

(2) THE AMOUNT THE SECRETARY IDENTIFIES, OR SUCH OTHER AMOUNT AS MAY BE APPROPRIATED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PROVISION OF ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED TRANSPORTATION SERVICE IN EACH COUNTY, SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTIONS (C), (D), AND (E) OF THIS SECTION.

(C) (1) OF THE AMOUNT SEPARATELY IDENTIFIED OR OTHERWISE APPROPRIATED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY SHALL:

(I) ALLOCATE 60 PERCENT EQUALLY AMONG THE COUNTIES; AND

(II) ALLOCATE THE REMAINING AMOUNT AMONG THE COUNTIES IN PROPORTION TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PERCENTAGES OF THE STATE'S COMBINED ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED POPULATION.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE SECRETARY SHALL DISTRIBUTE ALL SUCH ALLOCATED AMOUNTS TO THOSE COUNTIES WHICH FILE A WRITTEN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN SUCH FORM AND DETAIL AS THE SECRETARY REQUIRES.

(3) A WRITTEN APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY A COUNTY UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED OR CONSIDERED BY THE SECRETARY UNLESS THE LOCAL AREA AGENCY ON AGING CERTIFIES ITS APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT FOR THE FUNDING FOR WHICH THE APPLICATION IS MADE.

(4) THE SECRETARY SHALL CONSULT WITH THE MARYLAND OFFICE ON AGING AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS IN DISTRIBUTING THE FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION.

(D) (1) IN DETERMINING LOCAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS, THE COUNTIES SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED TRANSPORTATION NEEDS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTIONS. NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL PRECLUDE A MUNICIPALITY FROM REQUESTING THE COUNTY TO APPLY FOR PART OR ALL OF THE COUNTY'S ALLOCATION OF FUNDS AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPALITY.

(2) IN THE EVENT A MUNICIPALITY BELIEVES IT IS NOT AFFORDED A REASONABLE SHARE OF THE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE COUNTY UNDER THIS SECTION, THE MUNICIPALITY MAY APPEAL THE COUNTY'S ALLOCATION DECISION DIRECTLY TO THE SECRETARY.

(E) (1) IF ANY OF THE ALLOCATED FUNDS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION ARE NOT APPLIED FOR BY THE COUNTIES WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR, THE SECRETARY SHALL MAKE THOSE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO COUNTIES PURSUANT TO APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA DEVELOPED BY THE SECRETARY, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND OFFICE ON AGING AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE FOR HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS. THE CRITERIA SHALL PROVIDE THAT: