



Fall for New National RTAP Resources

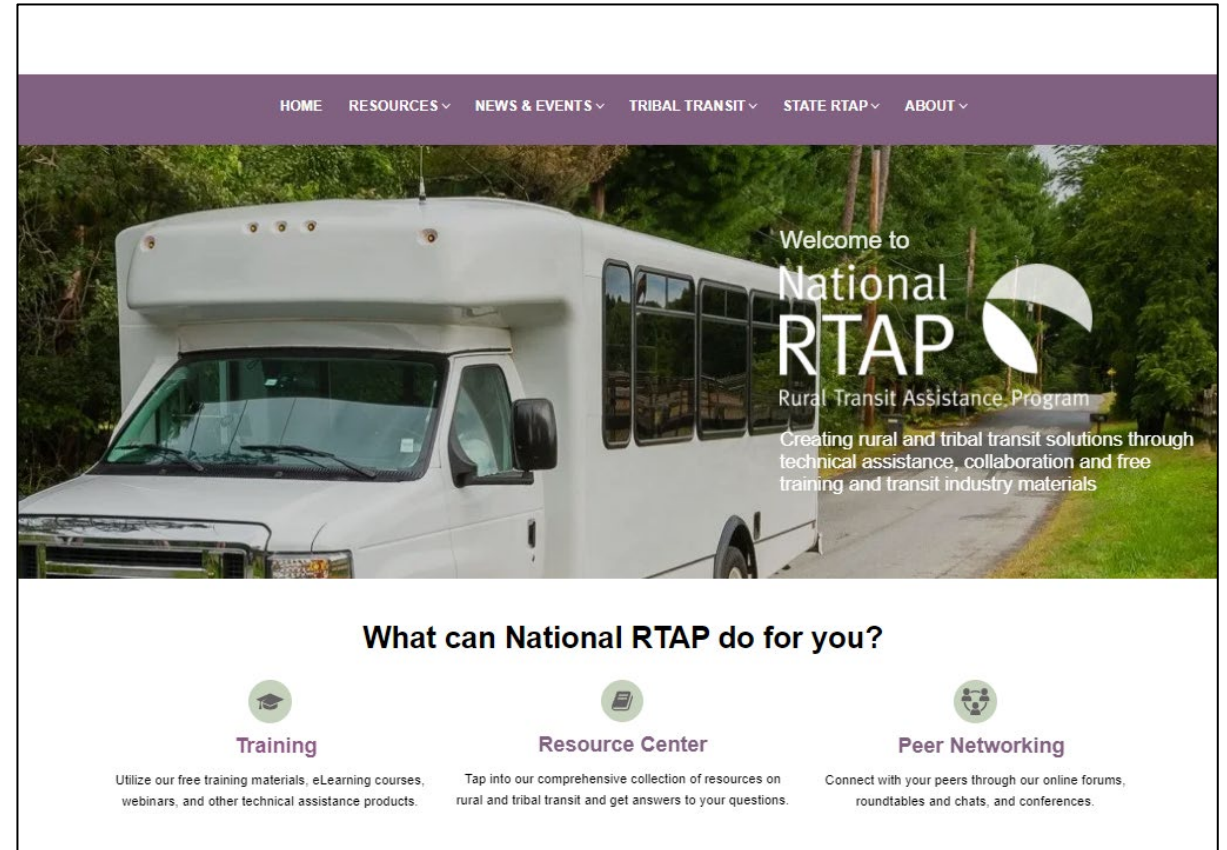
October 14, 2025, 2:00-3:00 PM ET



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

National Rural Transit Assistance Program

- Technical assistance center funded by FTA through the Section 5311 Program
- Provides free training materials and technical assistance to rural and tribal transit providers and State RTAPs
- Review Board – 14 State DOT and rural and tribal transit agency managers from across the country
- Learn more at nationalrtap.org



National RTAP Resources and Services

Training

manuals, videos, slides,
and eLearning for front-
line staff and
management

Information

and best practices via
tech briefs, toolkits,
topic guides, articles,
and news

Technology Tools

for procurement, cost
allocation, website
building, and GTFS

Peer Networking

and training via webinars,
conferences, roundtables,
and online forums

Assistance

through reference services
and tech support – bring us
your questions!

