

Project: [An Assessment of Intercity Bus Services in Illinois](#)

Authors: Paul Metaxatos, Ph.D., P.S. Sriraj, Ph.D.

### Summary

Federal funding for intercity bus programs is available to states under Section 5311(f) of the Federal Transit Act. The act requires 15 percent of all federal funding for public transportation in non-urbanized areas be earmarked for intercity bus transportation, unless the state's governor certifies that the intercity bus service needs are adequately met. This report documents an assessment of intercity bus services in Illinois. Upon reviewing federal and Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) intercity bus policies and regulations, the research team obtained experiences from other states regarding their strategies to meet federal and state-level requirements. Feedback from the states showed a variety of approaches to the funding requirements, even in Illinois' neighboring states. Some states focused exclusively on intercity bus; others considered the bus system's role in the statewide transportation network. Most states that subsidize service provide operating support; sometimes as a pilot project, sometimes not. Other states take a more capital focused approach. A preliminary market analysis for Illinois identified several metropolitan areas with high interaction potential that could serve as origins or destinations of intercity bus services. Moreover, the analysis showed that there are a number of smaller cities with high interaction potential with their nearest metropolitan areas in regard to intercity bus services.

**VIEW FULL REPORT: [scholarcommons.usf.edu/cutr\\_nctr/250](https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/cutr_nctr/250)**