

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where can I access the application?

A: There are two ways to apply. Please only use one of the following methods:

(1) You can access and submit the online form through Survey Monkey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RTA-Section-5310-Application-FY25-26>); or

(2) You can complete a fillable PDF and submit it by email to the RTA (info@rtamichigan.org) along with all required attachments. In the email subject write "5310 Application – organization name." The fillable PDF can be downloaded from the RTA website or accessed through the following link: https://rtamichigan.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/5310_RT_A_Application_FY2025-26_DRAFT_01132025.pdf

Q: When are applications due?

A: Applications must be submitted by **5:00 p.m. on February 10, 2025.**

Q: When are funds being awarded?

A: Funding will be awarded in spring 2025.

Q: Are these projects competitive?

A: Yes, these projects are competitive. Please refer to the scoring criteria outlined in the Call for Projects instructions: https://rtamichigan.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/MI-RTA-M4A_ATT-5310-Call-for-Projects-Process-FY25-26_01102025.pdf

Q: Are new organizations eligible to apply for funding to purchase a bus/van?

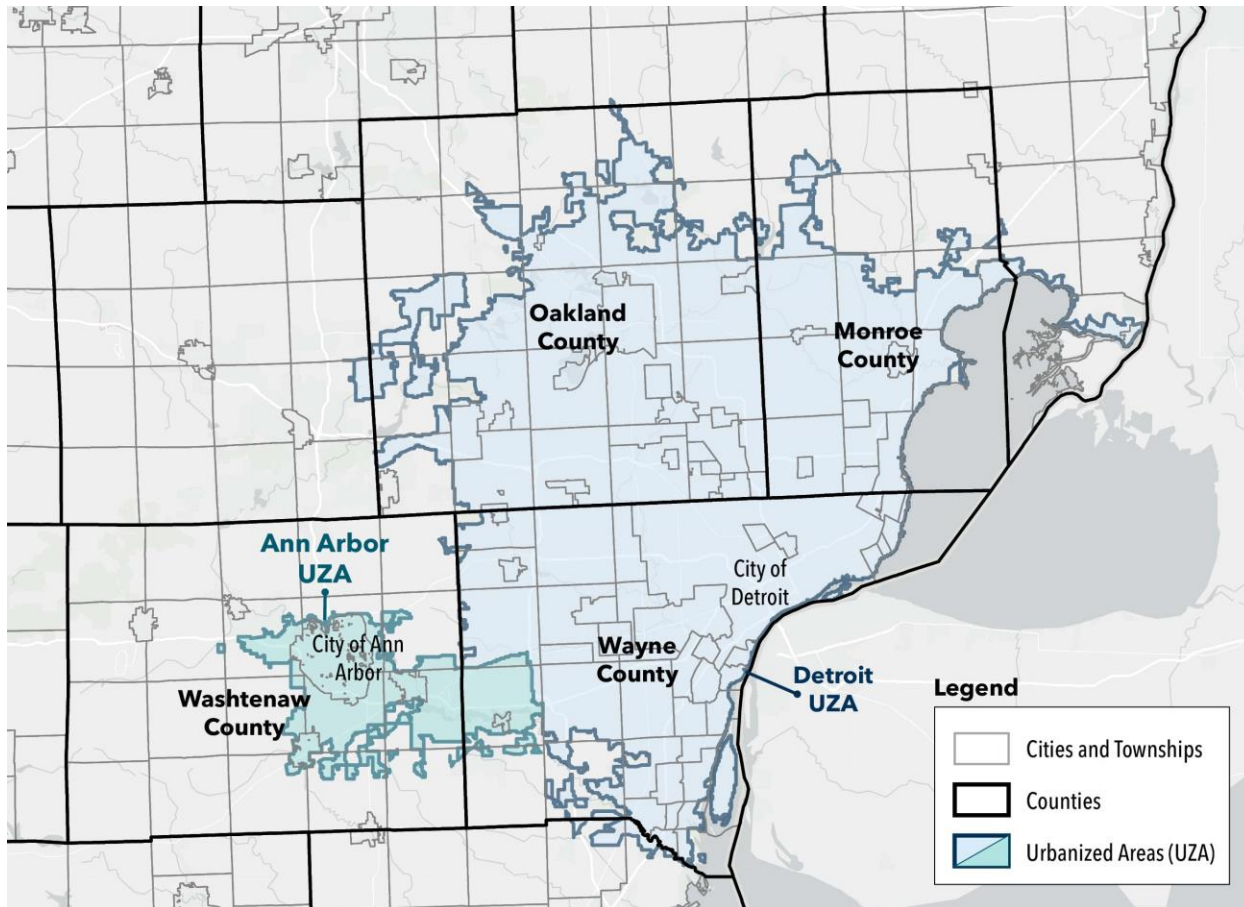
A: Yes, as long as the request aligns with guidelines, goals, and recommendations in the OnHand Report (<https://rtamichigan.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/OnHand-draft-final-report-12.03.20-CLEAN.pdf>). Purchasing new vehicles would be considered a fleet expansion. The replacement of existing vehicles would be considered a replacement. Based on the set of strategies in the OnHand Plan, applications that include replacement vehicles will score higher than new vehicles, regardless of whether your organization has completed an application before.