Presenter

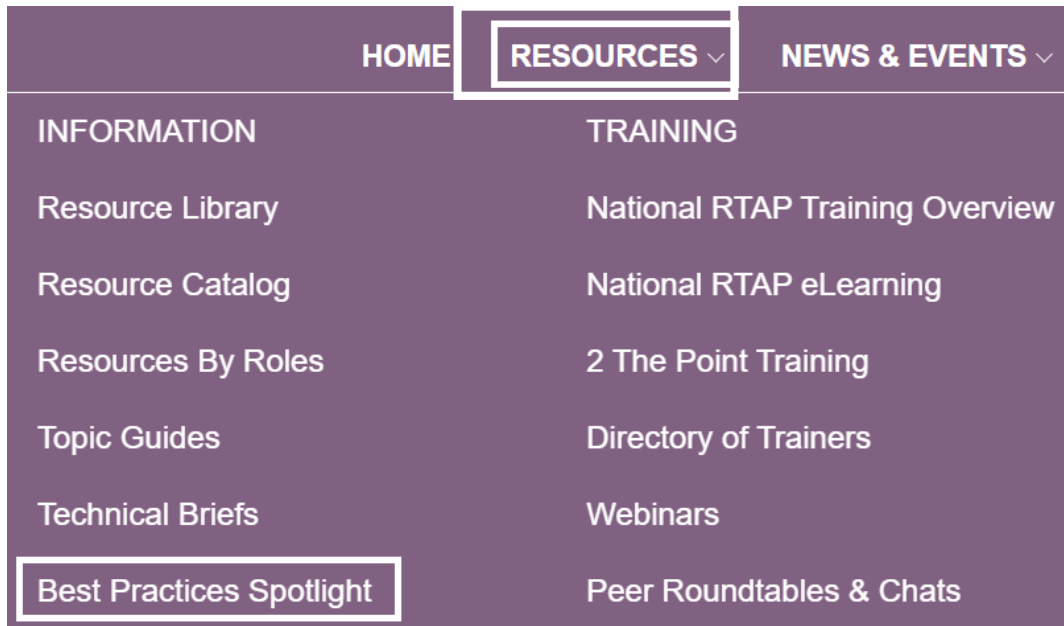


Cara Marcus
Knowledge and Resource Manager
National RTAP

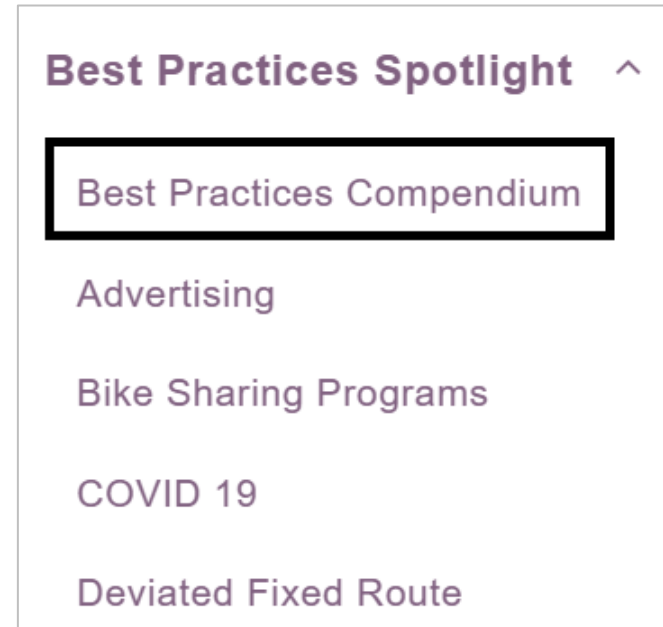
Rural and Tribal Transit Compendium of Best Practices

Accessing the Best Practices Compendium

1. Mouse over the Resources Megamenu



2. Click on Best Practices Spotlight



3. Click on Best Practices Compendium

<https://www.nationalrtap.org/Resources/Best-Practices-Compendium>

Accessing the State RTAP Best Practices Compendium

1. Mouse over the State RTAP Menu



2. Click on State RTAP Best Practices



<https://www.nationalrtap.org/Resources/Best-Practices-Compendium>

About the Best Practices Compendium

- Launched in July 2025. An update of our 1992 [State of the States Article](#)
- Includes State and U.S. Territorial RTAPs and Tribal Transit Systems
- Documents best practices in the following categories:

- 5310/5311 Funding
- Grant Management
- Mobility Management
- Subrecipient Compliance
- Subrecipient Procurement
- Technical Assistance
- Technology Implementation
- Training



Arkansas contracts with the Arkansas Transit Association for the delivery of RTAP services to the state's community transportation systems. The association provides essential technical assistance and training.

■ The **ALABAMA** RTAP advisory committee meets quarterly in different regions of the state. These meetings are combined with localized training sessions featuring local rural operators and resource people. In March, a regional workshop was held at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa on working with boards of directors and procedures for vehicle maintenance. In addition, basic accounting and cost accounting workshops have been held to develop a statewide cost allocation formula. The formula, which has been implemented, has brought about improvements in coordination and recovery of costs. *Contact person: Bill Luckerson, Alabama Highway Department, 205/261-6083.*

