

The Resource

Published by The Massachusetts Rural Transit Assistance Program



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MARTAP ANNOUNCES *2nd Round* OF 2009 HELPING HAND MINI GRANTS AVAILABLE THROUGH JUNE 10, 2009 FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

The Massachusetts Rural Transit Assistance Program (MARTap), on behalf of the Executive Office of Transportation, is pleased to announce the *2nd Round* of "Helping Hand Mini Grants" Program of up to \$750 for equipment or projects designed to update and enhance transit services in rural and small urban services. This year, more than 45 agencies have already been awarded a grant under this program.

The grant is designed to improve delivery of transportation services for Massachusetts regional transit authorities, non-profit transportation providers and councils on aging. Priority will be given to transportation providers that serve rural areas of the Commonwealth.

MARTAP ADVISORY COMMITTEE '09

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Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority

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Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority

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*Millbury Council on Aging
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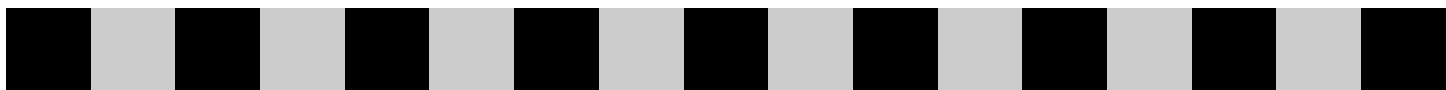
Computer hardware and software, both new and upgrades; fax machines, driver recruitment campaigns and marketing and promoting materials including internet web design and set up are just some of the eligible uses. Other eligible uses include:

- Travel training for customers
- Community surveys on transportation needs
- Tools that enhance passenger security
- Accessory equipment for vehicles
- GPS

For items (such as computers, office equipment, tools and accessory equipment), MARTap encourages you to visit www.comm-pass.com. If you need help on this website, please contact MARTap. Visit www.martap.org for complete information or contact Carol Tally at 877-627-8271.

Important Dates to Remember:

- Application period May 10, 2009 - June 10, 2009
- June decision by Advisory Committee
- Expenditure deadline July 28, 2009
- Reimbursement request deadline August 28, 2009
- No late reimbursement requests will be honored





Massachusetts Rural Transit Assistance Program (MArtap) is a program of the Executive Office of Transportation (EOT) contracted through the Massachusetts Association of Regional Transit Authorities (MARTA). MArtap receives its funding from the Federal Transit Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. MArtap provides the following types of assistance targeted at Massachusetts rural and small urban public transit providers:

- on-site training classes and materials,
 - Points of Interest*
 - Monthly training schedule is posted on www.martap.org
 - Form and guidelines to request training at your agency is also on www.martap.org
 - Most of the training is offered at no charge
- scholarships to assist with cost of attending workshops and various transit training sessions,
 - Point of Interest*
 - Limit two \$750 scholarship per agency per fiscal year 2009
- a lending library of training and resource material,
 - Point of Interest*
 - Training materials available, free of charge, for a two-week rental period
- depending on funding, other programs such as Train the Trainer and Helping Hand Mini Grant Award program, and
- dissemination of information regarding training opportunities and other issues of interest to transit providers.

For complete MArtap programs, visit www.martap.org or contact Carol Tally at 877-MArtap (627-8271).

MArtap Driver Training Schedule for May 2009

Wednesday, May 13, 2009	Wheelchair Lift & Securement Training 8:00 am - Noon	COA Stow, MA
Saturday, May 16, 2009	Wheelchair Lift & Securement Training 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	COA Marshfield, MA
Wednesday, May 20, 2009 <i>postponed to June 10, 2009</i>	Coaching the Van Driver 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	CCRTA, S. Dennis, MA
Saturday, May 23, 2009	Coaching the Van Driver 8:00 am - 12:00 noon	GLSS, Peabody, MA
Tuesday, May 26, 2009	Safe Transport of the Public under the ADA 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	CCRTA, S. Dennis, MA
Wednesday, May 27, 2009	Coaching the Van Driver 8:30 am - 12:30 pm	Coastline, New Bedford, MA
Thursday, May 28, 2009	Coaching the Van Driver 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	CCRTA, S. Dennis, MA
Saturday, May 30, 2009	Coaching the Van Driver 8:00 am - 12:00 pm	COA, Middleborough, MA

To register, visit www.martap.org →driver training →driver training sign up form or call MArtap at 877-MArtap (627-8271). Training subject to change without notification. Check website for updates.

