

### G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts

For further information concerning this notice, please contact the FRA NOFO Support program staff via email at [FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov](mailto:FRA-NOFO-Support@dot.gov). If additional assistance is needed, you may contact Ms. Jenny Zeng, Transportation Industry Analyst in FRA's Office of Rail Program Development, by email: [Jenny.Zeng@dot.gov](mailto:Jenny.Zeng@dot.gov) or telephone: 857-330-2481.

### H. Other Information

All information submitted as part of or in support of any application must use publicly available data or data that can be made public and methodologies that are accepted by industry practice and standards, to the extent possible. If an application includes information the applicant considers to be a trade secret or confidential commercial or financial information, the applicant should do the following: (1) note on the front cover that the submission "Contains Confidential Business Information (CBI)"; (2) mark each affected page "CBI"; and (3) highlight or otherwise denote the CBI portions.

DOT regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) are found at 49 CFR part 7 subpart C—Availability of Reasonably Described Records under the Freedom of Information Act, which sets forth rules for FRA to make requested materials, information, and records publicly available under FOIA. Unless prohibited by law and to the extent permitted under the FOIA, contents of applications and proposals submitted by successful applicants may be released in response to FOIA requests. DOT may share application information within DOT or with other Federal agencies if DOT determines that sharing is relevant to the respective program's objectives.

Issued in Washington, DC.

**Jennifer Mitchell,**

*Deputy Administrator.*

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**BILLING CODE 4910-06-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Transit Administration

[FTA Docket No. FTA 2024-0005]

#### Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review: FTA Program Evaluation for Processes and Outcomes

**AGENCY:** Federal Transit Administration, Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Requirements (ICRs) abstracted below have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICR describe the nature of the information collection and their expected burdens.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before August 9, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

*Comments are invited on:* Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the Department's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. A comment to OMB is best assured of having its full effect if OMB receives it within 30 days of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tia Swain, Office of Administration, Management Planning Division, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Mail Stop TAD-10, Washington, DC 20590 (202) 366-0354 or [tia.swain@dot.gov](mailto:tia.swain@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), Public Law 104-13, section 2, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified as revised at 44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), and its implementing regulations, 5 CFR part 1320, require Federal agencies to issue two notices seeking public comment on information collection activities before OMB may approve paperwork packages. 44 U.S.C. 3506, 3507; 5 CFR 1320.5, 1320.8(d)(1), 1320.12. On December 7, 2023, FTA published a 60-day notice (88 FR 85357) in the **Federal Register** soliciting comments on the ICR that the agency was seeking OMB approval. FTA received no comments after issuing this 60-day notice. Accordingly, DOT announces that these information collection activities have been re-evaluated and certified under 5 CFR

1320.5(a) and forwarded to OMB for review and approval pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.12(c).

Before OMB decides whether to approve these proposed collections of information, it must provide 30 days for public comment. 44 U.S.C. 3507(b); 5 CFR 1320.12(d). Federal law requires OMB to approve or disapprove paperwork packages between 30 and 60 days after the 30-day notice is published. 44 U.S.C. 3507 (b)-(c); 5 CFR 1320.12(d); *see also* 60 FR 44978, 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. OMB believes that the 30-day notice informs the regulated community to file relevant comments and affords the agency adequate time to digest public comments before it renders a decision. 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995. Therefore, respondents should submit their respective comments to OMB within 30 days of publication to best ensure having their full effect. 5 CFR 1320.12(c); *see also* 60 FR 44983, Aug. 29, 1995.

The summaries below describe the nature of the information collection requirements (ICRs) and the expected burden. The requirements are being submitted for clearance by OMB as required by the PRA.

*Title:* FTA Program Evaluation for Processes and Outcomes.

*OMB Control Number:* 2132-NEW INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUEST.

*Background:* The Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (the Evidence Act) requires Federal agencies to develop evidence to support policymaking. Federal agencies, including FTA, must systematically collect and analyze data to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of their programs through evaluation. According to the Evidence Act, "an evaluation is an assessment, using systematic data collection and analysis, of one or more programs, policies, and/or organizations intended to assess their effectiveness and efficiency." Evidence resulting from evaluations and other evidence-building activities should be used to inform leaders about whether Federal programs and activities are achieving their intended results and contribute to improved use of data and evidence-based decision making.

To effectively evaluate programs, FTA needs to collect data directly from program participants, such as State Departments of Transportation (DOTs), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Transit Authorities, State and Local Government Units, and Indian Tribes, to understand their experiences and benefits of program participation. Participants may be engaged through surveys or focus groups to collect

relevant data. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) strongly advocate for stakeholder engagement in evaluation design. OMB's M-19-23 Memorandum emphasizes that engaging stakeholders enhances the utility of evaluation findings to improve program effectiveness.

To ensure alignment with ongoing efforts, this information request seeks to support the FTA in meeting the Evidence Act's requirements and contribute to FTA's broader framework of evidence-based decision-making. This is a voluntary data and information collection, with no participation requirement to receive Federal benefits. The survey portion of this information collection differs from other similar efforts, such as the FTA Stakeholder Survey which targets grant recipients and inquires on customer satisfaction with a range of FTA services and knowledge of rulemaking. Current and previous information collections for grant applicants and grantees to provide routine program planning and metrics on plans and deliverables are separate from this collection. Rather, this information collection will allow FTA decision makers to understand challenges and barriers to program implementation, identify opportunities for improving program communications and outreach, and make stronger linkages between program progress and outcomes.

The summary provided below has been updated since the publication of the 60-Day **Federal Register** Notice. The estimated annual respondents and number of responses have changed to reflect the current number of program participants for each representative FTA program as of April 2024. The estimated total burden was also updated to reflect this change in the estimated number of respondents, as well as a change to the estimated time per information collection based on the results of pilot testing.

*Respondents:* State Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Transit Authorities, States, and Local Government Units, Indian Tribes.

*Estimated Annual Respondents:* 1,380 respondents.

*Estimated Annual Number of*

*Responses:* 2,070 responses.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 2,180 hours.

*Frequency:* Annual.

**Kusum Dhyani,**

*Director, Office of Management Planning.*

[FR Doc. 2024-15126 Filed 7-9-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-57-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Bureau of Transportation Statistics**

[Docket ID Number DOT-OST-2014-0031]

**Agency Information Collection:  
Activity Under OMB Review: Report of  
Financial and Operating Statistics for  
Large Certificated Air Carriers**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology (OST-R), Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics invites the general public, industry and other governmental parties to comment on the continuing need for and usefulness of BTS collecting financial data from large certificated air carriers. Large certificated air carriers are carriers that operate aircraft with 61 seats or more, aircraft with 18,001 pounds of payload capacity or more, or operate international air services.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by September 9, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket ID Number DOT-OST-2014-0031 by any of the following methods:

*Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

*Mail:* Docket Services: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

*Hand Delivery or Courier:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*Fax:* 202-366-3383.

*Instructions:* Identify docket number, DOT-OST-2014-0031, at the beginning of your comments, and send two copies. Internet users may access all comments received by DOT at <http://www.regulations.gov>. All comments are posted electronically without change or edits, including any personal information provided.

*Comments:* Comments should identify the associated OMB approval #2138-0013 and Docket ID Number DOT-OST-2014-0031. Persons wishing the Department to acknowledge receipt of their comments must submit with those comments a self-addressed stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: Comments on OMB

#2138-0013, Docket—DOT-OST-2014-0031. The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned.

*Privacy Act:* Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** published on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477-78).

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov> or the street address listed above. Follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets.

**Electronic Access**

You may access comments received for this notice at <http://www.regulations.gov>, by searching docket DOT-OST-2014-0031.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lei Tang, Office of Airline Information, RTS-42, Room E34, OST-R, BTS, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, Telephone Number (202) 941-6652, Fax Number (202) 366-3383 or EMAIL [lei.tang@dot.gov](mailto:lei.tang@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*OMB Approval No.* 2138-0013.

*Title:* Report of Financial and Operating Statistics for Large Certificated Air Carriers.

*Form No.:* BTS Form 41.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Large certificated air carriers.

*Number of Respondents:* 60.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 4 hours per schedule, an average carrier may submit 90 schedules in one year.

*Total Annual Burden:* 13,910 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* Program uses for Form 41 data are as follows:

**Mail Rates**

The Department of Transportation sets and updates the international and mainline Alaska mail rates based on carrier aircraft operating expense, traffic and operational data. Form 41 cost data, especially fuel costs, terminal expenses, and line haul expenses are used in arriving at rate levels. DOT revises the established rates based on the percentage of unit cost changes in the carriers' operations. These updating procedures have resulted in the carriers receiving rates of compensation that more closely parallel their costs of providing mail service and contribute to the carriers' economic well-being.