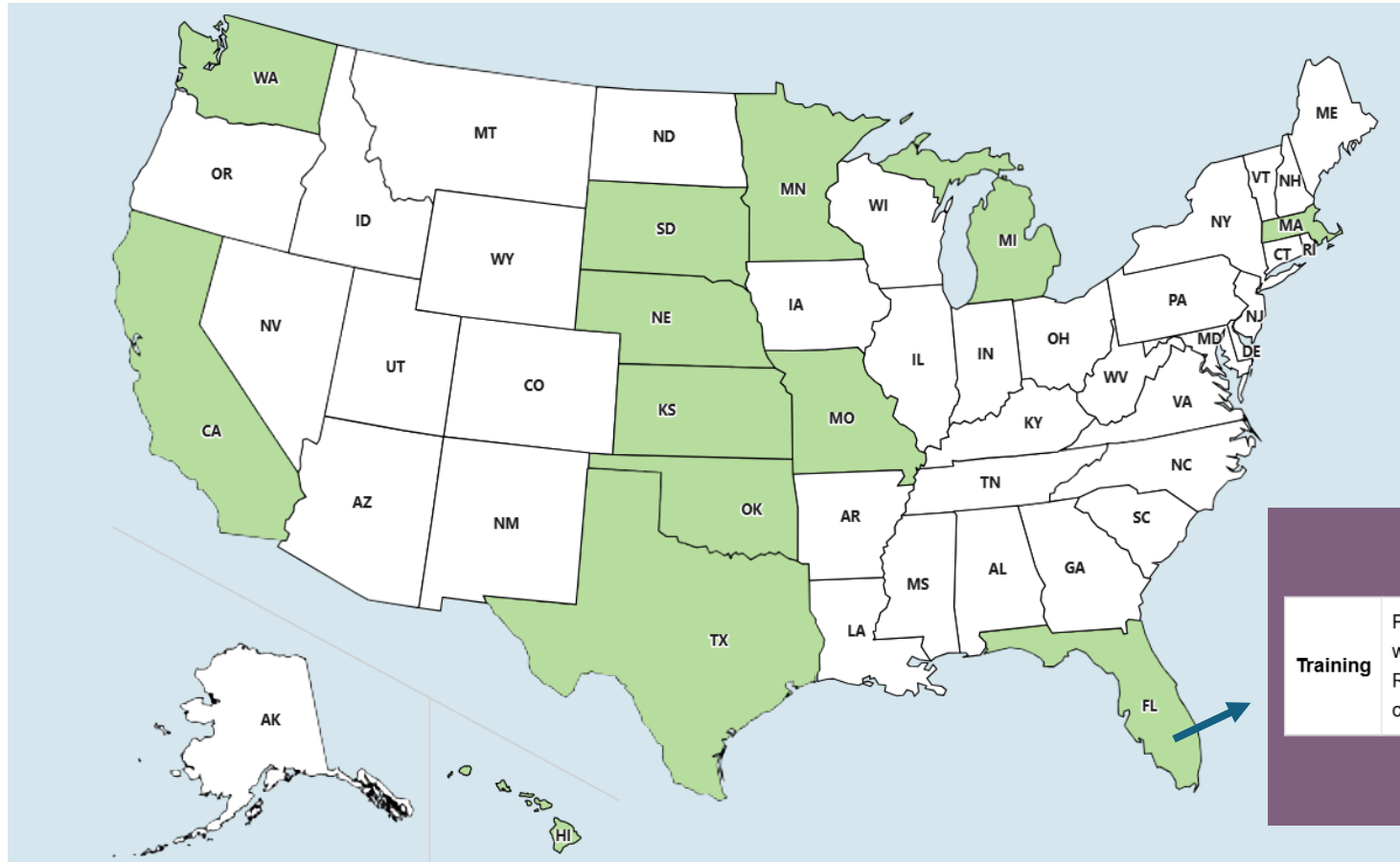
■ **ALASKA** continues to conduct passenger assistance training and to fund Section 18 and 16(b)(2) operators to attend state, regional and national transit conferences. *Contact person: Bruce Wells, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, 907/465-2171.*

■ **ARIZONA** has recently issued a request for proposals for consultant services to prepare a comprehensive transit operations training manual and to develop accompanying training workshops on specific topics within the manual. An award is expected to be made by August. Also over the last year, Arizona has held regional workshops on various aspects of ADA compliance, conducted passenger assistance techniques workshops, and developed an electronic bulletin board system. *Contact person: Randy Overmyer, Arizona Department of Transportation, 602/255-8148.*

Creating the Best Practices Compendium

- Interactive map created by National RTAP Technical Support
- Initial best practices gathered from State RTAP Manager Peer Roundtables and 1:1 National RTAP/State RTAP outreach meetings
- Gathered additional best practices at the July 2025 State RTAP Manager Peer Roundtable
- National RTAP Review Board Reviewers:
 - Marianna Hanefeld, Transportation Planner/RTAP Manager, Washington DOT
 - Tom Nutter, Project Manager, Oklahoma DOT
 - Kevin Wassom, Compliance Specialist, Michigan DOT

Using the Best Practices Compendium



Click on any state with a **green background** to view its RTAP best practices. Close that pop-up and click on any other states with a green background. You can only view one state at a time. States with a white background have not yet submitted best practices.

Florida

Training	Florida RTAP works with Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR). All CUTR trainers working with Florida RTAP took National RTAP's Active Shooter training and will train others. Florida RTAP sends 2 trainers to conduct training to ensure that at least one of them gets the training in case there is a situation where the other can't make it.
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Close

Territorial & Tribal Transit Best Practices in the Compendium

Territories

- American Samoa
- [Guam](#)
- [Northern Mariana Islands](#)
- Puerto Rico
- [U.S. Virgin Islands](#)



Northern Mariana Islands

Training

The Northern Mariana Islands RTAP has a CTAA PASS certified trainer come on site each year to provide in person driver PASS certification and recertification training. Over 20 drivers have been trained to date.

Close

Tribal Transit

- [Ninilchik Village Tribe BUMPS](#)
- [Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Transit](#)



Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Transit

Technical Assistance

Providing one-to-one support and guidance to other Tribes establishing transit programs, including the Duck Valley Paiute-Shoshone Tribe and Walker River Paiute Tribe. Assistance is given through phone and in person meetings.

