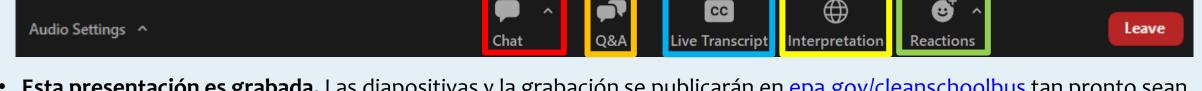


## EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS

2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program Launch September 28, 2023 @ 1 PM ET

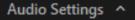
Office of Transportation and Air Quality U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

### Logística de seminarios web en Zoom



- Esta presentación es grabada. Las diapositivas y la grabación se publicarán en <u>epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u> tan pronto sean procesadas para su publicación.
- Todos los asistentes se encuentran solo en modo escucha. Hay audio disponible a través de los altoparlantes de su computadora o por teléfono. El presentador le pedirá que quite el silencio si corresponde.
- Transcripción en vivo: Hay subtítulos disponibles haciendo clic en el icono "Live Transcript" [Transcripción en vivo].
- Interpretación en vivo: Hay interpretación en español disponible haciendo clic en el icono "Interpreting"
  [Interpretación] y seleccionando el español. Haga clic en "Mute Original Audio" [Silenciar audio original] para silenciar el
  audio en inglés al escuchar en español.
- Preguntas: Use la función Q&A [preguntas y respuestas] para hacer preguntas durante la presentación. Abordaremos todas las que sea posible después de la presentación. Si no podemos contestar su pregunta en este momento, anotaremos todas las preguntas y respuestas en el documento Q&A correspondiente disponible en nuestro sitio web. Puede también enviar preguntas por escrito a la línea directa de ayuda del Programa de Autobuses Escolares Limpios de la EPA en cleanschoolbus@epa.gov.
- Chat: Se encuentra inhabilitado el chat, pero los presentadores podrían compartir enlaces a través de la función de chat.
- **Reacciones:** Las reacciones están habilitadas para que usted interactúe con el presentador.

### **Zoom Webinar Logistics**



• This presentation is being recorded. The slides and recording will be posted to <u>epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u> as soon as they are processed for posting.

- All attendees are in listen-only mode. Audio is available through your computer speakers or by phone. The presenter will ask you to come off mute if applicable.
- **Live transcription:** Live captioning is available by clicking the "Live Transcript" icon.
- **Live interpretation:** Live Spanish interpretation is available by clicking the "Interpretation" icon and selecting Spanish. Click "Mute Original Audio" to mute English audio when listening in Spanish.

Interpretation

Leave

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Live Transcript

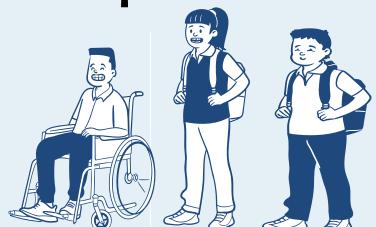
- **Questions:** Use the Q&A feature to ask questions during the presentation. We will address as many as possible after the presentation. If we are unable to answer your question at this time, we will list all questions and answers in the Q&A document available on our website. You can also submit written questions to the EPA Clean School Bus Program helpline at <u>cleanschoolbus@epa.gov</u>.
- **Chat:** Chat is disabled, but the presenters might share links through the chat feature.
- **Reactions:** Reactions are enabled for you to interact with the presenter.

## Live Transcription / Live Spanish Interpretation Transcripción simultánea / Interpretación simultánea



### Live transcript is available





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English Span

#### **Mute Original Audio**





**AGENDA** 



Overview of the Clean School Bus (CSB) Program

### 2023 CSB Rebate Program Overview

How to Apply

Next Steps and Resources

Overview of the Clean School Bus Program

### **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**

 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.

## **CSB Funding Opportunities**

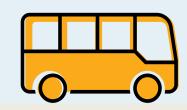
- EPA has offered rebates and grants in past funding opportunities.
- EPA is offering another round of rebate funding.
- The 2023 Rebates is the third CSB funding opportunity.











## Why Clean School Buses?

Reduced Greenhouse Gas Emissions CSBs emit zero or low tailpipe emissions.

#### Cleaner Air

CSBs result in cleaner air on the bus, in bus loading areas, and in the communities in which they operate.

