

(c) The term "street railways" means any street car, bus, or other similar vehicle propelled or drawn by electrical or mechanical power on rails and used for transportation of passengers.

(d) The term "taxicab" means any motor vehicle for hire (other than a vehicle operated, with the approval of the Commission, between fixed termini on regular schedules) designed to carry eight persons or less, not including the driver, used for the purpose of accepting or soliciting passengers for hire in transportation subject to this sub-title, along the public streets and highways, as the passengers may direct.

(e) The term "person" means any individual, firm, copartnership, corporation, company, association or joint stock association; and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, or personal representative thereof.

General Duties of Carriers

286. It shall be the duty of every carrier to furnish transportation subject to this sub-title as authorized by its certificate and to establish reasonable through routes with other carriers; to provide safe and adequate service, equipment, and facilities in connection with such transportation; to establish, observe, and enforce just and reasonable individual and joint fares, and just and reasonable regulations and practices relating thereto; and, in case of joint fares, to establish just, reasonable, and equitable divisions thereof as between the carriers participating therein which shall not unduly prefer or prejudice any of such carriers.

Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity; Routes and Services.

287. (a) No person shall engage in transportation subject to this sub-title unless there is in force a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Commission authorizing such person to engage in such transportation; provided, however, that if any person was bona fide engaged in transportation subject to this sub-title on the effective date of this sub-title, the Commission shall issue such certificate without requiring further proof that public convenience and necessity will be served by such operation, and without further proceedings, if application for such certificate is made to the Commission within 90 days after the effective date of this sub-title. Pending the determination of any such application, the continuance of such operation shall be lawful.

(b) When an application is made under this section for a certificate, except with respect to a service being rendered upon the effective date of this sub-title, the Commission shall issue a certificate to any qualified applicant therefor, authorizing the whole or any part of the transportation covered by the application, if it finds, after hearing held upon reasonable notice, that the applicant is fit, willing and able to perform such transportation properly, and to conform to the provisions of this sub-title and the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission thereunder, and that such transportation is or will be required by the public convenience and necessity; otherwise such application shall be denied. The Commission shall act upon applications under this sub-section as speedily as possible. The Commission shall have the power to attach to the issuance of a