



# Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

Orange, Osceola & Seminole Local Coordinating Board  
February 11, 2021



# Trip & Equipment Grant Program

Overview of New Funding Formula



# Current Methodology

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Allocation methodology established in Rule 41-2.014(5), F.A.C.

Consists of two components:

- Base Funding – Based on a county's equivalent allocation in FY1999-00.
- Formula Funding – Based on four variables that equally weight demand and performance of transportation disadvantaged services in a county:
  1. Total Population (demand)
  2. Total Geographic Square Miles (demand)
  3. Total Annual Operating Report (AOR) Trips (performance)
  4. Total AOR Vehicle Miles (performance)

Funds are disbursed to the county's Community Transportation Coordinators after TD services are rendered.



# Issues with Current Methodology

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- Base Funding:
  - Static amounts from over 20 years ago. Meant to provide stability/predictability of funding but comprises less and less of counties' overall funding over time as total funding increases.
- Formula Funding:
  - Total Population (demand)
    - Includes populations not even potentially TD eligible. TD population is a subset of the total population.
  - Total Geographic Square Miles (demand)
    - Not strongly correlated with or predictive of travel demand. Many square miles of land do not have roads.
  - Total Annual Operating Report (AOR) Trips and Miles (performance)
    - Serious concerns about integrity of data. Also, majority of trips/miles reported are funded not by Trip & Equipment Grant dollars but by other programs. This results in CTCs' performance outside of the T&E program having greater weight in determining T&E allocation amounts compared to performance within the program.



# Proposed New Formula

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Proposes the use of more *precise* estimates or measures:

1. **TD Population (Demand)** – Using American Community Survey 5-year data, allocates funds more directly to county residents eligible to be served by TD program.
2. **Centerline Miles (CLM) (Demand)** – As an alternative to square miles, allocates funds to a county's total miles of public roads using data from the Federal Highway Administration.
3. **T&E Grant Funded Services (Performance)** – Instead of AOR systemwide trips/miles, allocates funds only for TD non-sponsored services (trips, miles, bus passes) using T&E invoice data.
4. **Base Funding** – Adds the Base as a variable within the Formula and allocates funds based on a percent of a county's previous year allocation (instead of the amount from FY1999-00).



# Proposed Weighting of the Datasets

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The new formula assigns different weights to datasets within each of the variables, with “1.0” as the standard value.

**Demand Variables** – Both TD population and CLM datasets are weighted equally at 1.0

**Performance Variable** – The T&E invoice data are weighted at an amount relative to the unit cost (or rate) of an ambulatory trip:

- A wheelchair trip, for example, is weighted at 1.7 because it is reimbursed 1.7 times the cost of an ambulatory trip.
- Miles are weighted at 0.1 the amount for an equivalent type of trip, so that each additional mile in a trip adds 0.1 to the total for the trip.
- Bus passes are weighted significantly higher than their average rates to incentivize use when available and appropriate.

# Proposed Weighting of Variables

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Rather than weigh the new variables equally (25% each), the new formula assigns greater weight to the base (60%) and performance (30%) variables to promote year-over-year stability while incentivizing cost-effective services.

In response to requests made during public workshops, the new formula assigns greater weight to the base (80%) for the first year of implementation (FY 2021-22) to assist systems in transitioning into the new methodology.

Variable	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
TD Population	2.5%	5%	5%
CLM	2.5%	5%	5%
T&E Services	15%	30%	30%
Base	80%	60%	60%

# Applying the New Formula to Orange, Osceola & Seminole Counties

The following table provides the weighted totals within each proposed variable under the new methodology for the Orange/Osceola/Seminole County Service Area:

COUNTY	WEIGHTED TOTALS BY VARIABLE			
	INHERENT DEMAND		PERFORMANCE	BASE FUNDING
	TD Population Reported in 2018	Centerline Miles Reported in 2018	T&E Invoiced Trips Reported in 2018-19	2019-20 Allocation
<i>Orange/Osceola/Seminole</i>	650,198	7,930.221	328,770.82	\$5,068,193
STATEWIDE	7,589,002	123,099.224	5,643,204.9	\$56,538,360.24

# Calculating Statewide Shares Per Variable

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Once the weighted totals for each variable are tallied, a statewide share by variable can be calculated as follows:

Share of TD Population:  $(650,198/7,589,002) = 8.57\%$

Share of Centerline Miles:  $(7,930.221/123,099.224) = 6.44\%$

Share of T&E Services:  $(328,770.82/5,643,204.9) = 5.83\%$

Share of Base:  $(\$5,068,193/\$56,538,360.24) = 8.96\%$

# Calculating Share of Total Allocation for T&E Grant

With statewide shares calculated and weights assigned to each variable, it then becomes possible to calculate the Orange/Osceola/Seminole's share of the total amount appropriated for the T&E Grant (allocation factor) under the new formula:

Proposed Variable:	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Share of TD Population:	$(8.57\% * 2.5\%)$	$(8.57\% * 5\%)$	$(8.57\% * 5\%)$
Share of CLM:	$+(6.44\% * 2.5\%)$	$+(6.44\% * 5\%)$	$+(6.44\% * 5\%)$
Share of T&E Services:	$+(5.83\% * 15\%)$	$+(5.83\% * 30\%)$	$+(5.83\% * 30\%)$
Share of Base:	$+(8.96\% * 80\%)$	$+(8.96\% * 60\%)$	$+(8.96\% * 60\%)$
Allocation Factor	=8.42%	=7.88%	=7.88%

# Projected Allocation Amounts for Orange, Osceola & Seminole Counties

Finally, after calculating the allocation factor under each year's model, it becomes possible to determine the allocation amount for Orange/Osceola/Seminole Counties as follows:

Proposed Variable	Year 1 <i>Projected</i>	Year 2 <i>Projected</i>	Year 3 <i>Projected</i>	FY2019-20 (Pre-"Hold Harmless")	FY2018-19
TD Population	\$121,481.43	\$242,962.86	\$242,962.86		
CLM	\$91,343.77	\$182,687.53	\$182,687.53		
T&E Services	\$495,641.46	\$991,282.93	\$991,282.93		
Base	\$4,067,324.75	\$3,050,493.56	\$3,050,493.56		
<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>\$4,775,791.41</b>	<b>\$4,467,426.88</b>	<b>\$4,467,427</b>	<b>\$4,462,225.27</b>	<b>\$4,784,194.99</b>

*\*Years 1, 2, and 3 assume total funding equal to current year appropriation.*

# Implementation Factors

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The CTD approved proposed changes to Rule 41-2, FAC. If approved by the State, the new formula will take effect July 1, 2021

New formula allows for flexibility in applying the year of data used in each variable as part of determining the allocations for the upcoming year. For example, in response to the service impacts of COVID-19, beginning in March 2020, CTD may allocate the performance funding based the 2018-19 invoice data.

CTD will also examine its policies and procedures pertaining to the reimbursement of grant funds to ensure they align with the intent of the new methodology.

# For More Information

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The full report and all information related to the new formula can be accessed at:

<https://ctdallocationstudy.com/>