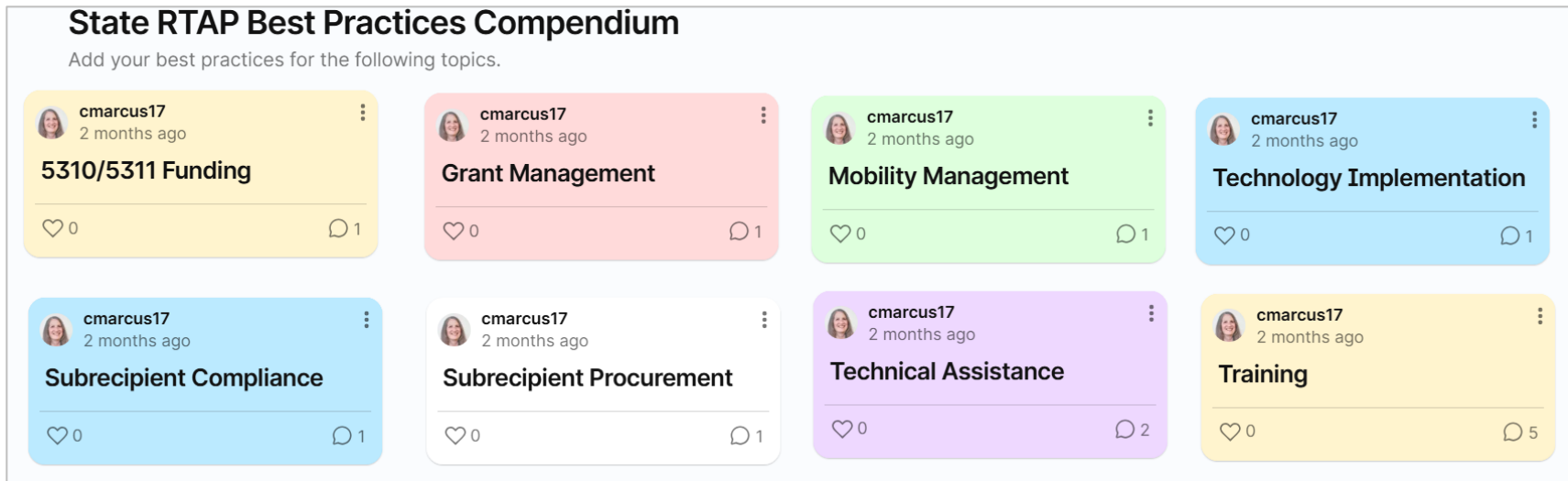
U.S. Territorial RTAP Programs and Tribal Transit Systems are included in the Best Practices Compendium.

Click on any of the links to view their best practices.

Adding to the Best Practices Compendium

Send an email to info@nationalrtap.org with your State or Territorial RTAP or Tribal Transit System best practices. We will let you know when it is posted.

Use our [Padlet](#) to submit a best practice. We will add it to the live map.

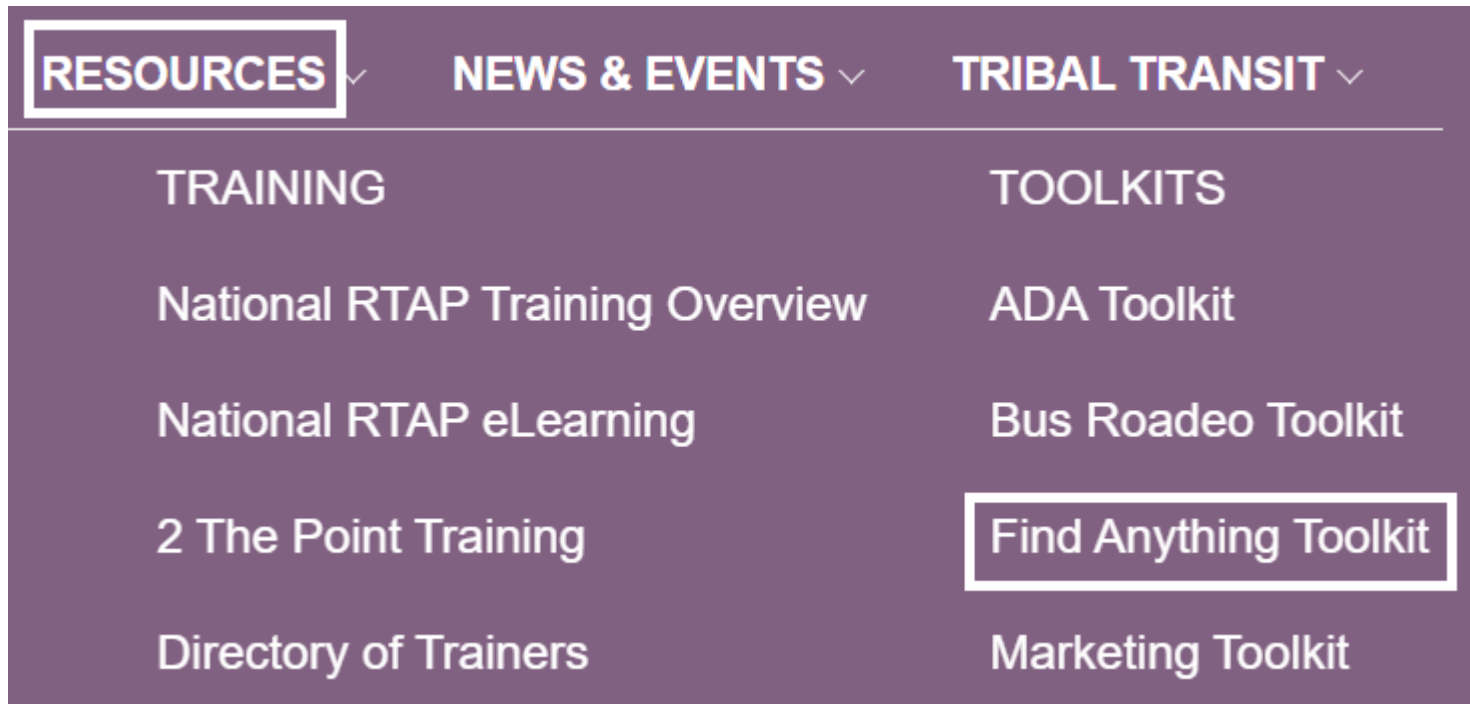


When you first use the Padlet, it will give you a “name” like Adventurous Aardvark. You are welcome to create a free account and sign in to use your own name.

