



U.S. Department of
Transportation

News:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20590

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY
October 2, 1987

UMTA 15-87
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UMTA FINALIZES CHANGES IN SECTION 10 TRAINING PROGRAM

The Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA) has revamped a training program for transit system managerial and professional employees in an effort to focus more sharply on specific management skills.

UMTA Deputy Administrator Alfred A. DelliBovi said the new approach for the agency's Section 10 program offers access to training to larger numbers of transit system personnel while reducing the per capita cost of the program.

"We believe the reoriented program will better meet the goals of this agency and the development needs of transit industry personnel," DelliBovi said. "The new Section 10 program is designed to stimulate transit training activities and encourage innovation in training methods." He added that Section 10 managerial training funds would be used exclusively for single agency grants, a "block" type grant awarded for periods of up to 12 months on the basis of a comprehensive, agency-wide training plan.

As with previously-funded Section 10 activities, program participants and UMTA share costs on a 50/50 funding match basis. UMTA has encouraged applicants to utilize on-site training experiences which allow for broad participation by employees. Providers of training under the former "endorsed short course" program may re-package their courses for transit systems participating in the new program.

DelliBovi said UMTA would continue to evaluate the effectiveness of training and technical assistance activities to ensure that all transportation providers have an opportunity to participate.

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The single agency grants will be administered from UMTA headquarters in Washington. Further information may be obtained by contacting Frank Enty, Chief of the agency's Transit Research and Training Division, 400 7th Street, S.W., Room 6100, Washington, D.C. 20590, telephone (202) 366-0080.

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