

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 674 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY McNEILL, GIRAL, WAXMAN, HILL-EVANS, PIELLI,  
SANCHEZ, SCHLOSSBERG, CERRATO, RIVERA, D. WILLIAMS, SCHWEYER  
AND CIRESI, FEBRUARY 20, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 20, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 74 (Transportation) of the Pennsylvania  
2 Consolidated Statutes, in sustainable mobility options,  
3 establishing the Supplemental Public Transportation Operating  
4 Assistance Allocation for Growing Counties Grant Program.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 74 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
8 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 1517.2. Supplemental Public Transportation Operating  
10 Assistance Allocation for Growing Counties Grant  
11 Program.

12 (a) Establishment.--The Supplemental Public Transportation  
13 Operating Assistance Allocation for Growing Counties Grant  
14 Program is established in the department.

15 (b) Powers and duties of department.--The department:

16 (1) Shall administer the program.

17 (2) Shall establish an annual operating assistance grant  
18 application process for applicants.

1       (3) To the extent that money is appropriated or  
2 otherwise made available to the department for the program,  
3 shall provide operating assistance to eligible entities.

4       (4) May develop guidelines specifying additional  
5 requirements for grants available under the program.

6       (c) Eligible entities.--

7       (1) The following entities are eligible to apply for a  
8 grant under the program:

9           (i) an entity that is a recipient of grants awarded  
10 by the department under section 1513 (relating to  
11 operating program) or 1516 (relating to programs of  
12 Statewide significance) and meets the criteria for a  
13 county growing in population under subsection (e); or

14           (ii) an entity that is a recipient of grants awarded  
15 by the department under section 1513 or 1516 and meets  
16 the criteria for a county growing in employment under  
17 subsection (d).

18       (2) An eligible entity that meets the requirements under  
19 subsection (d) or (e), or both, may submit one application  
20 annually for grants under the program.

21       (d) Grants to county growing in employment.--

22       (1) Total employment growth for each county for the  
23 application grant year shall be calculated by the department  
24 using the most recent complete annual data for local area  
25 unemployment statistics from the Department of Labor and  
26 Industry for the previous year and the same figure from five  
27 years prior, calculated on a percentage basis.

28       (2) The amount of grant money awarded to an eligible  
29 entity shall be determined on the basis of the overall  
30 percentage growth for that county over the subject

1 calculation period and awarded to each eligible entity as a  
2 proportional share of the overall amount available for  
3 distribution to counties growing in employment.

4 (e) Grants to county growing in population.--

5 (1) Total population for each county for the application  
6 grant year and for the five years prior shall be determined  
7 by the department using the most recent complete annual data  
8 from the American Community Survey conducted by the United  
9 States Census Bureau.

10 (2) The amount of money awarded to an eligible entity  
11 shall be determined on the basis of the overall percentage  
12 growth for that county over the subject calculation period  
13 and awarded to each eligible entity as a proportional share  
14 of the overall amount available for distribution to counties  
15 growing in population.

16 (f) Appropriations.--

17 (1) Money appropriated for the purpose of awarding  
18 grants under the program shall be in addition to any money  
19 allocated under section 1513 or 1516.

20 (2) Money appropriated to the department for the program  
21 shall be allocated annually, based upon eligible applications  
22 as follows:

23 (i) Fifty percent to eligible entities within  
24 counties growing in employment.

25 (ii) Fifty percent to eligible entities within  
26 counties growing in population.

27 (g) Use of grant money.--Grants awarded under the program  
28 are subject to the same purposes, limitations, conditions and  
29 requirements specified in section 1513 or 1516.

30 (h) Local match requirement limitation.--The department may

1 not require a local match requirement greater than the match  
2 requirement under section 1513(d).

3 (i) Definitions.--The following words and phrases when used  
4 in this section shall have the meanings given to them in this  
5 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

6 "American Community Survey." An ongoing annual survey by the  
7 United States Census Bureau that publishes and collects data on  
8 the population of the United States in accordance with 13 U.S.C.  
9 §§ 141 (relating to population and other census information) and  
10 193 (relating to preliminary and supplemental statistics).

11 "County growing in employment." A county with a total number  
12 of employed individuals in the preceding calendar year which is  
13 higher than the total number of employed individuals in that  
14 county over the preceding five years.

15 "County growing in population." A county with a total  
16 population in the grant application year which is higher than  
17 the total population of that over the preceding five years.

18 "Local area unemployment statistics." A program that is a  
19 Federal-State cooperative effort between the Bureau of Labor  
20 Statistics of the United States Department of Labor and the  
21 Department of Labor and Industry of the Commonwealth in which  
22 monthly estimates of total employment and unemployment are  
23 prepared and published on a periodic basis.

24 "Program." The Supplemental Public Transportation Operating  
25 Assistance Allocation for Growing Counties Grant Program  
26 established under subsection (a).

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.