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1980

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

**A
GUIDE
FOR
LOCAL
OFFICIALS**

THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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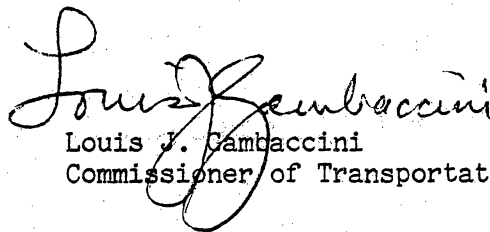
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F o r e w o r d

This publication has been prepared to familiarize public officials and citizens with the various transportation funding and other assistance programs administered by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Along with a brief description of each program is an identification of funding sources and reference to the Department office where additional information may be obtained.

We hope this publication will enable municipalities and counties in New Jersey to participate more fully in transportation programs available to them.


Louis J. Gambaccini
Commissioner of Transportation

November, 1979

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I. HIGHWAY PROGRAMS

INTERSTATE SYSTEM

Construction - 23 U.S.C. 103 (e)

Provides funds for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of the Interstate Highway System to provide a nationwide system of limited access highways. Projects are limited to toll-free segments of the designated Interstate system. The U.S. Department of Transportation designates Interstate routes based on proposals of the state, and within the mileage approved by federal statute. All federally funded Interstate routes in New Jersey are state highways under the sole jurisdiction of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Under certain conditions a "non-essential" route or portion thereof on the Interstate system may be withdrawn and replaced by more urgent mass transportation improvements and/or funding of highway projects on the Federal-Aid Primary, Secondary or Urban Systems.

Funding Sources:

Interstate completion
90% federal
10% state

Interstate withdrawal
85% federal
15% state

Contact:

Office of Community Involvement, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-6802.

Resurfacing, Restoration and Rehabilitation - 23 U.S.C. 119

Provides funding for the resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation (RRR) of portions of the Interstate system which have been in use for more than five years, and, under certain circumstances, for toll roads.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state

Contact:

Director of Engineering and Operations, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue,
Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3370.

CONSOLIDATED PRIMARY SYSTEM
23 U.S.C. 103(b)

Provides funds for construction or reconstruction projects on the Federal-Aid Primary System. As of fiscal 1977, Consolidated Primary funds are provided on a pool concept. The Consolidated Primary program consists of three classes of roads formerly categorized as Priority Primary, Urban Extensions, and Rural Primary.

The Primary System in New Jersey consists of 1,451 miles of connected main roads important to interstate, state, and regional travel, encompassing rural arterial routes and their extensions into or through urban areas. Most Primary routes in New Jersey are state highways, although some are located on portions of county or municipal roads.

It is recommended that local highway officials who identify deficiencies in county roads which are included in the Primary System should consult with the Director of Engineering and Operations concerning possible improvement. The situation then will be investigated and, if found necessary, the proposed improvement will be placed on the department's work program.

At least 20 percent of the funds apportioned to each state must be obligated for resurfacing and rehabilitation projects. Consolidated Primary funds also may be used for the construction of high occupancy vehicle lanes, bikeways and, under certain conditions, to fund carpool and vanpool activities.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state or local

Contact: Director of Engineering and Operations, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3370.

RURAL SECONDARY SYSTEM

23 U.S.C. 103(c)

Provides funds for the construction and/or reconstruction of a network of federal roads that connect to primary highways or to centers of population within rural areas. These federal roads may include farm-to-market roads and country roads. Federal Rural Secondary funds must be expended on projects in rural areas only. As of July 1, 1976, the Federal-Aid Secondary System has been realigned to consist of rural major collector routes. In New Jersey, there are 1,877 miles of roads in this system.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation and the appropriate local road officials cooperate in the determination of Federal-Aid Secondary System and selection of projects on that system, subject to the approval of the Federal Highway Administration.

At least 20 percent of the funds apportioned to each state must be obligated for resurfacing and rehabilitation projects. Rural Secondary funds also may be used for the construction of high occupancy vehicle lanes and bikeways.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state or local

Contact:

Bureau of Local Aid, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton,
New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3217.

FEDERAL AID URBAN SYSTEM (FAUS)
23 U.S.C. 103(d)

Provides funds for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of highway and transit facilities in federal-aid urban areas which serve the major centers of activities and other urban areas. Routes designated on the Federal-Aid Urban System (5,088 miles in New Jersey) are selected by appropriate local officials to best serve the goals and objectives of the community. These selections are based upon the continuing, comprehensive and cooperative transportation planning process.

On July 1, 1976, the Federal-Aid Urban System was realigned to consist of urban arterial and collector routes, exclusive of the urban extensions of the Federal-Aid Primary System. Projects also are selected by local officials and incorporated in a Transportation Improvement Program by the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

FAUS projects also are subject to New Jersey Department of Transportation concurrence and Federal Highway Administration approval. The funds earmarked to fund projects in specific urbanized areas may not be transferred to any other area without the consent of the appropriate local officials.

FAUS funds also may be used for public transportation projects such as the purchase of buses and the construction and improvement of fixed rail facilities, including the purchase of rolling stock for fixed rail. These funds may also be used for park and ride sites, bus shelters, bikeways, and carpool and vanpool activities.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state or local

Contact:

Bureau of Local Aid, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3217. "The Federal-Aid Urban System Program in New Jersey," a brochure describing this program, is available from the Bureau of Local Aid.

STATE AID FOR MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY ROADS

The 1979 Transportation Bond Issue provides funds to supplement current municipal and county programs and the level of expenditure for resurfacing, restoring and rehabilitating (3R) local roads. Under this part of the state aid program, the county and each municipality within it is eligible to submit projects directly to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for inclusion in a four-year construction program. These funds are to be made available to each county and the municipalities therein on the basis of population and local road mileage in the county.

Additional bond funds are available for urban revitalization projects and for emergency projects, with distribution to be made at the discretion of the Commissioner of Transportation.

Funding Sources:

90% state bond funds (for construction only)
10% county or municipal

Contact:

Bureau of Local Aid, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Ave., Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3217

SAFER OFF-SYSTEM ROADS
23 U.S.C. 219

Provides funds for improvements to roads which are not included on a federal-aid system. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, correction of safety hazards, removal of roadside obstacles, pavement construction and reconstruction, and installing traffic control devices. The funds also may be used to increase the capacity of roads through widening or curve realignment.

Projects should be of the low cost type improvement and at least 50 percent of the available funds in this program must be spent on safety oriented projects. Local officials will select potential projects, subject to approval of the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Localities usually prepare plans for the project with assistance of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state or local

Contact:

Bureau of Local Aid, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton
New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3217

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND REHABILITATION
23 U.S.C. 144

Provides funds for the replacement or rehabilitation of bridges on a federal-aid system and, to a lesser extent, for off-system bridges.

All states must submit to the Federal Highway Administration an inventory and appraisal list of all bridges. From this list, priorities are set and funds allocated to each state according to its relative needs. At least 15 percent, but no more than 35 percent of a state's allocation must be obligated for the inspection, rating, replacement or rehabilitation of bridges not on a federal-aid system.

In addition to those funds allocated to each state, there is a reserve fund set aside for projects for which the cost to replace or rehabilitate the bridge is in excess of \$10 million. Such funds are distributed at the Secretary of Transportation's discretion.

Funding Sources:

80% federal
20% state or local

Contact:

Bureau of Structural Design, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3027.

HAZARD ELIMINATION
23 U.S.C. 152

Combines two previous programs, the High Hazard Location Program and the Elimination of Roadside Obstacles Program into the Hazard Elimination Program.

This program provides funds to remedy high hazard locations along federal-aid systems in a cost-effective manner. Projects developed by the New Jersey Department of Transportation are of the following types: (1) locations identified through accident analysis; (2) locations identified through engineering studies or other investigations, and (3) skid-prone locations.

Examples of improvements include skid resistance overlays, shielding of bridge abutments, installation of breakaway signs, impact attenuators, new or upgraded guide rail and drainage improvements.

Major construction of any appreciable length does not qualify. Accident reports are used to demonstrate a location is hazardous. Local officials aware of hazardous locations on a federal-aid system should contact the Director of Engineering and Operations for guidance and assistance in the preparation of the project proposal.

Funding Sources:

80% federal
10% state or local

Contact:

Bureau of Local Aid, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3217.

RAIL-HIGHWAY CROSSINGS

23 U.S.C. 130 and PL94-203 and 230

Provides funds for the elimination of hazards at rail-highway crossings and the installation of protective devices for roads both on and off federal-aid systems. At least 50 percent of the apportioned funds shall be available to install protective devices at rail-highway crossings.

Eligible activities include: (1) installation of standard signs and markings; (2) installation or upgrading of train-activated protective devices and interconnection to high traffic signals; (3) crossing elimination, and (4) crossing surface improvements.

While the New Jersey Department of Transportation selects and initiates the projects based on an overall inventory and priority, local officials should notify the Bureau of Utilities of projects they feel are worthy of consideration for priority improvement.

Funding Sources:

Title 23, Section 130 provides that up to ten percent of a state's total federal-aid system apportionments (not including Interstate) may be used to fund 100 percent of the cost of eliminating hazards at rail-highway crossings. These funds also may be used to fund traffic control signalization projects.

Sections 203 and 230 of the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1973, as amended, provide funds in addition to regular federal-aid system apportionments on a 90 percent federal, 10 percent state or local basis.

Contact:

Bureau of Utilities, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3377.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

23 U.S.C. 134; 49 U.S.C. 1607; 23 U.S.C. 307 (c)(1)

Provides funds to conduct transportation planning activities in New Jersey. The recipients of specific elements of these funds include the New Jersey Department of Transportation, regional planning commissions, local governments, and public transit operators.

This program's primary objective is to achieve coordination, on a continuous basis, of all transportation planning and research activities throughout the state leading to a balanced, most efficient transportation system.

Funding Sources:

80% federal
20% state/local

Contact:

Bureau of Urban Transportation Planning, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue,
Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3294

PAVEMENT MARKING DEMONSTRATION

23 U.S.C. 151

Provides pavement markings in accordance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices on any highway currently unmarked or improperly marked, whether or not it is on a federal-aid system other than the Interstate system.

Proper pavement marking should result in improvement in highway safety by reducing head-on, run-off-the-road, and fixed object accidents. Minimum volumes in roadway widths must be met. Local political subdivisions submit applications through the Chief Engineer, Transportation Operations and Local Aid. Projects are consolidated, and, when approved, the local official prepares final plans. The state provides the funding mechanism.

Priority generally is given to rural roads.

Funding Source:

100% federal

Contact:

Bureau of Traffic Engineering, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-5691

CONTROL OF OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS
23 U.S.C. 131

Provides controls for advertising signs along the Federal Aid Primary and Interstate Highway Systems.

Through the Highway Beautification Act of 1965, and, by amendments in the 1974 Transportation Act, the Congress designated certain areas extending from the edge of the right of way of Primary and Interstate routes as protected areas. Highways are inspected to assure that non-conforming or illegal signs are removed. Just compensation is provided for owners of signs which were legally erected prior to enactment of federal legislation and which are required to be removed or relocated.

Only official signs are permitted within highway rights of way, and signs other than official motorist signs erected by the New Jersey Department of Transportation are required to be removed.

Funding Sources:

75 - 100% federal
0 - 25% state

Contact:

Supervisor of Outdoor Advertising, Permits and Highway Markings,
NJDOT, 12 Farrell Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625,
609-292-4247

CONTROL OF JUNKYARDS
23 U.S.C. 131

Provides for the elimination of visual blight through the removal, relocation or screening of junkyards from areas along Federal-Aid Interstate and Primary routes.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state or local

Contact:

Supervisor of Outdoor Advertising, Permits and Highway Markings,
NJDOT, 12 Farrell Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, 609-292-4247

TRAFFIC ANALYSIS

Although every community in the state has traffic problems, only a few of the larger cities have professional traffic engineers to cope with these problems. As a result, good traffic engineering solutions to problems often are overlooked because of lack of expertise. The New Jersey Department of Transportation provides a mechanism which communities may use to obtain traffic engineering expertise.

