

STA Fund Allocations by Priority

HCAOG shall allocate the state transportation assistance funds in the following sequence:

1st Priority - \$200,000 Contingency

A contingency of \$200,000 will remain in the STA fund account to cover shortages in any particular fiscal year. The STA fund allocation is based on an estimate provided by the State Controller. The total allocation received by the end of the fiscal year could be higher or lower than the approved allocations. HCAOG will maintain a reserve of \$200,000 to ensure that all claimants receive their approved allocations. Starting with the FY 2017-18 a total of \$100,000 will be taken off the top. In subsequent years, an amount equal to the contingency shortfall will be the top priority.

2nd Priority - Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) & Supplemental DAR Service.

STA funds are available to the region and shall be allocated for public transportation purposes, including community transit services.

The CTSA may request STA funds for clearly defined and budgeted STA duties which include the oversight and administration of the Dial-A-Ride contract.

3rd Priority – Capital Purposes - Vehicle Purchase or Grant Match for Vehicle Purchases.

Transit capital projects, which are essential to sustain, replace, rehabilitate, or expand the existing bus fleet.

Criteria for requesting Capital:

1. Vehicle replacement must be shown as a need on the Master Vehicle Inventory list.
2. Entity must seek additional funds available for all that would apply through federal and/or state grants such as Federal Transit Assistance (FTA) 5310, FTA 5311, 5311(f), Low-Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) funds, Tribal Transit funds, or other available resources. When submitting the annual allocation request entities shall provide evidence of attempted grant or alternative funding requests.
3. Maximum of \$50,000 can be used for the local match for federal and state programs.

4th Priority - Equipment:

Equipment projects, which are essential to sustain, replace, rehabilitate, or expand services, i.e., charging stations, radios, dispatch equipment, bus stop improvements security equipment, website upgrades, licenses etc.

Criteria for requesting Equipment:

1. Entity must seek additional funds available through federal and/or state grants such as Federal Transit Assistance (FTA) 5310, FTA 5311, or other available resources. When submitting the allocation request entities shall provide evidence of attempted grant or alternative funding requests.

5th Priority – Existing Operating:

An allocation of STA funds may be requested for operational including general maintenance, parts and tires, fuel, facility improvements, security equipment, etc. Operating assistance will be considered a top priority if the entity meets the following criteria.

Criteria needs for requesting Operational funds:

1. Operator must qualify under Section 99314.6 of the TDA Guidelines:

"funds shall not be allocated for operating purposes pursuant to Sections 99313 and 99314 to an operator unless the operator meets either of the following efficiency standards:

*A) The operator's total operating cost per revenue vehicle hour in the latest year for which audited data are available does not exceed the sum of the preceding year's total operating cost per revenue vehicle hour **and** an amount equal to the product of the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the same period multiplied by the preceding year's total operating cost per revenue vehicle hour.*

B) The operator's average total operating cost per revenue vehicle hour in the latest three years for which audited data are available does not exceed the sum of the average of the total operating cost per revenue vehicle hour in the three years preceding the latest year for which audited data are available and an amount equal to the product of the average percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for the same period multiplied by the average total operating cost per revenue vehicle hour in the same three years.

STA claims will not be processed without evidence of efficiency standard.

2. The entity does not have a need for bus replacement as shown on the Master Vehicle Inventory list.
3. Entity cannot use that years LTF funds on non-transit purposes. LTF claims must be submitted with or prior to the submittal of the STA claim.
4. Entity must provide evidence that the additional funds available through federal and or state grants such as Federal Transit Assistance (FTA) 5310, FTA 5311, 5311(f), tribal transit funds, or other available resources have been attempted.

STA requests submitted after the project solicitation deadline will NOT be considered.