#### Cost Savings

Replacing older diesel school buses with CSBs often reduces maintenance and fuel costs.

#### Resiliency

. . .

Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G) capable CSBs can provide power to the grid or buildings during power shutdowns.

### Improved Student Attendance & Achievement

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The transport of students with CSBs has been linked to student attendance and academic achievement improvements.



## **CSB** Program Goals



Engage	Engage stakeholders in program development.
Evolve	Evolve the program, as needed, based on successes and lessons learned.
Promote	Promote cost parity between bus technologies.
Allow	Allow school districts multiple opportunities to apply for funding.
Maximize	Maximize the number of zero-emission and clean buses that get funded.
Ensure	Ensure a broad geographic distribution of awards.

## **CSB** Rebates versus CSB Grants

While both grants and rebates provide selectees with award funds <u>prior</u> to purchasing eligible buses and infrastructure, there are a few differences between these types of funding programs:

	Rebates 😣	Grants (\$\$\$)	
Application Process	Quick and simple; applications submitted through EPA portal	Longer, more detailed; applications submitted through grants.gov	
Selection Process	Random number generated lottery process	Evaluation of application materials and scoring criteria	
Selectee support and flexibility	EPA provides less support and flexibility in funding to selectees	EPA may offer more support for selectees during the project, as well as flexibility in funding – e.g. covering project implementation costs - and timing of the project, such as extending project periods to complete the project.	
Number of Replacement Buses	Funds the transition of smaller fleets (lower bus replacement minimum and maximum)	Funds the transition of larger fleets (higher bus replacement minimum and maximum)	





## **Clean School Bus Rebates**







Quickest timeline fleets to receive funding Lower bus minimum and maximums –

Great for first time adopters

Simple and straightforward application, selection, and funding processes



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.





## 2022 CSB Rebates



## Applications

- Nearly \$4B in applications for over 12,000 buses
- More than **90**% of requests were for **electric buses**
- Majority of applicants met priority criteria as low-income, rural, or Tribal



- EPA has awarded ~**\$965M** in rebates
- This has funded ~2,400 buses in ~400 school districts
- Many schools have received a positive response from students, drivers, parents and faculty about use of their awarded bus(es), with some selectees indicating plans to acquire additional CSBs

2023 CSB Rebate Program Overview





EPA is offering at least **\$500 million** for clean school buses and ZE school buses. EPA may modify this amount based on the applicant pool and other pertinent factors. Funds are subject to availability and total awards may be higher or lower than the anticipated funds offered update if changed.



Eligible activities include the **replacement of existing internalcombustion 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 **highneed 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.



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



## 2023 CSB Rebate Program Details



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 11:59 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.





**State and local governmental entities** responsible for: providing bus service to one or more public school systems; or the purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses





Indian Tribes, Tribal Organizations, or tribally controlled schools responsible for: providing bus service to one or more Bureau-funded schools; or the purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses

Nonprofit School Transportation Associations



Eligible Contractors (OEMs, dealers, private school bus fleets, etc.)



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



## **Prioritization Criteria** 2023 CSB Rebates\*

Please note that program criteria may be different from prior CSB funding opportunities and are subject to change in future rounds of CSB funding

> Applications due Jan. 31, 2023. www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus

#### HIGH-NEED SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND LOW-INCOME AREAS

- School districts listed in the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) School District Estimates for 2021 as having **20% or more students living in poverty**.
- School districts located in the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.
- Title I-funded public school districts and charter school districts not listed in the SAIPE data.
- Title I-funded large public school districts (more than 35,000 students and/or more than 45 public schools) that do not meet the 20% SAIPE threshold may be eligible to self-certify.\*

RURAL

• School districts identified with **locale code "43-Rural: Remote"** by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

#### **BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FUNDED SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

#### SCHOOL DISTRICTS THAT RECEIVE BASIC SUPPORT PAYMENTS FOR CHILDREN WHO RESIDE ON INDIAN LAND

\*See the Prioritization Self-Certification Instructions, which can be found on the <u>CSB Rebates webpage</u>, for more information on this option.