Upon request by a community, staff of the Bureau of Traffic Engineering will meet with community representatives and recommend the traffic data to be collected by them. The bureau then will analyze the data and submit a recommendation to the community for appropriate corrective action.

Contact:

Bureau of Traffic Engineering, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-5691

RIDESHARING

23 U.S.C. 126(a) and 145

Under provisions of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978, the New Jersey Department of Transportation assists employers in planning and implementing ridesharing programs involving both carpooling and vanpooling.

Carpooling

Upon receipt of a request from an employer representative, the Department contacts upper management for concurrence through an executive briefing; trains coordinators who will maintain the program; provides questionnaires for employees; processes the questionnaires to develop through a computer printout a list of potential carpoolers; and provides information to management on how the ridesharing program can be effectively maintained.

Vanpooling

The information developed for carpooling (above) also may be used to establish vanpools. Funds for the purchase of vans for vanpools to be established by employers or individual corporations are available through a program administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the New Jersey Department of Transportation and the respective county planning boards.

Funding Sources (Vanpooling):

75% federal

25% employer/county/state (Individual employers and corporations are required to provide the 25 percent match for the acquisition of their own vans; county and state matching funds may be used only for the acquisition of vehicles by governmental agencies.)

Contact:

Office of Ridesharing, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, P.O. Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-4934.

REIMBURSED HIGHWAY SAFETY LIGHTING

The state offers financial assistance in participation with counties and municipalities for the cost of maintaining highway safety lighting at intersections of state highways with county or municipal roads and at hazardous locations along state highways.

The ratio of state to local participation in cost varies according to the type and intensity of lighting system used.

Contact:

Bureau of Electrical Operations, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-202-7705

ECONOMIC GROWTH CENTER DEVELOPMENT
23 U.S.C. 143

Provides funds for the construction or improvement of portions of a federal-aid system (excluding Interstate) to encourage or facilitate the development of Economic Growth Centers in rural areas and smaller communities. The state is permitted to establish up to three designated Economic Growth Centers to receive funds on an allocated basis from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Funding Sources:

75% federal
25% state or local

Contact:

Director of Engineering and Operations, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3370

TRAINING PROGRAMS

23 U.S.C. 321

The New Jersey Department of Transportation, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, offers a wide variety of training programs for highway personnel. Such programs include courses in modern developments, techniques and procedures relating to highway planning; environmental considerations; acquisition of rights-of-way; engineering; construction; maintenance; contract administration; and highway inspection. Through these programs federal, state and local employees engaged in federal-aid highway work are able to keep current on new developments and techniques in highway planning and construction.

The National Highway Institute conducts a series of programs under the auspices of the Federal Highway Administration. These are supplemented by additional courses specifically geared to the needs of federal, state and local highway employees which are provided on a shared funding basis.

Funding Sources:

70% federal
30% state

Contact:

Bureau of Local Aid, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625
609-292-3217

EMERGENCY RELIEF
23 U.S.C. 125

Provides funds for the repair and replacement of highway facilities on a federal-aid system damaged by natural disaster (hurricane, floods, etc.). Projects first are identified as essential to the restoration of highway facilities to levels of service prior to the disaster and this listing of projects must be submitted to the Federal Highway Administration for approval.

Funding Sources:

The State of New Jersey may enter into contracts for repairs and replacement of damaged facilities and receive up to 100 percent reimbursement from the federal government on those projects that are approved by the Federal Highway Administration.

