



# FUNDING ALERT!

Professional Assistance for Today's Unprecedented Funding Opportunities

## Program Name

EPA Clean School Bus Program

## Background

- Administrator: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Authorizing Legislation: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
- Available Funds: \$500 million available (\$250 million for clean school buses and \$250 million for zero-emission school buses)
- Allocation Approach: Rebate program
- Program Purpose: Replace existing school buses (not a new purchase program)

## Funding Amounts

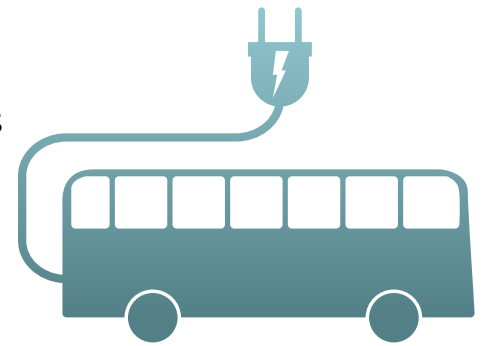
- Applications can request funds to replace up to 25 buses
- Maximum Funding levels:
  - Priority applicants receive \$20,000 per bus
  - Other eligible applicants receive \$13,000 per bus
- The maximum rebate amount per bus is dependent on (1) the replacement bus fuel type, (2) the replacement bus size, and (3) whether the school district served by the buses is prioritized

## Key Dates

- **May 20** - Application opened
- **August 19, 2022 - Application closes**
- **September 2022** - EPA Review of applications
- **October 2022** - EPA notification of applicants on the selection status
- **October 2022-April 2023** - Payment Request forms with purchase orders
- **October 2024** - Final deadline for selectees to receive new buses

## Eligible Entities

- State and local governmental entities (includes public schools, charter schools with NCES District ID) responsible for:
  - Providing bus service to 1 or more public school systems
  - Purchase of school buses
- Nonprofit School Transportation Associations
  - Trade associations and membership organizations
- Tribal Organizations, Indian Tribes, Tribally controlled schools
- Eligible Contractors - Eligible contractors are for-profit, not-for-profit, or nonprofit entities that have the capacity to
  - 1) Sell clean or ZE school buses or related charging or fueling infrastructure to school bus owners or;
  - 2) Arrange financing for such a sale
- School bus dealers and original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that meet the above criteria are eligible contractors



## EPA Clean School Bus Program

**\$500 Million**

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### Eligible School Buses for Replacement

- Vehicle model year 2010 or older diesel-powered school buses that will be scrapped if selected for funding
  - If a fleet has no eligible 2010 or older diesel school buses and is requesting zero-emission school bus replacements, the fleet can either:
    - Scrap 2010 or older non-diesel internal combustion engine buses; or
    - Scrap, sell, or donate 2011 or newer internal combustion engine buses
- Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs. or more
- Be operational at the time of application submission – Able to start, move in all directions, and have all operational parts
- Have provided bus service to a public school district for at least 3 days/week on average during the 2021/2022 school year at the time of applying, excluding COVID-related school closures

### Eligible New Replacement Buses

- Have a battery-electric, CNG, or propane drivetrain
- EPA certified vehicle model year 2021 or newer
- Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs. or more
- Not ordered prior to official notification of selection for EPA funding
- Purchased, not leased or leased-to-own
- Serve the school district listed on the application for at least five years from the date of delivery

### Selection Criteria

#### Prioritization

1. High need school districts and low-income areas
  - a) SAIPE School Districts – 20% or more students living in poverty
  - b) Self-Certify having 20% or more students living in poverty
2. Rural school districts (locale codes 43-Rural: Remote of 42-Rural: Distant by NCES)
3. Tribal school districts

#### EPA Ranking

1. Zero Emission (ZE) Funding Pool: The single highest ranked application in the lottery from each state and territory that meet one or more prioritizations and is exclusively requesting ZE buses
2. Clean School Bus Funding Pool: If no application was selected from a state or territory in step one, then the single highest ranked application in the lottery from each state and territory that meet one or more of the prioritizations and is requesting clean school buses will be selected
3. Clean School Bus Funding Pool: Remaining applications requesting ZE, CNG, propane, or any combination thereof and that meet one or more prioritizations
4. Clean School Bus Funding Pool: Remaining applications until Clean School Bus funding pool is allocated
5. Zero Emission Funding Pool: Remaining applications exclusively requesting ZE buses and that meet one or more prioritizations
6. Zero Emission Funding Pool: Remaining applications exclusively requesting ZE buses until funding pool is allocated

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## Application Sections

This application requires a SAM.gov account. All applications must be submitted through SAM.gov

1. Applicant Information
2. Private Fleet Information
3. School District Information
4. NCES District ID
5. Estimated Student Poverty Rate
6. Bus Information
7. Bus Information: Data Entry
8. Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
9. Any materials on which the applicant seeks to rely in demonstrating its satisfaction of the eligibility criteria, merit review criteria, and programmatic review criteria

## Links & Email

- [Clean School Bus Program: Building a Better America with the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(EPA-420-F-21-075, December 2021\)](#)
- [School Bus Rebates: Clean School Bus Program | US EPA](#)
- [Online Rebate Application Information: Clean School Bus Program | US EPA](#)
- [2022 EPA Clean School Bus Rebate Forms: Application User Guide \(EPA-420-B-22-026, May 20, 2022\)](#)
- Questions go to [cleanschoolbus@epa.gov](mailto:cleanschoolbus@epa.gov)

- Opportunity Evaluation
- Effective Grant Writing
- Track Record of Success