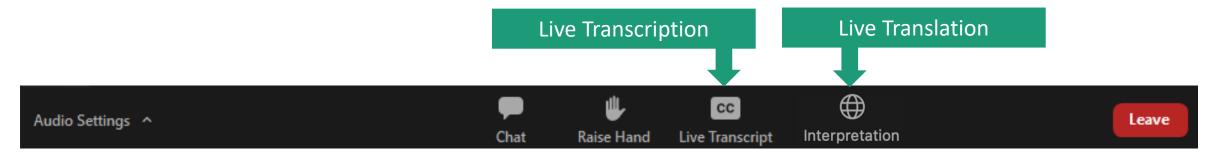


#### **Zoom Webinar Logistics**



- This session is being recorded. EPA will make a copy of the recording and presentation slides available on their website in the near future (<a href="https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus">https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</a>).
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- Questions: Submit written questions to the EPA Clean School Bus Program helpline at cleanschoolbus@epa.gov.

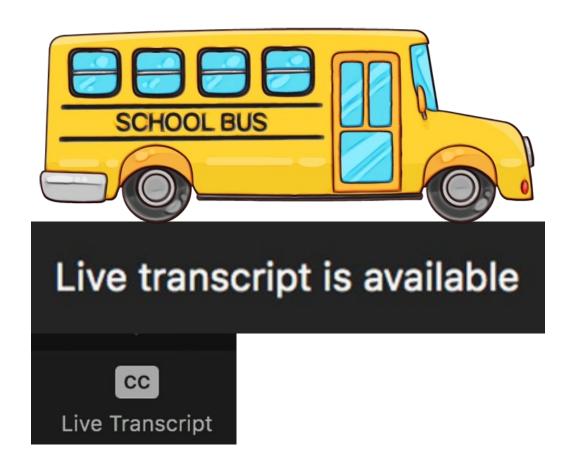
#### Logística del Webinario de Zoom

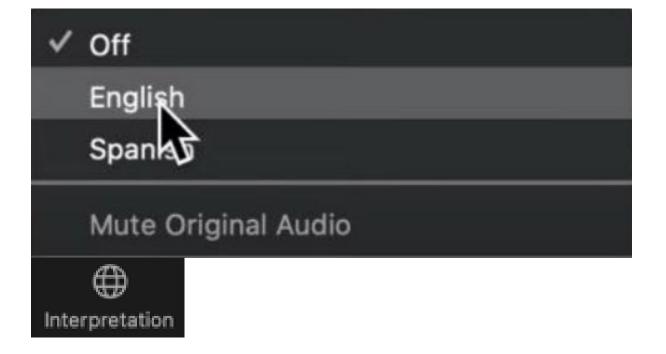


- Esta presentación está siendo grabada. La EPA publicará una copia de la grabación y las diapositivas de la presentación en su sitio web en un futuro próximo (<a href="https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus">https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</a>).
- Todos los participantes están en modo solo de audio. El audio está disponible a través de los altavoces de su computadora o por teléfono.
- Dificultades técnicas: Si tiene dificultades técnicas, envíe un correo electrónico a <u>cleanschoolbus@epa.gov</u>.
- Transcripción simultánea: La transcripción simultánea automatizada está disponible al hacer clic en el icono "Live Transcript" en la barra de herramientas de Zoom.
- Traducción simultánea: La traducción simultánea al español está disponible al hacer clic en el icono "Interpretation" y seleccionar español.
  - Tenga en cuenta que para silenciar el audio en inglés cuando escuche en español, haga clic en "Mute Original Audio".
- **Preguntas**: Envíe sus preguntas por escrito a la línea de ayuda del Programa de Autobuses Escolares Limpios de la EPA a cleanschoolbus@epa.gov.

# Live Transcription / Transcripción simultánea

# Live Translation / Traducción simultánea





### Agenda

Overview of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Clean School Bus Program

2022 Clean School Bus Rebate Feedback

**Stakeholder Suggestions** 

Next Steps: Timeline and Selectee Requirements

Conclusion

Overview of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Clean School Bus Program

Under **Title XI**: **Clean School Buses and Ferries**, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) provides **\$5 billion** over five years (FY22-26) for the replacement of existing school buses with clean school buses and zero-emission school buses.

These new clean school bus replacements will produce either zero or low tailpipe emissions compared to their older diesel predecessors.

School bus upgrades funded under this program will result in cleaner air on the bus, in bus loading areas, and in the communities in which they operate.

The first funding opportunity under this program is the 2022 Clean School Bus Rebates.

## 2022 CSB Rebates Feedback

Application
Eligibility
Outreach
Support
Implementation

#### 2022 CSB Rebates Feedback – Application

- Application Window
  - 90 days allowed applicants to get organized
- Application Timing
  - Summertime is convenient due to less students, but can be difficult due to staff being on vacation
- Online Application
  - Quick and easy to apply for a CSB rebate using the online form

#### 2022 CSB Rebates Feedback – Eligibility

- Prioritization Criteria
  - Generous funding amounts for underserved communities, but requests to expand criteria or allow for more self-certification
- 5 Year Requirement
  - Challenge for some districts due to shorter leases or contracts
- Tribes
  - Bus and school definitions didn't apply to Head Start and minibuses that many Tribes use

#### 2022 CSB Rebates Feedback – Outreach

- Extensive Outreach
  - Lots of webinars, events, emails, and phone calls to stakeholders
- Very Helpful Resources
  - Flyers, Program Guide, Q&A, Helpline Responses, User Guide, Fleet Sheet, Priority School List, etc
- Barrier Reduction
  - Education about how to transition to a cleaner fleet for first-time adopters of new technology

#### 2022 CSB Rebates Feedback – Support

- SAM.gov
  - Difficulties verifying registrations and receiving timely assistance from Federal Service Desk ahead of application deadline
- CSB Helpline
  - Sometimes responses only referred to program guide
- More Guidance
  - Some applications were confusing due to specific circumstances (multiple contractors, mix of bus types, shared buses, etc)

#### 2022 CSB Rebates Feedback – Implementation

- Funding Amount
  - Concerns that funds won't be enough due to inflation
- Bus Performance
  - Unknowns about buses in different circumstances
- Infrastructure
  - Unclear what exactly was needed and how much it would cost
- Workforce Development
  - Unsure how to train mechanics for transition to new technology
- Utility Costs
  - Difficult to project future energy and maintenance savings

## Stakeholder Suggestions



#### Clean School Bus Rebate Timeline

Activity	Date
2022 CSB Rebates open. EPA begins accepting applications submitted via	May 20, 2022 –
online form	August 19, 2022
EPA reviews applications and begins the selection process	September 2022
EPA notifies applicants of selection status. Selectees can proceed with purchasing new buses and eligible infrastructure.	October 2022
Selectees submit Payment Request Forms with purchase orders demonstrating that new buses and eligible infrastructure have been ordered	October 2022 - April 2023
Project period deadline for selectees to receive new buses, install eligible infrastructure, replace old buses, and submit Close Out Forms	October 2024

#### Selectee Requirements – Payment Request Form

- Applicants that are selected for funding will receive an electronic status update that includes:
  - (1) that they have been selected for funding,
  - (2) the maximum amount of funds that have been reserved for them, and
  - (3) instructions on proceeding with the purchase of new buses and eligible infrastructure.
- After receiving notice of selection, selectees must submit an online **Payment Request Form** that includes an attached scan of the **purchase order(s) for the new school buses and eligible infrastructure within six months**.

Selectees can request extensions to the project period deadline. EPA will review these requests on a case-by-case basis and may grant extensions if sufficient justification is provided.

#### Selectee Requirements – Close Out Form

- Once selectees have received their new buses and eligible infrastructure and have replaced their
  old buses, they must submit an online Close Out Form. The Close Out Form must be submitted
  within two years of the date of the selection notification.
- The Close Out Form will require selectees to attach:
  - For old buses being scrapped, scrappage photos and letter for buses being replaced
  - For old buses eligible to be sold or donated, documentation of the vehicle sale or donation
  - A scan of the invoices for the new buses and eligible infrastructure
  - A scan of proof of delivery for the new buses and eligible infrastructure (e.g., dated bill of lading)
  - One photo of the exterior of each new bus, labeled with the last 4 digits of the bus VIN
  - One photo of each charging pedestal if EPA funds were used for charging infrastructure.
- Selectees must retain all financial records, supporting documents, accounting books and other evidence of Rebate Program activities for five years after delivery of the new buses. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the five-year period, the recipient must maintain all appropriate records until these actions are completed and all issues resolved.



# EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS

Sign up for the <u>Clean School Bus</u>
<u>Listserv</u> and continue to check
<u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u> for
updated information.

This presentation has been recorded and an English and Spanish recording will be posted to the Clean School Bus website.

To prepare for future rebate programs review the 2022 Program Guide, register for a SAM.gov account, and start planning for the transition to new, cleaner school buses.

If you have any additional feedback, please email us at <a href="mailto:cleanschoolbus@epa.gov">cleanschoolbus@epa.gov</a>