Contact:

Director of Engineering and Operations, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3370

II. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

CAPITAL ASSISTANCE

UMTA Sections 3 and 5

Provides for the purchase of public transportation facilities under provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended. The Section 3 capital funds are distributed at the Secretary of Transportation's discretion for the purchase of such items as bus and rail rolling stock, rail stations, bus shelters, transportation maintenance facilities, land, transit malls, and joint development projects in urban areas. The Section 5 capital funds are based on a formula and are available principally for bus or bus-related projects.

These funds are supplemented by public transportation bond funds and state appropriations to finance the state's program of capital improvements to the public transportation network.

Funding Sources:

80% federal
20% state

Contact:

Assistant Commissioner for Public Transportation, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3242.

OPERATING ASSISTANCE
UMTA Section 5

Provides, under the provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, operating assistance for motor bus and rail passenger carriers incurring operating losses. The newly-created New Jersey Transit Corporation (formerly the Commuter Operating Agency) provides or contracts with private carriers to provide public transportation services where such service could not otherwise be operated.

The program includes private motor bus carriers and, through a contract with the Consolidated Rail Corporation (Conrail), commuter rail lines throughout the State.

Funding Sources:

50% federal
50% state

Contact:

Assistant Commissioner for Public Transportation, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3242

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS
UMTA Section 6

A limited amount of funds is available, at the Secretary of Transportation's discretion, for research, development and demonstration projects. Potential projects should assist in the reduction of urban transportation needs, the improvement of mass transportation service, or the contribution of such service toward meeting total urban transportation needs at a minimum cost.

Funding Sources:

Up to 100% - federal
Remainder - state or local

Contact:

Bureau of Operations Research, NJDOT, 1239 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-5722

PLANNING AND TECHNICAL STUDIES
UMTA Section 8

This section provides funds to states, transit operators and local public bodies and their agencies for planning and technical studies relating to public transportation in urban areas with a population of 50,000 or more. These funds are disbursed through the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).

Each MPO must annually develop a Transportation Improvement Program which considers long-range land use plans, development objectives and overall social, economic, environmental, system performance and energy conservation goals. Planning studies must consider all modes of transportation and include an analysis of alternative transportation system management and investment strategies.

Technical studies are generally more of a project specific nature. Activities may include studies to assess and improve management, operational and capital needs, engineering and architectural plans, and project evaluations. All plans and programs which are developed must encourage to the maximum extent feasible the participation of private enterprise.

Funding Sources:

80% federal
20% state

Contact: Bureau

Bureau of Urban Transportation Planning, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3294.

VEHICLES FOR ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED TRANSPORTATION
UMTA Section 16(b) (2)

Provides funds under provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, to assist nonprofit organizations to purchase special vehicles for the transportation of elderly and handicapped persons. Funds from the Federal Aid Urban System program also may be used to purchase these vehicles.

The state retains title to the vehicles, which are leased to participating organizations.

Funding Sources:

80% federal
20% state

Contact:

Office of Special Programs, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3450.

AID FOR RURAL AND SMALL URBAN AREAS
UMTA Section 18

Provides financial aid for public transportation projects in rural and small urban areas (less than 50,000 population). These funds, under provisions of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended, may be used to assist paratransit as well as regular route public transportation services. In addition, funds may be used to purchase service agreements with private providers of public transportation services.

Funds are available for both capital and operating expenses and are distributed on a formula basis by the state. Eligible recipients include state agencies, local public bodies, nonprofit organizations and transportation operators.

Funding Sources:

Capital projects
80% federal
20% state or local

Operating assistance
50% federal
50% state or local

Contact:

Assistant Commissioner for Public Transportation, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3242

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The Local Technical Assistance Program of the Bureau of Transit Planning offers county and municipal governments technical help in preparing and implementing local public transportation programs.

Professional transportation planners are available to localities for consultation on the availability of transportation funding, assistance in the preparation of the area's Transportation Development Plan and for transportation planning assistance in general.

Contact:

Bureau of Transit Planning, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-8342

III. AVIATION

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT AID 49 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.

