



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Program Guidance Letter 14-02

Date: February 21, 2014

From: 
Manager, Airports Financial Assistance
Division, APP-500

Reply to
Attn. of: Gavin Fahnestock
202-267-8817

To: PGL Distribution List

Purpose

The purpose of this PGL is to provide the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 determinations under Title 49 U.S.C. § 47109(f) Special Rule for Economically Distressed Communities, which provides an exception to the 90 percent federal share for grants at smaller airports (i.e. other than Large and Medium-hub) that are both receiving Essential Air Service (EAS) and are located in Economically Distressed Areas (EDA). FAA Regional Airports Offices and Airports District Offices are encouraged to distribute this PGL widely to the airport and consultant community.

Determinations

FAA makes a determination of whether an airport qualifies for the increased 95 percent federal share for Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants on an annual basis. Because federal share percentages affect how the agency plans AIP spending, determinations will only be made at the start of the fiscal year on October 1. Once the FAA determines that an airport qualifies for the increased federal share, it will maintain that status for the entire fiscal year, regardless of mid-year changes in Essential Air Service (EAS) or Economically Distressed Area (EDA) status.

In prior years the EDA data was provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). FHWA stopped calculating EDA data in FY 2013. For FY 2014 calculation of EDA areas was conducted by the FAA's Office of Airport Planning and Programming using the same methodology that FHWA had been using. This has caused a delay in determining the locations which qualify for the special rule in FY 2014. Determinations in FY 2015 and beyond are expected to resume on schedule and be made on October 1 of each FY.

For FY 2014, a determination of the airports that meet the Section 47109 (f) criteria was made on February 7, 2014.

The EAS program is administered by the DOT. The DOT office administering the program provides the FAA annually with an official list of all EAS locations. For more information about the EAS program, visit their site here:

<http://www.dot.gov/policy/aviation-policy/current-list-eligible-eas-communities>

EDAs are determined through a series of calculations which include unemployment data obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and per capita income data obtained from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). Because unemployment data is updated on a monthly rate and per capita income data is updated on an annual rate, it is possible that a community may change EDA status throughout the fiscal year. In order for an airport to be considered for the special rule outlined in Title 49 U.S.C. §47109(f), the community wherein the airport is located, must qualify using the latest data available at the time the calculations are made.

Qualifying Airports In FY 2013, there were 71 airports that qualified for the special rule. Of those 71 airports, three (3) airports no longer meet the criteria and 15 new airports qualify for a total of 83 qualifying airports as of February 7, 2014 (see Table 1). The 15 new qualifying airports for FY 2014 are marked with an asterisk (*). The 83 qualifying airports will be eligible to receive the higher 95% federal share for grants issued in FY 2014 only. Table 2 provides the list of airports that were on the list of eligible airports in FY 2013, but no longer qualify for FY 2014.

TABLE 1: EAS Locations in EDAs - Of the 146 NPIAS airports receiving EAS, ARP has identified 83 that are located in EDAs as of February 7, 2014. These airports are eligible to receive a 95 percent federal share for AIP grants in FY 2014.

