

(5) -- "TRANSPORTATION SERVICE" MEANS ANY TRANSPORTATION OPTION OR MIX OF OPTIONS, INCLUDING PARATRANSIT OR FIXED ROUTE SERVICE ESTABLISHED OR EMPLOYED BY A LOCALITY TO ACCOMMODATE THE TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF THE LOCALITY'S ELDERLY AND DISABLED RESIDENTS.

(B) - (1) -- THE SECRETARY SHALL IDENTIFY SEPARATELY WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL BUDGET AN AMOUNT THAT THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS NECESSARY TO BE USED FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSPORTATION SERVICE IN EACH LOCALITY.

(2) -- THE AMOUNT THE SECRETARY IDENTIFIES, OR ANOTHER AMOUNT AS MAY BE APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED TRANSPORTATION SERVICE IN EACH LOCALITY, SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (E) OF THIS SECTION.

(C) -- OF THE AMOUNT SEPARATELY IDENTIFIED OR OTHERWISE APPROPRIATED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY SHALL:

(1) -- ALLOCATE 60 PERCENT EQUALLY AMONG THE COUNTIES,

(2) -- ALLOCATE THE REMAINING AMOUNT AMONG THE COUNTIES IN PROPORTION TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PERCENTAGES OF THE STATE'S COMBINED ELDERLY AND DISABLED POPULATION,

(3) -- SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, DISTRIBUTE ALL THE ALLOCATED AMOUNTS TO THOSE COUNTIES THAT FILE A WRITTEN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN THE FORM AND DETAIL THAT THE SECRETARY REQUIRES, AND

(4) -- CONSULT WITH THE MARYLAND OFFICE ON AGING AND THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON AGING SERVICES IN DISTRIBUTING THE FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION.

(D) -- ANY COUNTY TO WHICH FUNDS ARE DISTRIBUTED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS WITHIN THAT COUNTY A PROPORTION OF THOSE FUNDS EQUAL TO THE PROPORTION OF THE COUNTY'S ELDERLY AND DISABLED POPULATION RESIDING IN THOSE MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

(E) - (1) -- IF THE COUNTIES DO NOT APPLY FOR ALL OF THE ALLOCATED FUNDS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE BEGINNING OF A FISCAL YEAR, THE SECRETARY SHALL MAKE THOSE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO ALL LOCALITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA DEVELOPED BY THE SECRETARY.

(2) -- THE CRITERIA DEVELOPED BY THE SECRETARY UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL PROVIDE THAT: