

EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS

Panel Discussion w/ 2022 Rebate Selectees June 21, 2023 @ 3 PM ET

Office of Transportation and Air Quality U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Zoom Webinar Logistics

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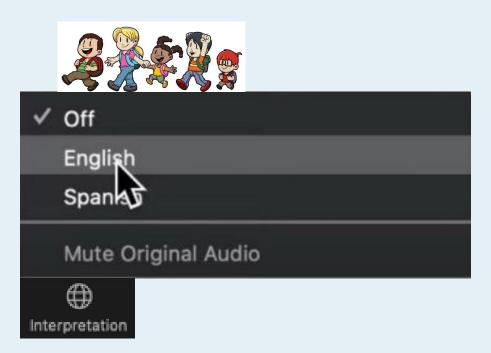
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Live Transcription / Live Spanish Interpretation Transcripción simultánea / Interpretación simultánea



Live transcript is available











Overview of the Clean School Bus (CSB) Program

2023 CSB Grant Program Overview

Utility Engagement Pledge w/ BEL, EEI, & NRECA

Panel Discussion

Question & Answer Session

Next Steps and Resources

Overview of the 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 zero-emission and clean 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 was the 2022 Clean School Bus Rebate Program. The second funding opportunity is the 2023 Clean School Bus Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), which opened on April 24, 2023, and will close on August 22, 2023.





2023 CSB Grant Program Overview



EPA anticipates awarding approximately **\$400 million** in CSB funding under this FY23 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

This NOFO **includes two sub-programs**, one for school district and Tribal applicants (**School District Sub-Program: 15-50 buses**) and one for third-party applicants benefitting at least four school districts (**Third-Party Sub-Program: 25-100 buses**).

Eligible activities include the replacement of existing internal-combustion engine (ICE) school buses with **electric, propane, or compressed natural gas (CNG) school buses,** as well as the purchase and installation of **electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) infrastructure.**

EPA is prioritizing applications that will replace buses serving **high-need local** education agencies, Tribal school districts funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs or those receiving basic support payments for students living on Tribal land, and rural areas. EPA is committed to ensuring the CSB Program delivers on the Justice40 Initiative to ensure that at least 40% of the benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities.





CSB Funding per Replacement Bus

School District Prioritization Status	Replacement Bus Fuel Type and Size						
	ZE* – Class 7+	ZE* – Class 3-6	CNG– Class 7+	CNG – Class 3-6	Propane – Class 7+	Propane – Class 3-6	Vehicle and Infrastructure Costs: Eligible project costs include the purchase price of eligible vehicles as shown on this slide and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) infrastructure for new electric buses Project Implementation Costs: Eligible additional project costs also include those costs directly related to the implementation, management, and oversight of the project. Please refer
Buses serving school districts that meet one or more prioritization criteria	Up to \$395,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	Up to \$315,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	Up to \$45,000	Up to \$30,000	Up to \$35,000	Up to \$30,000	
Buses serving school districts that are not prioritized	Up to \$250,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	Up to \$195,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	Up to \$30,000	Up to \$20,000	Up to \$25,000	Up to \$20,000	
*Funding levels include combined bus and FV charging infrastructure. Recipients have flexibility to determine the split							to the NOFO for additional

*Funding levels include combined bus and EV charging infrastructure. Recipients have flexibility to determine the split between funding for the bus itself and the supporting infrastructure.



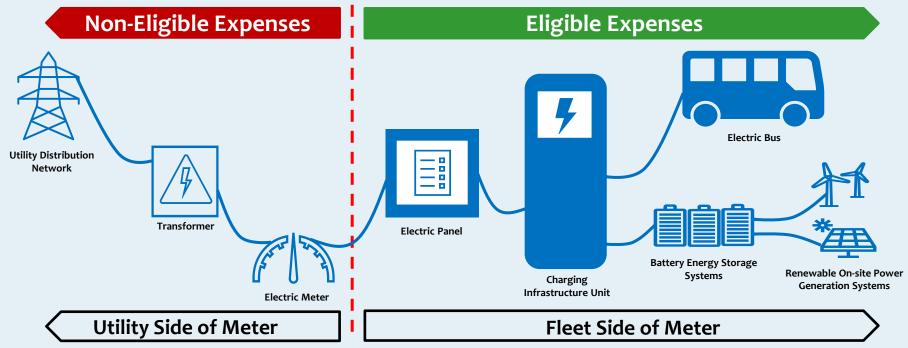


specific information.