5310 Programs List

Accessing the 5310 Programs List

1. Mouse over the Resources Megamenu



- Fundamentals of Searching for Results
- Uncovering Data
- Knowledge Management Approaches
- Peer Support
- State Transit Associations
- 5310 Programs
- Policies and Procedures
- Assisting People with Finding Transportation
- Hot Topics

2. Click on Find Anything Toolkit

3. Click on 5310 Programs

<https://www.nationalrtap.org/Toolkits/Find-Anything-Toolkit/Appendices/5310-programs>

About the 5310 Programs List

Launched in July 2025.

Original links researched by Jeremy Johnson-Miller, Communications Manager, National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC).

Most states have a web page about the 5310 program. If we find any for U.S. Territories, they will be added.

This list will be maintained by National RTAP and updated at least annually.

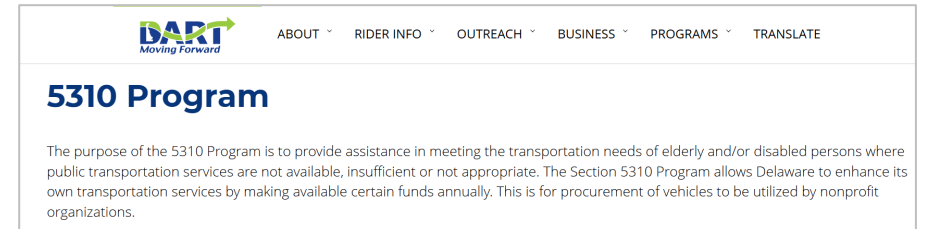
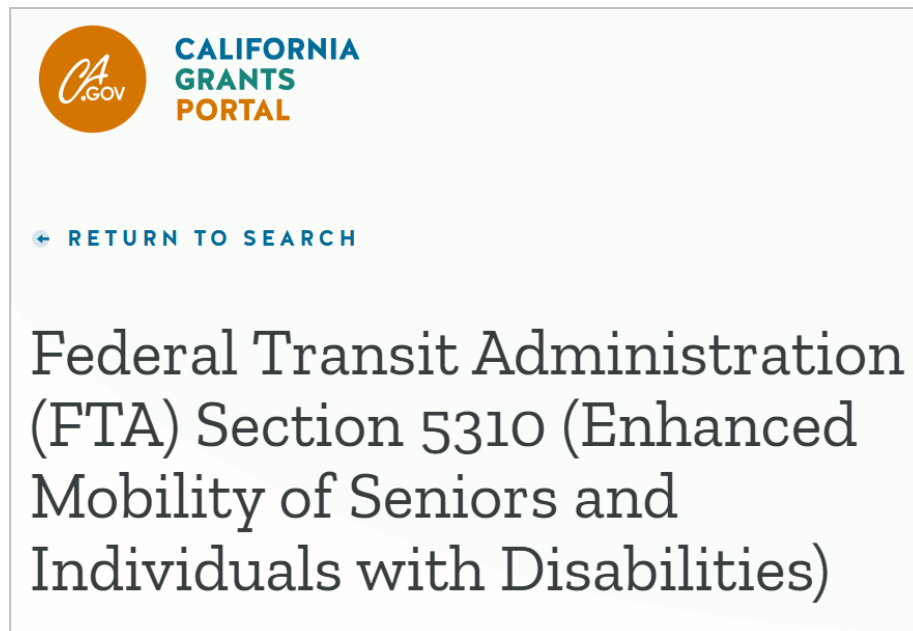
If you would like to submit changes, email info@nationalrtap.org.

The Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310 Program) provides formula funding to states and designated recipients to meet the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs.

Using the 5310 Programs List

Simply click on a state link and its 5310 programs page will open in a new browser window.

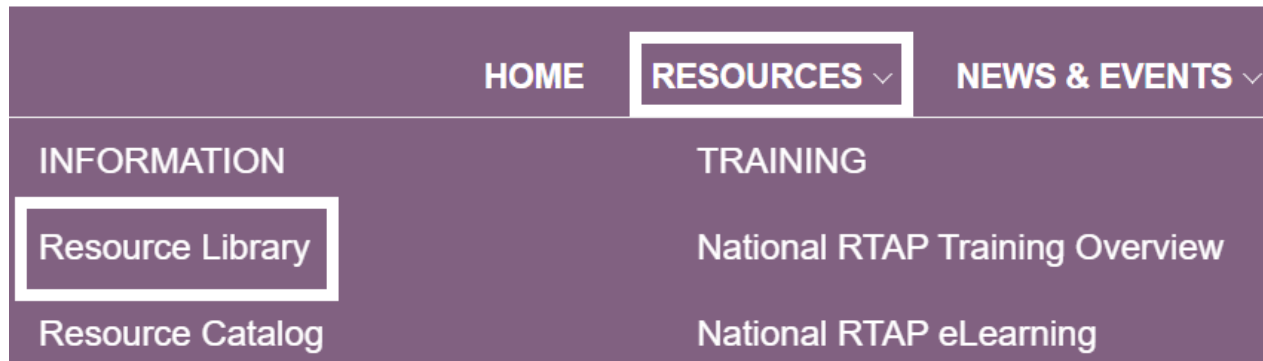
Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho



National RTAP Marketing Slides

Accessing the National RTAP Marketing Slides

1. Mouse over the Resources Megamenu
2. Click on Resource Library



4. Once you're in the record in the Resource Library, click on the Slides icon and they will download to your computer download area

3. Type ti=marketing slides in the search bar and click search

Find and Access Resources

<https://n94067.eos-intl.net/N94067/OPAC/Details/Record.aspx?BibCode=917024>

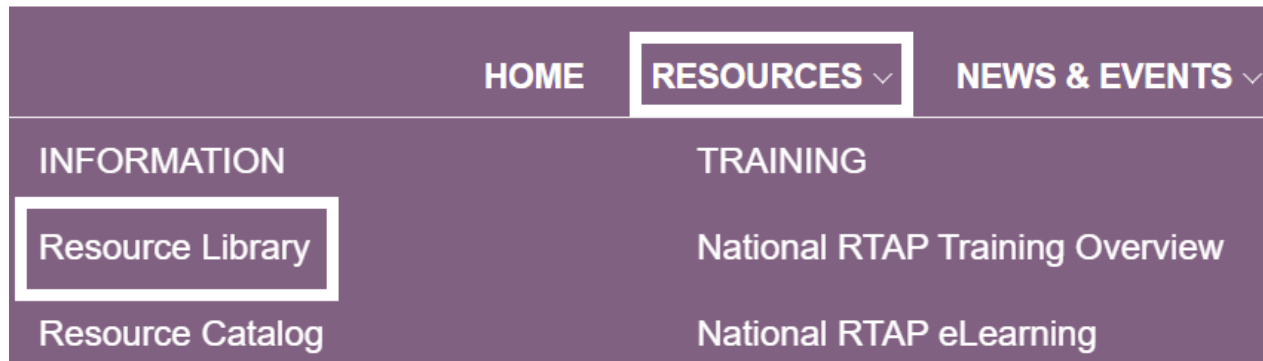
About National RTAP Marketing Slides

- Organizations may use the slides in their webinars and conference sessions to introduce National RTAP and its benefits to rural and Tribal transit agencies and to State RTAPs.
- The slides may not be altered.
- We can't ship them.
- Organizations using them may not state that they are a representative of National RTAP.
- You don't have to let us know you used them, but you're welcome to do so.

Agricultural Communities Transportation Technical Brief

Accessing Agricultural Communities Transportation

1. Mouse over the Resources Megamenu 2. Click on Resource Library



Cover Image



Full-Text PDF

4. Once you're in the record in the Resource Library, click on the Slides icon and they will download to your computer download area

3. Type ti=agricultural communities in the search bar and click search

<https://nationalrtap.eos-intl.net/N94067/OPAC/Details/Record.aspx?BibCode=931536>

About Agricultural Communities Transportation

Agricultural Communities Transportation Technical Assistance Brief



Overview

Who: This resource was developed for **local governments and nonprofit organizations**, to establish new transportation services, and for **transit operators**, to expand existing services to meet the needs of farming communities.

What: Provides an overview of **resources for improving transportation services** to support farmworker's access to everyday destinations. Sections include [*Resource Background*](#), [*Federal Funding Opportunities*](#), [*Case Studies*](#), [*Transportation Tools to Enable Access*](#), and [*Relevant Technical Assistance Centers & National Organizations*](#).

Why: The [*FY 2024 Appropriations House Report 118-154*](#) required the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to coordinate [*across Federal departments*](#) to develop materials and best practices to **establish or expand affordable and reliable transit services** for farmworkers.

About Agricultural Communities Transportation

- Organizations providing services to agricultural communities need to **collaborate at the agency level**, including sharing transportation costs.
- The **high cost of transportation** for agricultural workers can amount to 40 percent of their monthly wages.
- **Unbanked agricultural workers** may need to pay for transportation with cash.
- **Micromobility** may be helpful and easy to implement for improving transportation in agricultural communities.
- There may be potential **Federal funding opportunities** for various projects including repurposing buildings for transit use or purchasing vehicles to improve transportation in agricultural communities.
- Transit agencies are **accountable for different outcomes** compared to non-transit organizations; transit agencies need to be aware of non-transit program goals (such as health or safety).

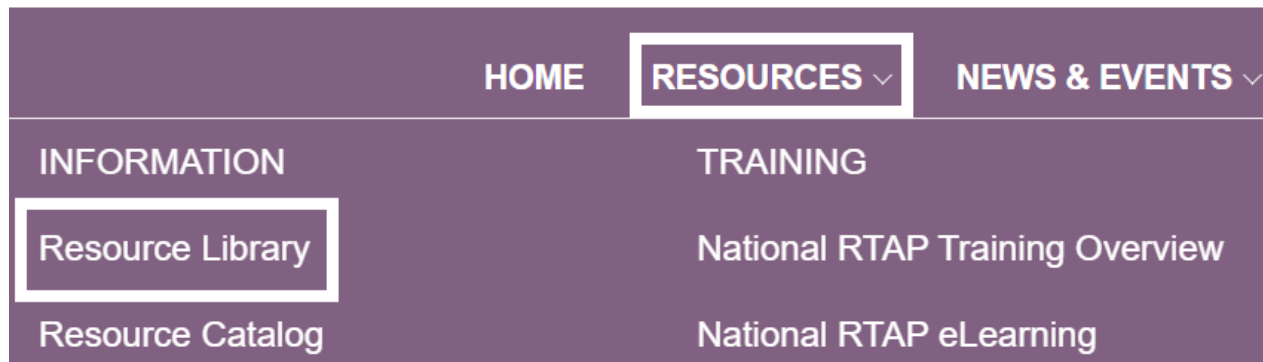
Table 1 Session Takeaways from 2024 Listening Session