## **CSB Funding per Replacement Bus**

		01	•				Applicants can request up
School District	Replacement B	us Fuel Type and	d Size				to an <b>additional \$20k</b> to
Prioritization Status	ZE – Class 7+*	ZE – Class 3- 6*	CNG– Class 7+	CNG – Class 3-6	Propane – Class 7+	Propane – Class 3-6	purchase ADA-compliant clean school buses of any fuel type equipped with wheelchair lifts.
Buses serving	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	High Shipping Costs
school districts that meet one or more prioritization criteria	\$345,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	\$265,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	\$45,000	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$30,000	High Shipping Costs: Applicants in non- contiguous U.S. states and territories will receive up to an additional \$20k per bus to cover high bus shipping costs.
Buses serving	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	Up to	
school districts that are not prioritized	\$200,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	\$145,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$20,000	<b>Tax Credits:</b> % Selectees may be eligible for IRA tax credits applicable to their bus and
*Funding levels includ	le combined bus and E	V charging infrastruc		ts have flexibili	ty to determir	ne the split	infrastructure purchase(s) not reflected in the funding

**ADA-Compliant Buses:** 

table.

between funding for the bus itself and the supporting infrastructure.

## **€PA**

## **IRS Tax Credits**



%

 Selectees may be eligible for Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) tax credits applicable to their bus and infrastructure

purchases, mainly the:

EPA cannot give tax advice. Refer to guidance on the IRS website for further instruction.

- <u>Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit</u>, which provides up to \$40,000 for qualified commercial clean vehicles; and the
- Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit, which provides up to \$100,000 for qualified charging and refueling infrastructure.
- Selectees may also be eligible to claim all or a portion of the value of IRA credits using either the new elective pay, and transferability mechanisms introduced by the IRS.
- See the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website for more information on these credits.
- Please review the IRS' guidance linked above for more information about your eligibility for this credit, as well as when you may be able to receive the credit.



## Eligible Existing School Buses Must\*:



- Be a vehicle MY2010 or older diesel-powered school buses that will be scrapped if selected for funding.
  - 1. If a fleet has no eligible 2010 or older diesel school buses <u>and</u> is requesting zero-emission school bus replacements, the fleet can either:
    - 1. Scrap 2010 or older non-diesel internal combustion engine buses; or
    - 2. Scrap, sell, or donate 2011 or newer diesel or non-diesel internal combustion engine buses.
- 2. Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs or more
- 3. Be fully operational at the time of application submission.
- 4. Have provided **bus service for at least 3 days/week on average during the 2022/2023 school year** at the time of applying, excluding emergencyrelated school closures.\*\*

\*Refer to the Program Guide for specific eligibility information.

\*\* EPA strongly encourages third-party applicants to replace existing buses that provided service to the public school district listed on the application, or another school district eligible for priority consideration, as listed in the Prioritized School Districts list found on the 2023 CSB Rebates webpage.



### Eligible <u>New</u> Replacement School Buses Must\*:





Applications must include projects which replace existing internal combustion engine school buses with propane, CNG, and/or electric school buses. All replacement school buses must:

- 1. Have a battery electric, CNG, or propane drivetrain.
  - 1. Biofuels will not be included as an eligible replacement technology for this funding opportunity.
- 2. Be a new vehicle.
  - 1. Buses which have been converted to a battery-electric, propane, or CNG drivetrain after the first retail sale are not eligible for funding.
  - 2. The conversion of a bus to a battery-electric, propane, or CNG drivetrain is not eligible for funding.
- 3. Be model year 2022 or newer.
- 4. Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs or more.
- 5. Conform to all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS).
- 6. Be maintained, operated, insured, registered, and charged/fueled according to manufacturer recommendations and state requirements.
- 7. Be equipped with an EPA certified engine if they are Propane or CNG fueled buses.

\* Refer to the Program Guide for specific eligibility information.



### Eligible <u>New</u> Replacement School Buses Must\*:



All replacement school buses must (continued):

- 8. Not be ordered prior to receiving official notification of selection for EPA funding.
- 9. Be **purchased**, not leased or leased-to-own.
- 10. Serve the school district listed on the application for **at least 5 years from date of delivery**.\*
- 11. Not be manufactured, retrofitted with, or otherwise have installed, a power unit or other technology that creates air pollution within the school bus, such as an unvented diesel passenger heater. EPA strongly encourages applicants to consider alternative cold weather mitigation strategies (e.g., insulation of cabin and/or batteries, cabin and battery preconditioning) until other viable alternatives become available.
- 12. Not be purchased or otherwise subsidized with other federal grant funds.
  - 8. The total of funds from the CSB grant and other eligible external funds allocated for the bus replacements cannot exceed the cost of the new buses.
- 13. Upon request, be made available for inspection by EPA or its authorized representatives for 5 years from the date of delivery to verify the buses are serving their intended purpose.

\* Refer to the Program Guide for specific eligibility information.

## EPA Eligible Bus Replacement by Fuel Type



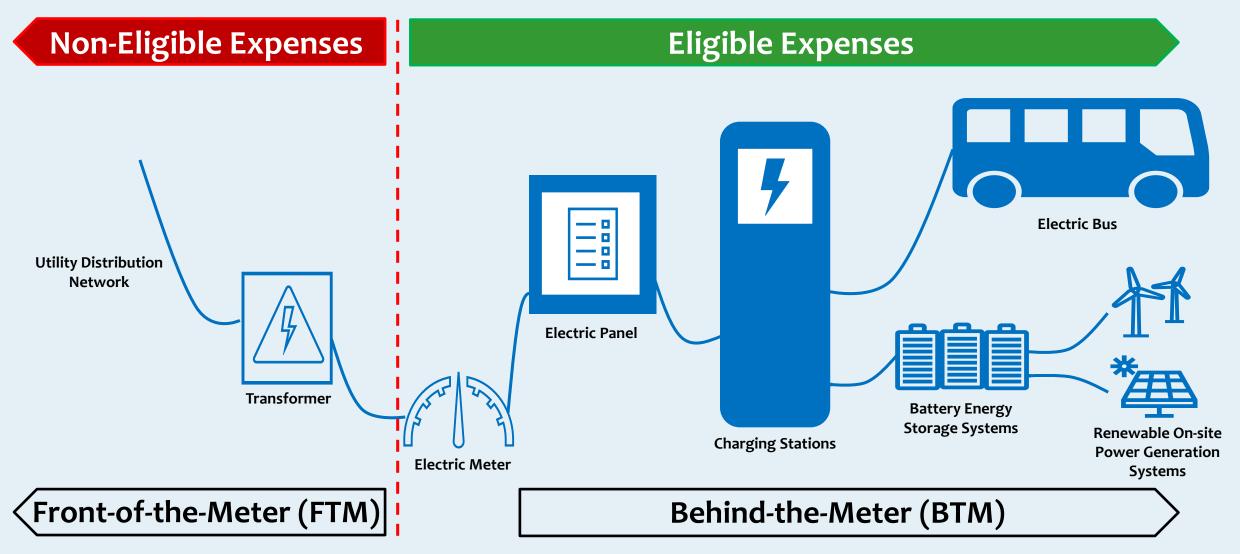
	Replacement Bus Fuel Type				
Existing Bus Fuel Type	Propane	Compressed Natural Gas	Battery-Electric		
2010 or Older Diesel Bus					
2011 or Newer Diesel Bus*	×	×			
Gasoline Powered Bus*	×	×			
Propane Bus*	×	×			
Compressed Natural Gas Bus*	×	×			

\*Can only be substituted if existing fleet does not have 2010 or older diesel buses available for scrappage; existing, non-diesel internal combustion engine buses that are 2010 or older must be scrapped; existing, diesel or non-diesel internal combustion engine buses that are 2011 or newer may be scrapped, sold, or donated.

Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus">www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</a>.

## Sepa Infrastructure Funding Restrictions





Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET.

For more information, please visit www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus.



All electricians installing, operating, or maintaining EVSE must meet one of the following requirements: (i) Certification from the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP), OR (ii) Graduation or a continuing education certificate from a registered apprenticeship program for electricians that includes charger-specific training and is developed as a part of a national guideline standard approved by the Department of Labor in consultation with the Department of Transportation.

### **Eligible Infrastructure Equipment\***

EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS

If applicants are purchasing electric school buses, they may also receive funding for eligible charging infrastructure and installations.

- Eligible infrastructure costs are limited to installations and upgrades **from the electrical meter to the charging port of the bus,** including (but not limited to):
  - charging equipment (such as alternating current (AC) Level 2 charging equipment, direct-current (DC) fast charging equipment, or vehicle-to-grid (V2G) enabled equipment);
  - design and engineering;
  - installation costs such as trenching, wiring and electrical upgrades, labor, and permitting;
  - related intelligent equipment and software designed to monitor bus and infrastructure performance (such as telematics or charge management software); and
  - **battery energy storage systems** (BESS) associated with replacement electric school buses funded in the program, as well as renewable on-site power generation systems that power the buses and equipment. To be eligible, these systems must behind the electrical meter.
- Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirements apply to eligible vehicle charging infrastructure equipment.
- \* Refer to Appendix B Program Guide for specific eligibility information.

## **EPA** Infrastructure Funding Restrictions (cont.)



- All chargers must be certified by an Occupational Safety and Health Administration Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory.
  - DC Fast Chargers and AC Level 2 chargers should be certified to the appropriate Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standards for EV charging system equipment.
  - All AC Level 2 charging infrastructure purchased and installed under this program must be <u>EPA ENERGY STAR certified chargers.</u>
- EPA also strongly encourages recipients to consider long-term fleet electrical needs when installing charging equipment.
  - EPA funding may be used to install additional electrical capacity behind the meter to support future charging needs (e.g., purchasing and running additional electrical conduit during trenching and wiring upgrades).
  - Applicants applying for ZE school buses should contact their utility early to initiate the necessary discussions about planning for the required infrastructure.
    - <u>EPA's Electric Sector Pledge</u> can help facilitate communication between school districts and their electric providers.



## **EPA** Build America, Buy America Requirements



#### What is Build America, Buy America (BABA)?



Certain infrastructure projects are subject to BABA provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

- These require that all the iron, steel, manufactured products and construction materials used in federal infrastructure projects are produced in the U.S.
- This includes, but not limited to: the EV charger, all wiring or fixtures to support the charging equipment, breaker panels or subpanel, conduit from the meter to the panel.

- School buses are <u>NOT</u> subject to BABA requirements.
- Electric Chargers (EVSE) and supporting equipment <u>ARE</u> subject to BABA
  - Due to anticipated payment processing timeframes for this funding opportunity, applicants should plan to purchase American made charging infrastructure products.
  - More information is located at <u>Build America</u>, <u>Buy</u> <u>America</u> (<u>BABA</u>) | <u>US EPA</u>

## Next Steps on How to Apply and Resources



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 11:59 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



### **CSB** Program Website Tools and Resources



#### All links can be found on: epa.gov/cleanschoolbus



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



## **EPA 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>





# EPA Coordination with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation

The Joint Office can provide **applicants and selectees** with support on the following topics:

Coordinating with electric utilities	Identifying available funding and incentives	Analyzing charging infrastructure needs	Conducting a route analysis and planning routes
Training and workforce development	Resiliency (V2X)	Analyzing energy needs and grid impact	Identifying solar and battery storage opportunities

#### cleanschoolbusTA@nrel.gov driveelectric.gov



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <a href="http://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus">www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</a>.



## Next Steps – How to Apply





Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



## Important! SAM.gov Registration

Check the Systems for Award Management (SAM.gov) to ensure your organization is actively registered as an entity • An individual user account on <u>SAM.gov</u> is not the same thing as an organization's entity registration.

• Review all <u>SAM.gov</u> entity registration information for accuracy, including bank accounts, addresses, the <u>Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)</u>, and Points of Contact.

• If your organization has no record of a SAM.gov. registration, expired or active, and needs to create a new registration, the simplest entity registration type that can participate in the Clean School Bus Rebates is the "Federal Assistance Awards Only" registration.

• For help with SAM.gov, reach out to the Federal Service Desk at: https://www.fsd.gov.





## Important! SAM.gov Registration (Cont.)

<u>Only</u> individuals with email addresses listed as one of the following Points of Contact (POC) under an *active* <u>SAM.gov</u> entity registration will have access to create, edit, save, and submit a Clean School Bus Rebate application for that entity:

• Electronic Business POC

- Alternate Electronic Business POC
- Government Business POC
- Alternate Government Business POC

If you made a <u>SAM.gov</u> account to apply last year, please verify it is still active as accounts that have not been accessed in 365 days will go inactive.

\*Note: When entering the rebate application, applicants must use the same email as is listed in their POC information in <u>SAM.gov</u>. They will be prompted to sign-in to, or create, a free login.gov account.

If selected for funding, **EPA can only disburse funds to the** <u>SAM.gov</u> entity included in the rebate application; selectees are responsible for ensuring their <u>SAM.gov</u> account remains up-to-date and all information in the <u>SAM.gov</u> account, including points of contact and bank account details, is accurate.





## Next Steps – Supplemental Application Forms



#### **School Board Awareness Certification**

• All applicants must submit a School Board Awareness Certification to verify the school board's awareness of the school district's rebate application. It is imperative that the school board is aware of the application as they will likely have to vote on the approval of the project if the school district is selected for a rebate.

#### **School District Approval Certification**

• Third Party applicants (eligible contractors and nonprofit school transportation associations) applying for rebates must submit a signed School District Approval Certification to verify the school district's approval of the third party's rebate application for new buses that would serve their school district.

#### **Utility Partnership Agreement**

 Applicants applying for ZE school buses must also submit a Utility Partnership Agreement to verify the electric utility provider's awareness of the school district's rebate application. Coordination and communication between the school district and the local utility(ies) is critical to initiate early and to continue throughout the project.





## **Application Details**

Required information includes:

- Applicant type
- School district information
- Information on the existing buses to be replaced (see Section 3 of the Program Guide):
  - 17-character VIN (Please double check the VIN for accuracy)
  - Manufacturer, model, fuel type, vehicle model year, and Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) in pounds
  - Estimated average annual mileage, fuel consumption, idling hours, and remaining life
  - Owner
  - Odometer
  - NCES ID of school primarily served
  - Scans of bus titles. Allowable file types include pdf, .png, jpeg, and jpg.
- Information on the new replacement buses (see Section 3 of the Program Guide):
  - Estimated GVWR in pounds
  - Fuel type: Fuel types that can be selected for new replacement buses may be limited based on the vehicle model year and fuel type entered for the old bus to be replaced. See Section 3 of the 2022 CSB Rebates Program Guide for bus eligibility requirements.
- Primary and alternate business contacts for your organization.



Please note: Only one application can be submitted per NCES ID.

### Workforce Development and Job Quality

Workforce planning and preparation are critically important elements of successful clean school bus deployment.

#### Workforce planning should focus on:



- All workers associated with the project, including current drivers, mechanics, electricians, bus monitors, and other essential personnel.
- ✓ Safe operation and maintenance of new buses and infrastructure for students and workers.
- ✓ Job quality for workers and adequate support during the transition, including worker voice and representation throughout the process (e.g., current workers are not replaced or displaced from new buses, workers are compensated their wages for time spent in training, etc.).

\*Note: It is a **requirement** that all electricians installing, maintaining, or operating infrastructure are certified by the **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program.** 

Costs associated with workforce development are an <u>eligible</u> use of program funds.





### Getting to the Application

- After reading the program guide and rebate webpage, please begin completing your application.
- The link to the application, additional information on <u>SAM.gov</u> requirements, an application user guide, and other help resources can be found <u>here</u>.
- Sample applications with screenshots will be posted on this page soon.

### Clean School Bus Rebates: Online Application Forms

<u>Clean School Bus</u>			<u>Online</u>	Past	Awarded CSB
Rebate Program	<u>Rebate</u>	Application	Payment	Program	<u>Rebates</u>
	<u>Forms</u>	Form	<u>Request</u>	Documents	
			Form		

The <u>2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program</u> is now OPEN for submission of rebate applications.