Provides funding for the preservation and development of airports within the National Airport System Plan. Eligible activities include the planning, construction, operation and maintenance, and purchase of airport facilities and electronic systems (NAVAIDS), including safety related projects.

Funding Sources:

80% federal (Federal share may be up to 100% for NAVAID Systems)
20% local (Generally, state funds are not available for this activity)

Contact:

Director of Aeronautics, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3020.

IV. OTHER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Department of Transportation offers various kinds of assistance to county and municipal agencies and to the public which do not involve direct financial aid. This assistance ranges from information on changes in federal and state transportation laws to technical assistance on specific projects within county or municipal jurisdictions. Following are highlights of these programs.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Office of Community Involvement serves as the liaison between operational units within the Department of Transportation and local jurisdictions by monitoring the concerns of localities regarding specific projects.

Area coordinators advise municipalities of the Department's activities and discuss projects affecting their communities. Public meetings often are held prior to a project's inception and also during planning stages so that the general public can be informed and provided with an opportunity to comment. Before construction begins, information is provided on the specific location of work, impact on the community and extent of time involved.

Contact:

Office of Community Involvement, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue,
Box 101, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-6802

SPECIAL FARE PROGRAMS

Elderly and Handicapped Reduced Fares

Under this program, persons 62 years of age or older and handicapped persons may ride at lower fares during non-peak hours on all intrastate and virtually all interstate bus routes of New Jersey bus companies, as well as on all New Jersey trains operated by Conrail.

The reduced fare is in effect on weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m, and all day on Saturdays, Sundays and state holidays.

Persons 62 years or older may enroll in the program at their local bank or savings and loan. Handicapped persons under 62 may write to the New Jersey Department of Transportation for an application.

College Student Reduced Fares

This program enables full-time college students to travel on state subsidized Conrail passenger trains at a 25 percent reduction in the regular fare. Monthly commutation tickets may be purchased from Conrail.

Contact:

Office of Special Programs, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-3450.

Student Reduced Fares

A one-third reduction in regular bus fares is available to primary and secondary school students not covered by New Jersey Department of Education transportation programs. Students may purchase reduced fare tickets at the offices of participating bus companies.

RAIL FREIGHT LINE ASSISTANCE

Federal assistance is available to certain rail freight lines through a state-administered program. This program is intended to provide short-term operating and capital improvement assistance to qualified candidate lines.

The initial program was established under provisions of the Regional Rail Reorganization Act of 1973, as amended, to provide financial assistance such as operating subsidies and track improvements only to those branch lines excluded from the Conrail System. An expanded local rail program was provided under provisions of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act, Section 5, as amended by the Local Rail Service Assistance Act of 1978. This broadened the scope of projects eligible to receive assistance to include operating assistance to line segments abandoned after the formation of Conrail. It also makes funds available for rehabilitation of lines carrying less than three million gross ton miles of freight per mile during the prior year.

The New Jersey Department of Transportation's Bureau of Freight Services, develops, on an annual basis, a State Rail Plan which reviews and analyzes the freight network and establishes priorities for assistance. The particular forms of assistance are detailed below:

Funding Sources:

Original Program - 45 U.S.C. 744 and 49 U.S.C. 1654; P.L. 93-236, and P.L. 94-21

For rehabilitation and operating subsidies through September 30, 1981, on lines excluded from the Conrail System. No funds are provided beyond fiscal 1981.

Fiscal 1980 80% federal
 20% local (shippers, shippers associations, counties or
 municipalities)

Fiscal 1981 70% federal
 30% local

Expanded Program - 49 U.S.C. 1654 and P.L. 95-607

Operating subsidy is limited to three years from the time assistance begins. Federal funding is provided on a descending scale:

First and second year - 80% federal
 20% local (shippers, shippers associations,
 counties or municipalities)

Third year - 70% federal
 30% local

Rehabilitation funds have no time limit for eligibility.

80% federal
20% local

Contact:

Bureau of Freight Services, NJDOT, 1035 Parkway Avenue, Box 101,
Trenton, New Jersey 08625, 609-292-0230

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