

# Access for All

## Fact Sheet

### Overview

In 2018, the passage of California Senate Bill 1376 directed the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to develop the Access for All Program and create regulations around accessibility for persons with disabilities in On-Demand Transportation services, including wheelchair users who need a Wheelchair-Accessible Vehicle (WAV). The Access for All Program (AFA) provides two different ways to meet the statute's goal of expanding and improving on-demand WAV transportation service in California; (1) through Transportation Network Company (TNC) investments and (2) through Local Access Fund Administrators (LAFAs). When a TNC trip is provided, a \$0.10 fee is collected and deposited in the CPUC's Access Fund. TNCs can invest Access Fund revenue to expand or improve on-demand WAV service in each county or geographic area. In return, they can file offset requests on a quarterly basis with the CPUC. The Commission sets aside the remaining monies not claimed by TNCs in the offset process for distribution by LAFAs. SANDAG has been designated the LAFA for San Diego since 2021.

### Competitive Grant Application Process

Access for All is a multiyear program funded on an annual basis. The program funding varies by year due to the yearly fluctuation in TNC trips. After a period of public outreach to inform program development and approval by the Board of Directors, SANDAG issues an annual Call for Projects (CFP) to solicit applications from interested entities to build on-demand WAV services in the region. Applications are available through an online portal, BidNet Direct. Following the CFP, project proposals are evaluated for eligibility and then scored by an Evaluation committee and SANDAG staff, followed by a ranking of projects. After funding recommendations are approved by the Board of Directors, grant agreements are executed with grantees known as Access Providers and service begins. The typical grant term is one year in duration.

### Eligible Projects

Eligible Applicants must directly provide, or contract with a separate organization or entity to provide on-demand WAV transportation in the County of San Diego to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. To be eligible to receive grant funds, an Applicant must also:

- Have the technical and financial capacity to implement the proposed project if awarded
- Have adequate methods for ensuring the benefits of the proposed project(s) are distributed equitably among low-income and minority (LIM) and non-LIM groups in the proposed service area(s) as provided in the Applicant's non-discrimination assurances.



## Eligible Applicants & Expenses

Eligible Applicants must directly provide, or contract with a separate organization or entity to provide, on-demand WAV transportation in the County of San Diego to meet the needs of persons with disabilities. Eligible applicants include:

- Transportation carrier(s) that hold a Commission-issued permit prior to applying
- Non-permitted transportation carrier(s) if the Applicant provides specific documentation as noted in the Call for Projects (CFP)
- A TNC that has completed at least one WAV trip that originated in San Diego County under certain conditions
- A TNC that has not provided WAV service in San Diego County since July 1, 2019

Eligible expenses must be directly related to the execution of the Project Scope of Work proposed in the application and finalized in the executed grant agreement. A qualifying expense for an Access Provider is:

- A reasonable, legitimate cost that improves wheelchair accessible vehicle service, and
- On the list of eligible [WAV expenses](#)

## Program Requirements

Grantees must complete and submit quarterly progress reports with documentation in conjunction with an invoice in order to receive reimbursement. Staff will also conduct periodic monitoring of Access Providers.

## Further Reference

For more information on AFA, visit [SANDAG.org/afa](https://sandag.org/afa) or email [grantsdistribution@sandag.org](mailto:grantsdistribution@sandag.org).

## Contact information

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