Q: What data source should I use to provide my service area population?

A: The RTA is not prescriptive on data sources as long as the source is credible and properly cited. Data source options include SEMCOG population data or American Community Survey Census Data.

Q: What are the Ann Arbor and Detroit Urbanized Area Boundaries?

A: The following map shows the Ann Arbor and Detroit Urbanized Area (UZA) boundaries. [Click for more detail.](#)



Q: Can I apply for funds in both the Detroit Urbanized Area and the Ann Arbor Urbanized Area?

A: Yes, you can apply in both UZAs. However, you must specify what funding will be used in which area. For example, funding requested for the Detroit UZA must be used for services operated within the Detroit UZA. If you submit for both UZAs you will need a Letter of Support from multiple federal sponsor agencies ([1]TheRide and [2] DDOT or SMART).

Q: Do we need a Letter of Support or a Letter of Need?

A: Applicants are required to submit a Letter of Support from their federal sponsor (DDOT, SMART, or TheRide). The Letter of Support should state that the federal sponsor will act as a pass-through for federal funds to the subrecipient (i.e., the applicant).

A Letter of Need can also be provided but is not required. If your agency is new to this process and looking for a contact, reach out to your federal sponsor and ask to speak with a grant coordinator or reach out to the RTA for assistance (info@rtamichigan.org).

Q: How do I know which agency I need a Letter of Support from?

A: Applicants must submit a Letter of Support from their federal sponsor agency. Please see the table below to identify your federal sponsor agency. If you operate in more than one of the following jurisdictions, please request a Letter of Support based on where the majority of the service is provided.

Applicants can also request Letters of Support from surrounding jurisdictions/cities, but this is optional and would be in addition to the required Letters of Support from their federal sponsor agency.

Note: If you are AgeWays, the RTA serves as your federal sponsor agency. If you are located outside of the Detroit or Ann Arbor urbanized areas (UZA), you are not eligible for RTA's 5310 program and must apply under [MDOT's program](#).

Applicant Service Area	Federal Sponsor Agency
City of Detroit	DDOT- Kanesha Yowpp Kanesha.Yowpp@detroitmi.gov
Detroit Urbanized Area within Wayne (excluding the City of Detroit), Oakland, or Macomb counties	SMART- Ian Holme ,Holme@smartbus.org>
Ann Arbor Urbanized Area (UZA)	TheRide- Grants@theride.org

Q: If my city has applied in prior years, is there a way to see our previous applications?

A: The RTA **may** be able to find past applications from your organization in their database. Please reach out to info@rtamichigan.org with the subject line: "Requesting Previous Application," to request this information.

Q: How do I find additional information or ask additional questions regarding my application?

A: The following resources are available for additional information:

Website: An overview of the 5310 Funding Program and additional resources can be found on the RTA's website: <https://rtamichigan.org/section-5310-enhanced-mobility-of-seniors-and-individuals-with-disabilities-program/>

Webinar recordings: A recording of the two webinars hosted by the RTA can be found on here: <https://rtamichigan.org/section-5310-enhanced-mobility-of-seniors-and-individuals-with-disabilities-program/>. Webinars 1 and 2 primarily cover the same content.

Office Hours: Office hours will take place on January 29 from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and February 6 from 2:00 – 3:00 P.M. Please register using the links below:

Office Hours #1 – 1/29/25 1PM-2PM registration link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tljj-l7vQVe2-X3nAKPLeg>

Office Hours #2 – 2/6/25 2PM-3PM registration link: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/V_myx6XCQ1SDcGi6JmmCCg

Email Contact: Additional questions can be sent to info@rtamichigan.org