	Program Name	Coordination Activities				
		Expand Services		Establish Services	Expand and/or Establish Services	
		Transit Fares/ Vouchers	Operating Vehicles	Vehicle Purchase	Fund Braiding (Incoming)	Fund Braiding (Outgoing)
DOT	Section 5311 – Grants for Rural Areas (Formula)	✓	✓	✓	✓	Statute is silent
	Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility (ICAM)	✗	✗	✓	Statute is silent	Statute is silent
DOL	National Farmworkers Job Program (NFJP)	✓	✓	✓	N/A (no match requirement)	Statute is silent
HHS	Community Services Block Grant (Competitive)	✗	✗	✗	N/A (no match requirement)	Statute is silent
	Community Services Block Grant (Formula)	✓	✓	✓	N/A (no match requirement)	Statute is silent
	Head Start	✗	✓	✓	Information not currently available	Statute is silent
	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	✓	✓	✓	N/A (no match requirement)	Statute is silent
Key						
		✓	Eligible coordination activity			
		✗	Ineligible coordination activity			

A Look Back at Rural Transit Technical Assistance Before National RTAP

Accessing Pre-National RTAP Rural Transit TA History

1. Mouse over the Resources Megamenu
2. Click on Resource Library



3. Type ti=look back in the search bar and click search



Cover Image



Full-Text PDF

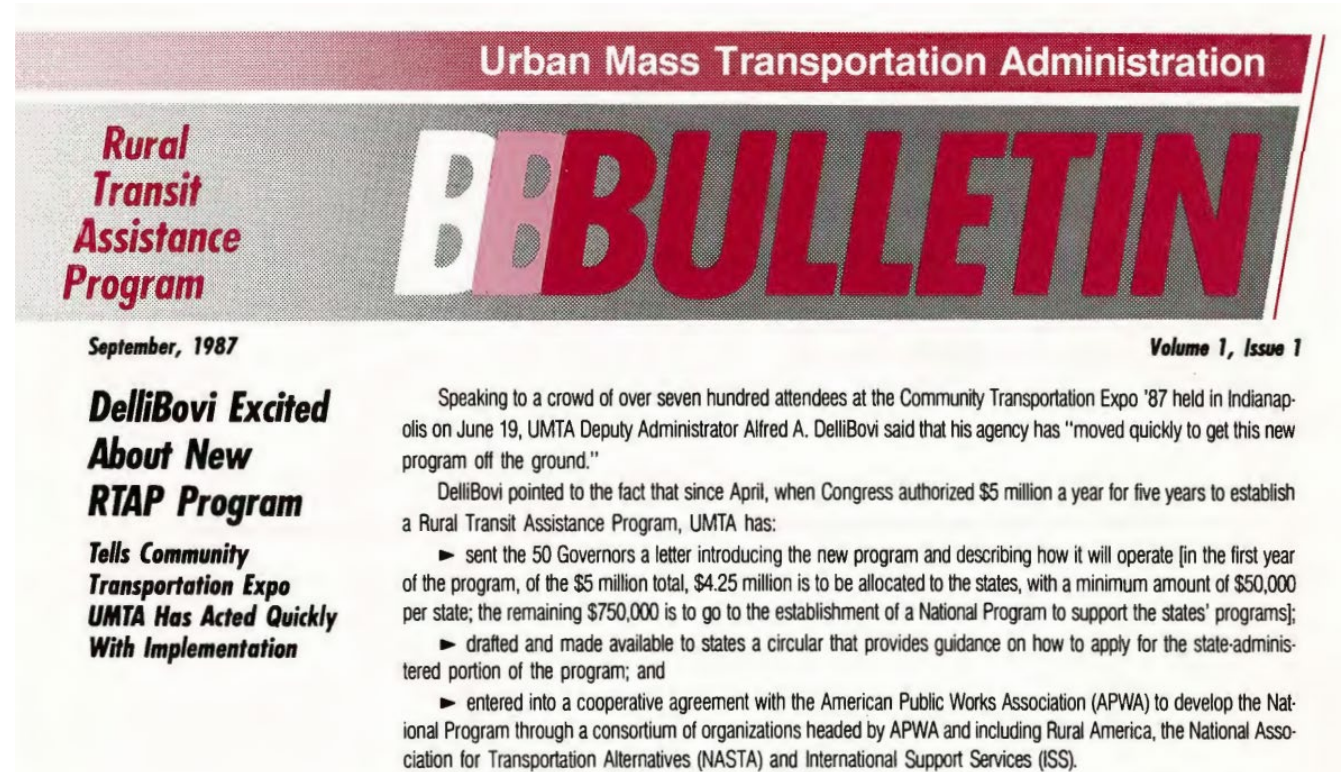
4. Once you're in the record in the Resource Library, click on the Slides icon and they will download to your computer download area

<https://nationalrtap.eos-intl.net/N94067/OPAC/Details/Record.aspx?BibCode=931776>

About Pre-National RTAP Rural Transit TA History

National RTAP Creation:

- The Rural Transit Assistance Program (RTAP) was initiated on July 1, 1987 by the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA – the predecessor of the Federal Transit Administration).