* Indicates new locations in FY 2014

| ST | Loc ID | Associated City | NPIAS | ST | Loc ID | Associated City | NPIAS |
|----|--------|--------------------|---------|----|--------|-----------------|---------|
| AK | ADK | Adak Island | 02-0001 | AK | TKE | Tenakee Springs | 02-0295 |
| AK | 7AK | Akutan | 02-0005 | AK | WRG* | Wrangell | 02-0323 |
| AK | AGN | Angoon | 02-0018 | AK | YAK | Yakutat | 02-0327 |
| AK | AKA | Atka | 02-0394 | AL | MSL | Muscle Shoals | 01-0054 |
| AK | CEM | Central | 02-0045 | AR | ELD* | El Dorado | 05-0018 |
| AK | CZN | Chisana | 02-0057 | AR | HRO | Harrison | 05-0026 |
| AK | CRC | Circle | 02-0407 | AR | JBR | Jonesboro | 05-0033 |
| AK | CDV | Cordova | 02-0067 | AZ | IGM | Kingman | 04-0021 |
| AK | ELV | Elfin Cove | 02-0089 | AZ | PRC | Prescott | 04-0030 |
| AK | FNR | Funter Bay | 02-0101 | AZ | SOW | Show Low | 04-0035 |
| AK | GKN* | Gulkana | 02-0110 | CA | CEC | Crescent City | 06-0057 |
| AK | GST | Gustavus | 02-0111 | CA | IPL | Imperial | 06-0109 |
| AK | HRR | Healy | 02-0414 | CA | MCE | Merced | 06-0152 |
| AK | HYG | Hydaburg | 02-0129 | CA | VIS | Visalia | 06-0271 |
| AK | KAE | Kake | 02-0458 | CO | ALS* | Alamosa | 08-0002 |
| AK | MLY | Manley Hot Springs | 02-0170 | CO | PUB | Pueblo | 08-0046 |
| AK | MYK* | May Creek | 02-0173 | GA | AHN | Athens | 13-0006 |
| AK | 15Z* | McCarthy | 02-0334 | GA | MCN | Macon | 13-0079 |
| AK | MHM | Minchumina | 02-0180 | HI | MUE* | Kamuela | 15-0010 |
| AK | 51Z | Minto | 02-0336 | IL | DEC | Decatur | 17-0033 |
| AK | PEC | Pelican | 02-0216 | KS | DDC | Dodge City | 20-0017 |
| AK | PSG | Petersburg | 02-0219 | KS | LBL | Liberal | 20-0050 |
| AK | AHP | Port Alexander | 02-0228 | ME | BHB* | Bar Harbor | 23-0006 |
| AK | RMP | Rampart | 02-0244 | ME | PQI | Presque Isle | 23-0039 |

| ST | Loc ID | Associated City | NPIAS | ST | Loc ID | Associated City | NPIAS |
|----|--------|--------------------|---------|----|--------|-----------------|---------|
| MI | APN | Alpena | 26-0004 | NM | SVC | Silver City | 35-0039 |
| MI | ESC | Escanaba | 26-0031 | NY | JHW | Jamestown | 36-0048 |
| MI | CMX | Hancock | 26-0041 | NY | MSS | Massena | 36-0054 |
| MI | IWD | Ironwood | 26-0050 | NY | OGS | Ogdensburg | 36-0089 |
| MI | MBL | Manistee | 26-0059 | NY | PBG | Plattsburgh | 36-0229 |
| MI | MKG | Muskegon | 26-0071 | NY | SLK | Saranac Lake | 36-0105 |
| MI | PLN | Pellston | 26-0076 | NY | ART* | Watertown | 36-0120 |
| MI | CIU | Sault Ste. Marie | 26-0139 | OR | PDT | Pendleton | 41-0046 |
| MN | BJI | Bemidji | 27-0010 | PA | DUJ | DuBois | 42-0023 |
| MN | BRD* | Brainerd | 27-0014 | PA | JST* | Johnstown | 42-0045 |
| MO | JLN | Joplin | 29-0037 | PR | MAZ | Mayaguez | 72-0010 |
| MO | IRK | Kirksville | 29-0045 | UT | CDC | Cedar City | 49-0005 |
| MS | GLH | Greenville | 28-0027 | UT | CNY* | Moab | 49-0020 |
| MS | PIB* | Hattiesburg/Laurel | 28-0041 | UT | VEL | Vernal | 49-0037 |
| MS | MEI | Meridian | 28-0050 | WI | RHI* | Rhineland | 55-0070 |
| MS | TUP | Tupelo | 28-0070 | WV | LWB | Lewisburg | 54-0012 |
| MT | OLF | Wolf Point | 30-0086 | WV | PKB* | Parkersburg | 54-0018 |
| NE | CDR | Chadron | 31-0017 | | | | |

TABLE 2: Airports Qualifying in FY 2013 that do not Qualify in FY 2014 - Three (3) locations qualified for the special rule in FY 2013, but do not qualify in FY 2014.

| ST | Loc ID | Associated City | NPIAS |
|----|--------|-----------------|---------|
| PA | BFD | Bradford | 42-0008 |
| AK | EXI | Excursion Inlet | 02-0095 |
| KS | GCK | Garden City | 20-0024 |