For complete program information, visit www.martap.org

MARTAP TRAINING SCHOLARSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE

MArtap scholarships are still available through September 30, 2009. The funding for this fiscal year is \$11,000.

Eligible Agencies:

Private non-profit organizations and Councils on Aging that provide transportation

Limit: Two \$750 scholarships to be used by September 30, 2009. Reimbursed at 100% up to \$750 per scholarship.

Regional Transit Authorities and their Operating Companies

Limit: Two \$750 scholarships to be used by September 30, 2009. Reimbursed at 90%, matched with a 10% local contribution.

Scholarships apply to one-day and multi-day conference and community-based training opportunities.

To Apply for a MArtap Scholarship:

Visit www.martap.org, link to MArtap Scholarships. Link to Application and Expense Reimbursement Form. Complete the estimate and e-mail to MArtap. MArtap will acknowledge each request by return e-mail within 48 hours.

Scholarship requests must be submitted to MArtap no later than 30 days before the start of the conference.

Reimbursement requests must be submitted to MArtap, along with receipts, within 30 days from the conclusion of the conference/training.

Questions on any MArtap program? Contact Carol Tally, Program Manager, at 877-MArtap (627-8271)
MArtap
PO Box 155
Foxboro, MA 02035
info@martap.org

WEBSITE FEATURES:
DRIVER TRAINING
SCHEDULE,
SCHOLARSHIP
GUIDELINES,
HELPING HAND
MINI GRANT
APPLICATION AND
GUIDELINES
AND MORE

MArtap is accepting advertising in *The Resource*. If you have a product or service to market or have a position to fill and want to access more than 450 transit members, then this is a special opportunity for you.

Advertising in this publication gives you an opportunity to send your company's message to transit agencies such as RTAs and their operating companies, private non-profit providers, for profit organizations, Councils on Aging and other human service transportation providers.

Advertising rates listed on www.martap.org under THE RESOURCE link.

COMMUNITY UPDATES - WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The Resource is printed throughout the year by the Massachusetts Rural Transit Assistance Program (MArtap) with funds provided to the Massachusetts Association of Regional Transit Authorities (MARTA) by The Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and the Federal Transit Administration.

Send us your Press Releases! We are interested in what's happening at your agency. If you have a success story or a personnel announcement to share, or a new policy that is working well, please share the news in *The Resource*. Direct editorials to Carol Tally, MArtap, PO Box 155, Foxboro, MA 02035 (p) 877- MArtap1 (627-8271), (f) 508-698-2002, email: info@martap.org.

PO. Box 155
Foxboro, MA 02035

Phone: 877-MARTap1 (627-8271)
Fax: 508-698-2002
Email: info@martap.org
www.martap.org

MARTap would like to keep you updated on all of the programs offered so be sure to email any agency contact information changes to info@martap.org. Be sure to reference your agency when emailing MARTap. Thank you.

MARTap Driver Training

The Executive Office of Transportation (EOT) has mandated that all vehicle acceptance recipients under the Mobility Assistance Program (MAP) agree to ensure all vehicle drivers receive proper training.

These training courses, most offered free of charge to all MAP recipients through the MARTap program, can be scheduled by contacting MARTap by phone, fax or e-mail or complete the MARTap Driver Training Request Form (www.martap.org) All requests will be confirm by e-mail and Jack Mastrangelo, MARTap Trainer, will contact you to schedule the training. **All training requests must be submitted to MARTap prior to scheduling. Agency will be responsible for training cost if training class is held without prior authorization from Carol Tally at MARTap or if class size does not meet the minimum required 10 attendees.**

Required Training Courses:

Coaching the Van Driver or Defensive Driving Course 4 (training requirement: yearly)

Wheelchair Lift & Securement Training (training requirement: yearly)

Safe Transportation of the Public under the ADA or Passenger Sensitivity Training (training requirement for one or the other training: every three (3) years)

In addition to the required courses, MARTap offers:

Emergency and Accident Handling Procedures

Coaching the Transit Bus Driver

Get an 'A' in Customer Service

Also required but not offered through the MARTap program:

CPR (certification must be renewed each year)

First Aid (certification must be renewed every two (2) years)

All training above, *with the exception of CPR and First Aid*, are provided FREE OF CHARGE depending on funding availability, to all MAP recipients through the MARTap program.

For complete training course description, visit www.martap.org and link to Driver Training/Training Course Description.

To schedule one or more of these courses at your facility, link to Driver Training/Driver Request form and complete the registration form or contact MARTap directly at info@martap.org or 877-MARTap1 (627-8271). To sign up for a scheduled training course, link to Driver Training/Driver Training Signup Form.

