will conduct the entire JARC/NF competitive selection process for non-MOU small urbanized areas and all rural (non-urban) areas.

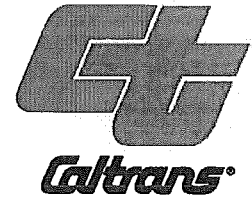
PROGRAM TIMELINE

January 13, 2012	Call for projects
January 23-27, 2012	Grant Application Workshop (Video Conference)
February 22, 2012	Applications due to Small Urban Area Local Agency (MOU participants only)
March 23, 2012	ALL applications due to Caltrans DMT (must be postmarked by this date)
May 2012	Completion of state review, evaluation, and program of projects selection
June 2012	Tentative award announcement Initiate transfers of small urban projects to Section 5307 Project programming
July 2012	Submission of FTA grant for approval Request approval from Department of Labor (JARC only)
September 2012	FTA grant approval
October 2012	Schedule successful applicant workshops
December 2012	Final award announcement Issuance of standard agreements to subrecipients

CONTACT INFORMATION:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5316.html>

**California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
Division of Mass Transportation (DMT)
Federal Transit Administration (FTA)
Section 5317 - New Freedom (NF)
PROGRAM FACT SHEET AND TIMELINE
Federal Fiscal Year 2011/2012**



PROGRAM PURPOSE:

To provide additional tools to overcome existing barriers facing Americans with disabilities seeking integration into the work force and full participation in society. The New Freedom formula grant program seeks to reduce barriers to transportation services and expands the transportation mobility options available to people with disabilities beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

FUNDS AVAILABLE:

Approximately \$4.3 million in federal funds are available for this cycle to be applied to urbanized areas 50,000 to 199,999 in population.

Approximately \$1.5 million in federal funds are available for this cycle for non-urbanized areas less than 50,000 in population.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- Private non-profit organizations
- State or local government authority
- Operators of public transportation services, including private operators of public transportation services

LOCAL MATCHING REQUIREMENTS:

This grant cycle will not require a minimum local match, as 100% in federal funds will be made available upon FTA approval of Toll Credits to be used for local match requirement.

COORDINATED PLANNING:

All projects selected for funding must be derived from a coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan as required by federal guidance. Grant applications must include a Coordinated Plan Certification.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY:

For the purpose of the New Freedom Program, "new" service is any service or activity that was not operational and did not have an identified funding source as of August 10, 2005, as evidenced by inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) or the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Applicants may apply for up to three (3) years of funding per project with a maximum of \$200,000 per year. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, capital, planning, and operating assistance to support the following activities meeting the definition of new public transportation:

- Expansion of paratransit service parameters beyond the three-fourths (3/4) mile required by the ADA
- Expansion of current hours of operation for ADA paratransit services that are beyond those provided on the fixed-route services
- Feeder service for intercity travel for which paratransit service is not required
- The incremental costs of providing same day service
- Supporting the administration and expenses related to voucher programs
- Acquisition of accessibility equipment beyond ADA requirements
- Accessibility improvement to non-key stations (Project engineers and/or sponsorship by a Governmental Lead Agency is required)
- Accessible vehicles to support taxi, vanpooling, ridesharing
- Mobility management activities

PLANNING REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible for funding, New Freedom projects in urbanized areas must be included in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan prepared and approved by the metropolitan planning organization (MPO), the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) developed by the State and jointly approved by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration.

Projects outside the urbanized areas must be included in, or consistent with, a long-range transportation plan and be included in the STIP.

Department of Transportation
Division of Mass Transportation
FTA Section 5317
New Freedom (NF)

New Freedom project applications will be evaluated in accordance with the scoring criteria published in the Application Instructions to determine the extent to which the proposed project meets the overall program goals and objectives. Applicants in small-urban areas which have an MPO/RTPA who are MOU participants, will submit their application to the Small Urban Area Local Agency (see Grant Application Instruction for list of MOU Participants.) Caltrans DMT will conduct the entire JARC/NF competitive selection process for non-MOU small urbanized areas and all rural (non-urban) areas.

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