



FTA Allocates its Formula Grants

May 2018

Are you a recipient of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) formula grants, and have been wondering how much money you're getting as a result of this year's [Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2018](#)? If so, your days of wondering are over. On May 8, FTA published its full-year "FY '18 Apportionments and Allocations" notice, which you can – and should – visit at <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/apportionments/fiscal-year-2018-apportionment-tables-full-year%20>.

When you visit that site, what you'll see are lots of tables that show how much money is allocated to states and urbanized areas under FTA's formula-based Section 5307, 5310, 5311, tribal transit, 5337, 5339, 5309, and planning programs. For the curious, there also are tables that explain the values and methodology by which FTA makes these allocations, and some tables of prior year funding allocations that are at risk of lapsing.

Since these allocations are made through largely automatic processes that take statutory language, Census data and transit agencies' NTD data to drive the calculations, there don't seem to be any surprises in these tables.

Before you start taking these dollars to the bank, there are some important points to heed:

- Funds that are allocated to states, including funds allocated to states on behalf of their smaller urbanized areas, are able to be allocated as the state finds appropriate, which may or may not match completely with the apportionment for any individual urbanized area.
- FTA's tables do not address any suballocations states or urbanized areas will be making to eligible recipients within the state or urbanized area; those local determinations are not made by FTA.
- Just because the funds are allocated doesn't mean they're automatically deposited in your agency's bank account; these allocations simply indicate how much FTA formula funding can become available in your state or urbanized area. The work of actually applying for and

drawing down these funds is your responsibility, and involves contacting your FTA regional office.

The next step is yours

Whether you have questions, or just need to start the ball rolling on your path toward accessing your formula grants, now is the time to contact your FTA regional office. If you don't know who's at your regional office, you should become acquainted with them, which you can start by visiting <https://www.transit.dot.gov/about/regional-offices/regional-offices>. Of course, you can always contact us at CTAA, we'll be happy to assist you.