

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**AMENDED NOTICE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE
ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE AND
ALTERNATE ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PROGRAMS**

I. SUMMARY

By this Notice, the U.S. Department of Transportation (the Department) amends its notice of October 6, 2025, and advises all Essential Air Service (EAS) air carriers and Alternate Essential Air Service (AEAS) communities that the Department has secured additional funding to support these programs. Air carriers and communities must continue to fulfill all obligations under their EAS contracts and AEAS grant agreements until such time as the Department notifies them otherwise. This additional funding will allow the Department to extend the continuation of the EAS and AEAS programs and maintain subsidy payments and grant reimbursements through November 2, 2025, if the government-wide lapse in appropriations continues until that date. Should there be a prolonged lapse in government appropriations that extends beyond November 2, 2025, the Department will provide notice to air carriers and communities in advance of that date.

II. DISCUSSION

While the lapse in Congressionally appropriated funding continues, the Department has been able to secure additional budgetary resources to maintain program operations longer than expected at the time the Department issued its previous notice on October 6th. Funds now available to the program allow the Department to continue to pay EAS air carrier subsidies and AEAS grant reimbursements, enabling uninterrupted air service to participating EAS and AEAS communities, through at least November 2, 2025.

The October 6th Notice indicated that operations were funded through October 12th, and the Department stated that the service obligations of the air carriers under their EAS contracts would be suspended after that date, until such time as funding is restored. Now, the Department has secured additional funding to continue to support EAS and AEAS activities during the government-wide lapse in appropriations, and air carriers must continue to fulfil their obligations under existing contracts unless or until the Department

notifies air carriers otherwise. All terms and conditions of the EAS contracts remain in full force and effect.

Accordingly, air carriers providing EAS should continue operations as contracted, and the Department will continue to process and pay valid EAS subsidy claims and AEAS grant reimbursements in the ordinary course at this time.

The Department will continue to closely monitor the availability of budgetary resources and will provide further updates as needed if the lapse in appropriations continues as November 2, 2025, approaches.

If you have any questions, please contact: A.J. Muldoon, Associate Director, Essential Air Service (Acting), Office of Aviation Analysis, Office of Aviation and International Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590; telephone (202) 948-3210; email albert.muldoon@dot.gov.

By:

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