

**SAFE, ACCOUNTABLE, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION
EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS
(SAFETEA-LU)**

**Title V, Subtitle B
Research, Technology and Education
Training and Education Provisions**

Training and Education Programs are authorized at \$26.7 million per year, FY05-09.

Year	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Authorization	\$26.7 M	\$26.7 M	\$26.7 M	\$26.7 M	\$26.7 M

Program Purpose

As transportation demand continues to increase faster than available resources and the with a growing number of baby boom generation workers approaching retirement, the need for a skilled, technically competent transportation workforce has never been more critical. The SAFETEA-LU provisions support workforce development as a continuum for transportation professionals that begins with exposure to the transportation system in elementary and middle school, more refined skills development in secondary school and college to prepare them for transportation careers, and focuses on meeting the professional development needs of transportation workers throughout their careers.

Program Elements

- *National Highway Institute (NHI)*: provides for the continuation of NHI and adds Asset Management to the program areas for course development. (\$9.6 million per year, FY05-09; increase of \$1.6 million over TEA-21 funding levels) - *Sec. 5204(a)*
- *Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)*: continues LTAP program to provide surface transportation technology and training to urban and rural highway and transportation agencies, and to contractors that perform work primarily for local agencies and state DOTs. (\$11.1 million per year, FY05-09, Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) Centers funded at 100%; increase of \$1.1 million over TEA-21 funding levels) - *Sec. 5204(b)(c)*
- *Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program*: continues funding for program to: 1) attract the nation's brightest minds to the field of transportation, 2) enhance the careers of transportation professionals by encouraging them to seek advanced degrees, and 3) support the development of top talent in the U.S. transportation industry. (\$2.2 million per year, FY05-09; increase of \$200,000 over TEA-21 funding levels) - *Sec. 5204(I)*
- *Garrett Morgan Program*: funds program for outreach to elementary school and secondary school students for transportation career awareness. (\$1.25 million per year, FY06-09; program established in 1997, funded for the first time in SAFTEA-LU) - *Sec. 5204(d)*

- Transportation Education Development Pilot Program: establishes funding and pilot program to develop training and education curriculums for surface transportation workers. (\$1.875 million per year, FY06-09; new program, 75% federal funding) - *Sec. 5204(f)*
- Freight Planning and Capacity Building Program: establishes program to support enhancements in freight transportation planning to better target investments, and to strengthen the decision making capacity of State transportation departments and local transportation agencies for freight transportation planning and systems. (\$875,000 per year, FY06-09; new program) – *Sec. 5204(h)*
- Surface Transportation Congestion Relief Solutions Technical Assistance and Training: establishes program to disseminate the results of the surface transportation congestion solutions research initiatives to assist State transportation departments and local transportation agencies with improving approaches to surface transportation congestion measurement, analysis, and project programming. (\$750,000 per year, FY06-09; new program) – *Sec. 5502(c)(d)*
- Transportation Scholarship Opportunities Program: provides authority for the USDOT Operating Administrations and for "non-governmental institutions" to establish scholarship and mentoring programs. Most USDOT Operating Administrations did not have statutory authority in this area prior to SAFTEA-LU. (Operating Administration participation is discretionary, funding not provided; new program.) *Sec. 5505*
- Core State Program Funds For Workforce Development: funds from the Surface Transportation Program (STP), National Highway System (NHS), Bridge Program, Interstate Maintenance, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) may be used, at the discretion of the states, for workforce development, training and education purposes. Funds may be used for training and education for in-service workers, and for transportation career “pipeline” activities including “surface transportation career awareness, student internships and university or community college support.”

Funds used for workforce development, education or training purposes will be available at 100%; matching funds will not be necessary. Supersedes the provision in TEA-21 for state discretion to use up to ½ of 1% of STP funds for in-service training and expands the authority by increasing the number of core programs to be available as funding sources, not limiting the amount of funds that can be used from each core program, and allowing the funds to be used for transportation career “pipeline” activities in addition to in-service training - new program) – *Sec. 5204(e)*

- University Transportation Program (UTC): The UTC program has been expanded from 32 universities in TEA-21 to 60 universities in SAFETEA-LU and funding increased from \$32.5M per year to \$76.7M. SAFTEA-LU also provides for a stronger connection to national research needs and transportation education. *Subtitle D-University Transportation Research; Scholarship Programs -Sec. 5401*