#### **Applicant Dashboard Rebate Forms**

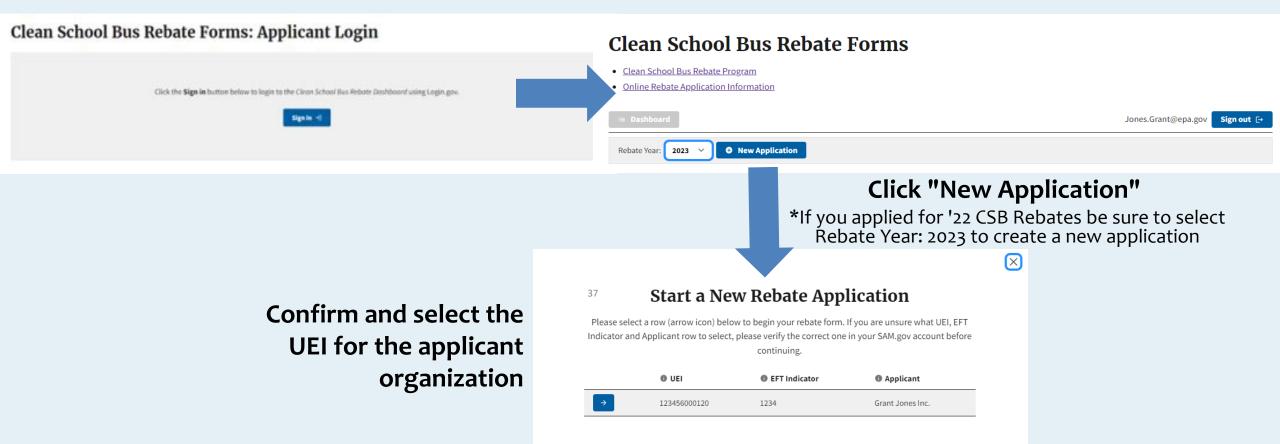
EPA is now accepting new rebate applications. To create a 2023 Rebate Program application, or a 2022 Rebate Program payment request submission or close out
form, <u>click here</u>. If you have already submitted an application, you can login to view a record of your submission.



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



## **Application Walkthrough**





Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



## Selection and Notification



- In accordance with statute, financial assistance will be distributed equally between two funding pools, Zero Emission and Clean School Bus pool.
  - At least 60% of funding from each pool with be awarded to prioritized school districts.
- Applications received by the deadline that meet threshold eligibility criteria will be placed in a single ordered list using a **random number** generator lottery process.
  - This funding opportunity is <u>not</u> first-come, first-served, but EPA recommends applying well in advance of the deadline.
- EPA will select applicants for funding, working from the top to the bottom of the random number order list, until funds are allocated from both the Clean School Bus and Zero Emission halves of funding.
- To ensure a broad geographic distribution of funds, **EPA will select at least one application per state or territory** provided there is at least one eligible application.
- **Prioritized applicants will be selected** within each funding pool.
- Applicants not selected by lottery will remain in random number order on a waitlist up to 90 days after the initial selection notification.





### **Selectee Requirements – Payment Request Form**

- EPA anticipates notifying applicants of their selection status in **April 2024**. 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.



Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit <u>www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u>.



### **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 by **April 2026**.

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.





### **Important Dates**

September 27, 2023	2023 Rebate Program Opens
September 2023 – January 2024	<b>Various Webinars on CSB Program</b> More information can be found on the <u>epa.gov/cleanschoolbus</u> website under the 'Webinars' section.
January 10, 2024 by 4:00 pm (ET)	Final Date to Submit Questions
January 31, 2024 by 4:00 pm (ET)	Application Deadline
April 2024	Anticipated Notification of Selection
April 2024 – October 2024	Selectees submit Payment Request Forms with purchase orders
April 2026	Project Period Deadline





Upcoming Webinars				
October 4, 2023	Panel Discussion: 2022 Rebate Selectees with Q&A			
October 12, 2023	JOET: Technical Assistance Overview & Utility Planning with Q&A			
October 17, 2023	Panel Discussion: Selectee and Utility with Q&A			
November 2, 2023	JOET: Fleet Planning & Route Analysis with Q&A			
November 14, 2023	Panel Discussion: Transportation Directors with Q&A			
December 13, 2023	OIG: Fraud Prevention & Best Practices with Q&A			
January 10, 2024	Popular Q&A with Extended Q&A Session			
January 24, 2024	CSB Outreach: Topic TBD			
February 7, 2024	2023 Rebates Feedback and Next Steps			

\*Please note: Webinar topics are subject to change. To view the most up-to-date list of CSB webinars and register, please visit: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/events-related-clean-school-bus-program">www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/events-related-clean-school-bus-program</a>







## Summary



#### 2023 CSB Rebates

- Applications must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 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 grant program in Spring 2024.

#### 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

- Learn more about the 2023 CSB Rebates at epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/school-bus-rebatesclean-school-bus-program
- 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>.



### EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS

cleanschoolbus@epa.gov epa.gov/cleanschoolbus