Infrastructure Funding Restrictions





- EPA funding for infrastructure is **limited to the fleet's side of the meter**. May include installation, upgrades (including software and telematic equipment) and permits. Funds may also be used for battery energy storage systems (BESS) associated with new electric school buses, and renewable on-site power generation systems to power the buses and equipment, if on the fleet side of the meter.
- All Level 2 charging infrastructure purchased under this program must be <u>EPA ENERGY STAR certified</u> chargers. EPA recommends that all other charging infrastructure (e.g. DC Fast-Charge) purchased under this program be listed by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

Utility Engagement Pledge



A primary barrier school districts are facing is uncertainty around charging infrastructure deployment and how to engage with electric companies

• Installation of charging infrastructure can undergo long lead times and requires close coordination with the local utility



EPA is working with national electric utility company organizations to support school districts through a Utility Pledge that includes:

- Facilitating Communication Between Electric Providers and School Districts
- Providing Technical Support and Assistance
- Increasing Funding and Deployment



Additional information on the Utility Pledge and other technical assistance resources are available on: <u>epa.gov/cleanschoolbus technical assistance</u>







Meet our Panelists!



Jeanne Vandemark – Director of Transportation Mesa Public Schools – Arizona

Tim Farquer – Superintendent/Curriculum Director Williamsfield Schools – Illinois

Craig Beaver – Administrator for Transportation Beaverton School District – Oregon

Question & Answer Session

SEPA





Upvote and comment on questions similar to your own. Type your full thought so we can follow-up with an answer. Speak slowly and clearly for the captioner/interpreter.







Why did you choose to make the transition to a cleaner fleet?

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What stage are you at in your clean school bus project?

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How has your experience been working with your utility provider?

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What advice do you have for someone interested in making the transition to a cleaner fleet?

Question & Answer Session

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What sort of benefits have you seen so far (safety, cost savings, etc)?

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What type(s) of workforce training has proven helpful to assist in the transition?







What have your drivers thought about driving the new buses, making the transition, or any training they have had?







How have the students, teachers, faculty, school board, community, etc. responded to this transition?

Question & Answer Session

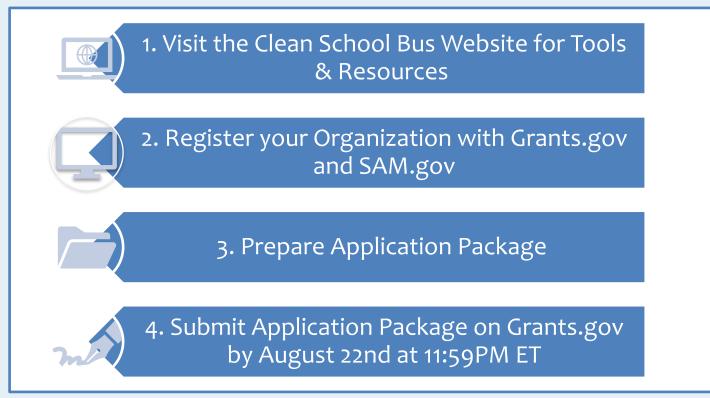
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Next Steps – How to Apply





Application packages must be submitted to EPA via Grants.gov no later than 8/22/23 at 11:59 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.





Summary



2023 CSB NOFO

- Application packages must be submitted to EPA via Grants.gov no later than
 8/22/23 at 11:59 p.m. ET.
- Dates and topics for future webinars are on our website under the 'Webinars' section.

Future Funding Opportunities

- EPA encourages school districts to consider which competition structure (grants or rebates) best suits their needs.
- EPA anticipates opening a rebate program in fall 2023.

Resources

- EPA's CSB Program website
- The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (cleanschoolbusTA@nrel.gov)
- The CSB helpline (cleanschoolbus@epa.gov)

Stay in Touch

- View the full 2023 CSB Grant NOFO at epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/clean-school-bus-program-grants
- Submit questions to <u>cleanschoolbus@epa.gov</u>
- Don't miss any updates! To sign up for the listserv, please visit <u>epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



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