

2026 5311 Rural Public Transportation Grant Application FAQ

Revised: January 20, 2026

Frequently Asked Questions

Rural Public Transit Grant Webinar - Monday, December 22, 2025

Webinar Recording: <https://vimeo.com/1152979606?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

QUESTIONS and COMMENTS	RESPONSES
1. We are needing new computer equipment and will need to add this to capital or operating in our grant application?	One time capital purchases are considered capital requests. Ongoing licenses for a computer program or service would be considered an operating request.
2. When will the 2026-2028 application be available in eGrants?	The 2026 Rural Public Transit Grant was made available in eGrants on December 17, 2025. Follow the shared presentation slidedeck or the eGrants subrecipient guidebook for instructions on initiating a new application.
3. What's going on with demand response service and 5339 vehicles?	Demand response routes are no longer eligible for 5339 capital funding. Subrecipients will submit ONE grant application for the rural public transit grant and ADOT will determine what projects are funded with what grant funding based on eligibility and availability of funds. Demand response routes are still eligible for other avenues of funding, like 5311.
4. What is the match ratio for operating?	58 Federal / 42 Local

5. Tribes seeking to transfer funds to the FTA need to provide matching funds in the grant app?	Tribal entities will need to identify in the application the anticipated local funds that will be used to cover the local match needed for your request. This is the same as all Rural Public applicants. However, Tribal entities have the option to request that they have their award transferred to FTA.
6. Do demand response service only agencies need to enter anything under GTFS in the app?	No.
7. What does combining the 5311 and 5339 application look like?	Rural subrecipients will submit one application every two years to request two years of admin, operating, planning, preventive maintenance, complementary paratransit, and other capital projects. ADOT will determine the funding sources and amount to be funded every year based on available funds and eligibility of projects. 5307 small urban agencies will continue to submit an application to the 5307/5339 grant every year.
8. Will capital projects be limited to 3 projects per year?	Generally, yes agencies will be limited to 3 capital projects per year in the grant application, or 6 for two-year cycle.
9. Will this year's 5339 requests be announced before the closure of the rural public transit grant app?	Yes. ADOT anticipates sending out the 2025 application preliminary awards by the end of January 2026.
10. Do I need to specify which year I want my vehicle to be replaced?	Yes, indicate year 1 or year 2 with the appropriate selection in the column in eGrants.
11. Is ADOT aware of issues with operating/intercity lines not calculating correctly in the grant application?	Yes, ADOT is aware of issues with operating/intercity lines calculating correctly in the grant application and are working to get this corrected.
12. Are we required to host our public meeting in person?	ADOT encourages subrecipients to engage with the public with a hybrid combination of meeting options. However, the guidebook does not require in-person meetings. Please utilize

	strategies for public engagement that make the most sense for your community.
13. We currently operate a service that focuses disabled and seniors. We allow all to utilize the service, but we give priority to seniors and the disabled. Would we qualify to apply for funding in this grant?	To receive rural public transit funds, an agency must follow all FTA and Arizona requirements around operating public service. No, you would not be able to prioritize nor deny any service to any individual. However, ADOT encourages you to apply, with the requirement that any service funded via this channel will be open to the entire public.
14. Does the Title VI plan need to be finalized and board approved before submitting the grant application?	<p>No, the plan does not need to be finalized and board approved before the grant application is submitted. Please use the 2026 template available online: https://azdot.gov/business/title-vi-program</p> <p>Then, submit your draft plan in your application. ADOT's Civil Rights Office will review and work with you on any edits. After CRO approves, you will then need to work with your board (or follow your local government's process) to finally approve the plan.</p>
15. We operate a service that is not funded by Federal dollars but is included in the State's NTD report. Are vehicles for this route eligible for replacement with this funding?	ADOT reports on all routes for subrecipients that are not self-reporters including routes that are not public transit or eligible for rural public transit funding. If your route is not eligible under the Rural Public program, then you can not request the replacement vehicle for an ineligible route.