About Pre-National RTAP Rural Transit TA History

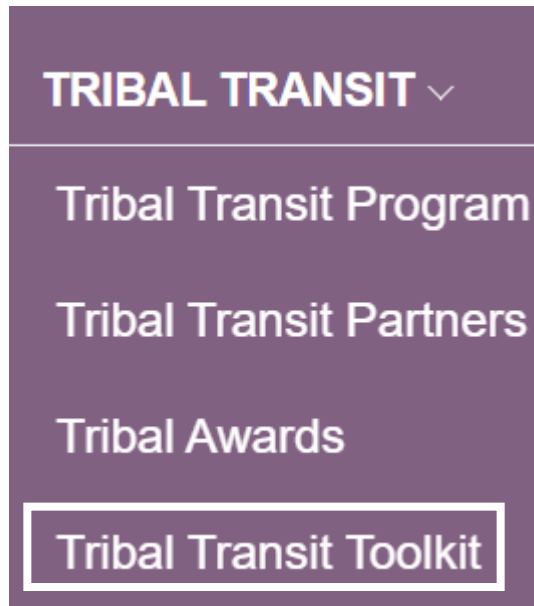
A few highlights:

- Before there was an RTAP, there was an “RCAC”. The Rural Community Assistance Consortium was established in the 1970s to increase the demonstrable capabilities of its member colleges and universities to attract and maintain funded programs.
- The 1974 U.S. Code Title 23 included a section titled “Rural Transportation Assistance Program”.
- The first National Conference on Rural Public Transportation was held in 1976 in Greensboro, North Carolina.
- A Rural Passenger Transportation Primer: Selected Transportation Topics was published by U.S. DOT in 1977.

Tribal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Template

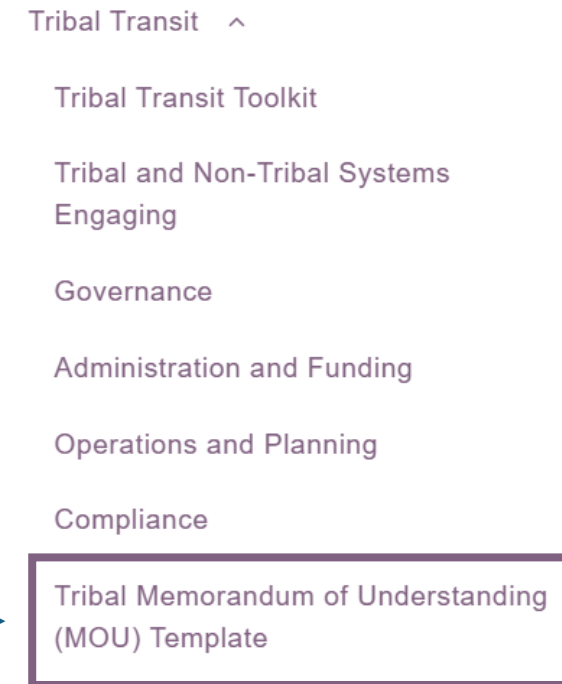
Accessing the Tribal MOU Template

1. Mouse over Tribal Transit



2. Click on Tribal Transit Toolkit

3. In the left navigation bar, click on the Tribal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Template



<https://www.nationalrtap.org/Toolkits/Transit-Managers-Toolkit/Tribal-Transit/Tribal-Memorandum-of-Understanding-MOU-Template>

About The Tribal MOU Template

Background

- Purpose: to provide Tribes and Tribal transit systems with a sample template of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that they can use to enter into an agreement with the government of a city or county. While this template can be used by any entity to enter a Tribal Government to Government agreement, it may only be used as a resource tool, but not for any commercial purposes.
- Template created by National RTAP Tribal Transit Liaison Jeremy Bell and reviewed by National RTAP Review Board member Michele Smith, Transit Manager, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Transit.

Instructions:

- The Tribal and transit system leadership are advised to carefully read all elements of this template and edit to reflect their local policies and practices. The items in **red** should be customized.

Using The Tribal MOU Template

Replace with
your logo or
seal

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE _____ (insert name of Tribe) _____ AND
GOVERNING BOARD AND THE _____ (insert name of city or county) _____

WHEREAS, the _____ (insert name of Tribe) _____ is a federally recognized Indian Tribe having certain
inherent powers and attributes of sovereignty and jurisdiction as recognized in federal and Tribal law and court decisions; and

WHEREAS, the territory of the _____ (insert name of territory) _____ is located in the State of
_____ (insert name of state) _____ and citizens of the _____ (insert name of Tribe) _____ residing in
the _____ (insert name of Tribal location) _____ Indian Country located in _____ (insert name of city or
county) _____ are also citizens of the State of _____ (insert name of state) _____, pursuant to 8 U.S.C
Section 1401(B); and

- Copy all the Template content into Microsoft Word.
- Replace the image at the top with your logo or Tribal seal.
- Replace all the red shaded areas with applicable terms and change font color to black.
- Add exhibits at the end, if applicable.

Q&A



Upcoming National RTAP Events

Let's Dial-up Accurate GTFS Data for NTD Reporting and Rider Confidence

November 5, 2025, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Mobility Management Peer Roundtable: Grant Writing Using AI Assistance

October 15, 2025, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

Books in Transit Discussion Group Meeting - The New Life

February 19, 2026, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

<https://www.nationalrtap.org/News/Conference/2025-Austin>



Wrangling Access and Mobility in Rural and Tribal Transit

December 7-10, 2025 in Austin Texas

To register or to access recordings, slides, or summaries, go to:

[nationalrtap.org/Training/Peer-Roundtables-and-Chats](https://www.nationalrtap.org/Training/Peer-Roundtables-and-Chats) and [nationalrtap.org/Webinars](https://www.nationalrtap.org/Webinars).

Thank You

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Knowledge and Resource Manager

cmarcus@nationalrtap.org

781-404-5020



Webinar Survey



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration