

2023 CSB Rebates: Resources to Engage Your Community January 24, 2024 @ 1 PM ET

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

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- Live transcription: Live captioning is available by clicking the "Live Transcript" icon.
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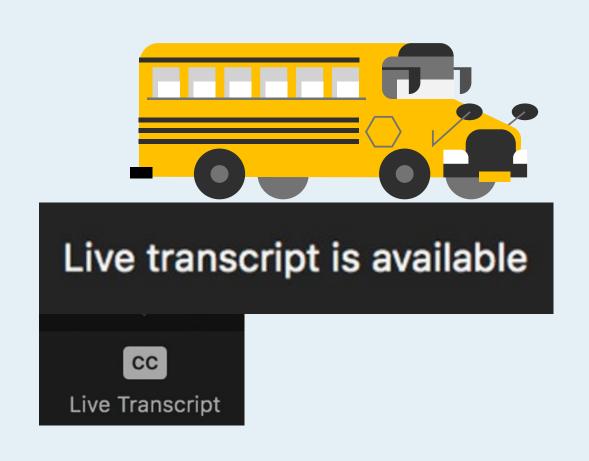
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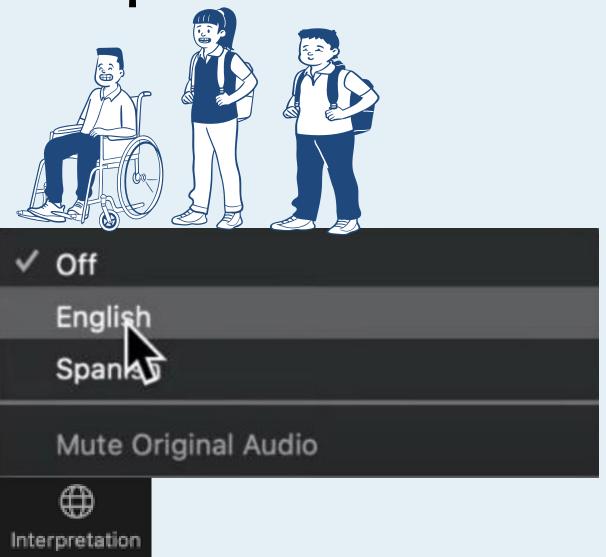


- Esta presentación es grabada. Las diapositivas y la grabación se publicarán en epa.gov/cleanschoolbus tan pronto sean procesadas para su publicación.
- Todos los asistentes se encuentran solo en modo escucha. Hay audio disponible a través de los altoparlantes de su computadora o por teléfono. El presentador 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.

Live Transcription /

Live Spanish Interpretation Transcripción simultánea / Interpretación simultánea







AGENDA



Overview of the Clean School Bus (CSB)

Program

2023 CSB Rebate Program Overview

Resources to Engage Your Community

Q&A

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 (ZE) and clean school buses.

CSB Funding Opportunities

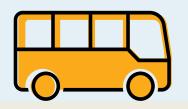
- EPA has offered rebates and grants in past funding opportunities.
- EPA is offering another round of rebate funding.
- The 2023 Rebates is the third CSB funding opportunity.











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

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

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)





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 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 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 Justice 40 Initiative.





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.





CSB Funding per Replacement Bus

School District	Replacement Bus Fuel Type and Size					
Prioritization Status	ZE – Class 7+*	ZE – Class 3- 6*	CNG- Class 7+	CNG – Class 3-6	Propane – Class 7+	Propane – Class 3-6
Buses serving school districts that meet one or more prioritization criteria	Up to \$345,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	Up to \$265,000 (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 \$200,000 (Bus + Charging Infrastructure)	Up to \$145,000 (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 EV charging infrastructure. Recipients have flexibility to determine the split between funding for the bus itself and the supporting infrastructure.

ADA-Compliant Buses:

Applicants can request up to an additional \$20k to purchase ADA-compliant clean school buses of any fuel type equipped with wheelchair lifts.

High Shipping Costs:

Applicants in noncontiguous U.S. states and territories will receive up to an **additional \$20k** per bus to cover high bus shipping costs.

Tax Credits:

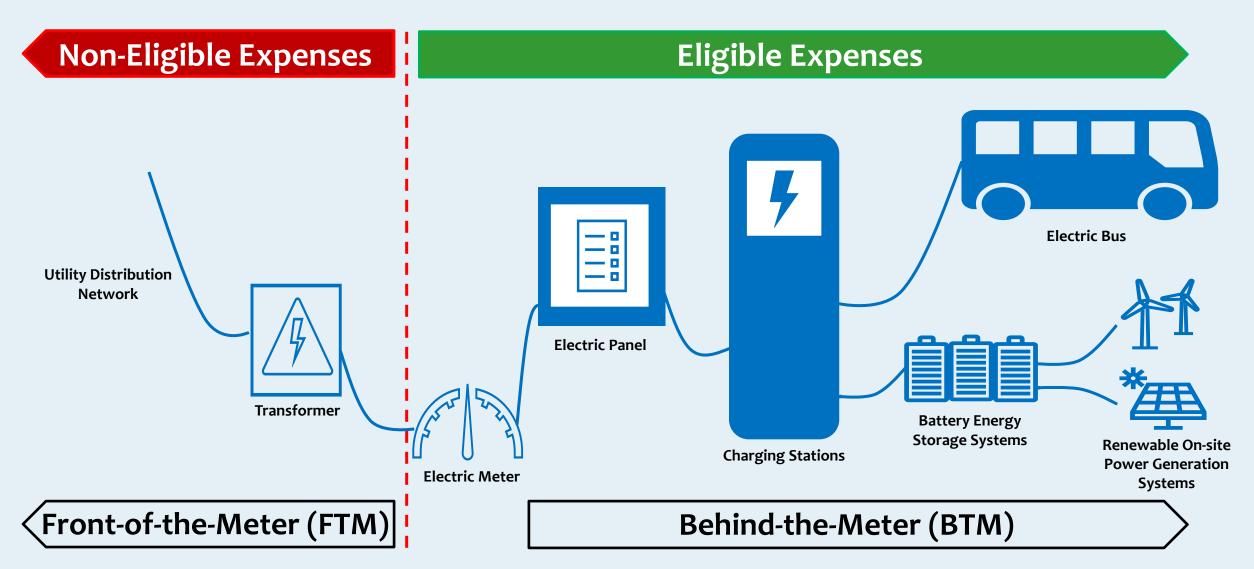
Selectees may be eligible for IRA tax credits applicable to their bus and infrastructure purchase(s) not reflected in the funding table.

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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.

CSB Program Website Tools and Resources



Technical Assistance

- Clean School Bus Technical Assistance
- <u>Charging and Fueling Infrastructure</u>
 Resources



Workforce Development

- Bus Manufacturer Job Quality and Workforce Development Practices
- Workforce Development and Training Resources



Educational Materials

- Clean School Bus Reports to Congress
- Benefits of Clean School Buses
- NEW Resources to Engage Your
 Community

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





Resources to Engage Your Community

This page contains educational resources for students, as well as outreach materials for Clean School Bus Program award recipients to engage community members about their new clean school buses. If you have any questions or feedback about these resources, email cleanschoolbus@epa.gov with "Outreach Resources" in the subject line.

On this page:

- Educational Resources for Students
- Outreach Resources for Award Recipients





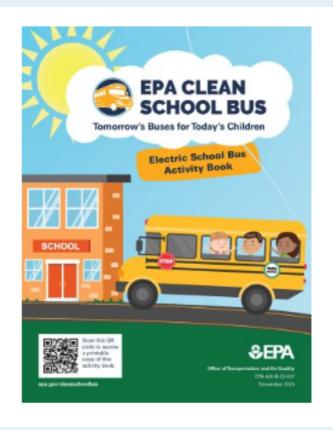
Educational Resources for Students

Electric School Bus Activity Book for Elementary School Students

Alternative Fuels for Middle and High School Students







Electric School Bus Activity Book for Elementary School Students

An educational activity book that allows elementary school children to explore topics related to the electric school buses, public health, and climate change through coloring, games, riddles, and storytelling. The activity book also has associated parent and teacher guides to provide additional resources and information.







Hello Readers,

Did you know that most motor vehicles such as cars, trucks, and even school buses cause air pollution, which can contribute to poor air quality and negatively impact human health? That is why the Clean School Bus Program is working with school districts across our country to transition their school bus fleets from older diesel buses to new, clean, low-emission and zero-emissions models. Cleaner school buses lead to cleaner air, which keeps all of us healthier.

The Electric School Bus Activity book was created by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to teach children and their caregivers about clean transportation. This interactive activity book allows children to explore clean transportation, electric school buses, public health, and climate change through coloring, games, riddles, and storytelling. It is designed for kindergarten through fifth grade learning levels. This guide highlights key vocabulary and provides further discussion points on each topic covered within the activity book. You can use this guide to help your child understand the relationship between clean transportation and a healthy community. Buckle up and enjoy the ride!

Clean Transportation

Vocabulary: fossil fuel, exhaust, alternative fuel, emissions

Discussion questions:

- What does it mean for a vehicle to have zero tailpipe emissions?
- What types of school buses do you think are best for the environment and why?
- Are fossil fuels a renewable or nonrenewable resource?
- What role do clean school buses play in clean air?

Electric School Buses

Vocabulary: charger, charge port, battery, motor, electrical grid

Discussion questions:

- What features are unique to an electric school bus?
- If an electric school bus is like a giant battery, what could it power?
- Can you identify other types of clean vehicles?
- Have you seen any electric vehicle chargers in your community? If so, where?

Public Health

Vocabulary: air, health, asthma, community

Discussion questions:

- Why is it important to have clean air?
- Besides humans, what other living things need
- Does it matter if our environment is healthy? Why or why not?
- Identify other types of pollution besides air pollution.
- What do you do to keep your body healthy?
- What do you do to keep your community and planet healthy?

Climate Change

Vocabulary: planet, pollutant, pollution, atmosphere, greenhouse gases

Discussion questions:

- What are greenhouse gases and what do they do to our planet?
- What role do greenhouse gases play in climate change?
- How do clean school buses reduce greenhouse gases?
- How can you reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in our environment?





EPA 420-B-23-027A December 2023



EPA Clean School Bus Program Electric School Bus Activity Book:

GUIDE FOR K-5 EDUCATORS

Introduction

This activity book was created by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a teaching aid on clean transportation, electric school buses, public health, and climate change. The goal of this educational activity book is to channel the students' excitement about your school's new, clean school buses so they can share what they've learned with their families. Activities within this book align with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in the table below. These alignments are not intended to imply that the activities include all content needed to satisfy the specified NGSS performance expectations. Rather, they are intended to guide how the activities may supplement other materials for fully addressing the expectations. Activities may also meet specific state standards for literacy, mathematics, or other content.

For each activity, this guide presents a learning objective, NGSS performance expectation, key vocabulary, discussion questions, and general comments on activity design. The activities were created for kindergarten through fifth grade, with an emphasis on grades 3–5. Teachers may modify the activities and/or choose to present the information in any way they deem appropriate for their classroom and learners.

Next Generation Science Standards (See Appendix A for Performance Expectations)

К	1	2	3	4	5
K-ESS2-2: Earth's Systems	K-2-ETS1-1: Engineering Design	K-2-ETS1-1: Engineering Design	3-5-ETS1-1: Engineering Design	4-ESS3-1: Earth and Human Activity	5-ESS3-1: Earth and Human Activity
K-ESS3-1: Earth and Human Activity	K-2-ETS1-3: Engineering Design	K-2-ETS1-3: Engineering Design	3-5-ETS1-2: Engineering Design	4-ESS3-2: Earth and Human Activity	3-5-ETS1-1: Engineering Design
K-ESS3-3: Earth and Human Activity				3-5-ETS1-1: Engineering Design	3-5-ETS1-2: Engineering Design
K-LS1-1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes				3-5-ETS1-2: Engineering Design	
K-PS3-1: Energy					
K-2-ETS1-1: Engineering Design					
K-2-ETS1-3: Engineering Design					

Tomorrow's Buses for Today's Children

Welcome to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program! This is an exciting time for our country's thousands of school buses. Our bus fleets are transitioning from traditional, older diesel buses that emit pollution to new, clean, low-emission and zero-emission models. School buses have always been the safest way to get children to and from school. The Clean School Bus Program is making these buses even safer by reducing and even eliminating the amount of exhaust released into the air. Protecting the health of our children and communities is the top priority of the EPA. Cleaner school buses lead to cleaner air, which keeps all of us healthier.

Join us in exploring the difference between older, diesel buses and new, cleaner buses. This activity book focuses on electric school buses. Future activity books will cover other alternative fuels. You will learn more about the health and environmental benefits of electric school buses and their role in addressing climate change and environmental justice. One day, you too may see or even ride an electric school bus within your community!

To learn more about how your school district can participate in this program, visit https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus.





Clean School Bus Vocabulary



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Asthma: A health condition of the lungs that makes it hard to breathe.

Atmosphere: The layer of gas that surrounds the Earth and provides the air that we breathe.

Community: A group of people living, playing, or working together in the same area.

Electrical/power grid: The system that provides the electricity that we use in our homes, schools, and other buildings.

Exhaust: Leftover material that comes out of the tailpipe of a vehicle when an engine burns fuel.

Fossil fuels: A source of energy found deep in the ground that is used to power vehicles, like buses. Diesel fuel and gasoline are types of fossil fuels.

Greenhouse gases: Gases in the Earth's atmosphere that trap heat. They act like a blanket to keep our Earth warm and livable. Too many of these gases, however, can cause the Earth to warm up more and faster than it should.

Health: A person's physical, mental, and social well-being.

Pollutant: Any substance that causes health problems for people and nature.

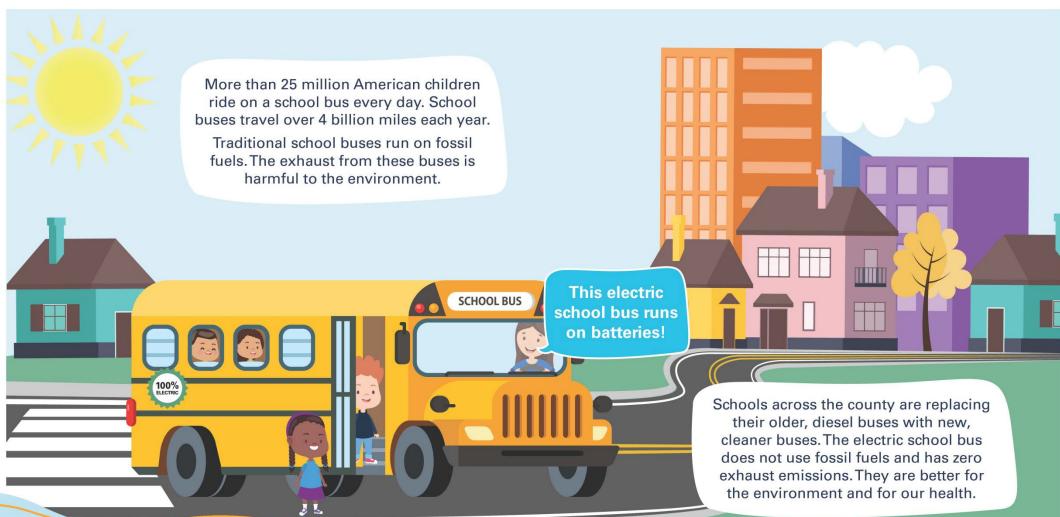
Vehicle: A structure that uses a motor or engine to move people or things from one location to another location. School buses, cars, and even boats are all types of vehicles.

Technology: A collection of tools, including machines, developed to achieve a goal or solve a problem.

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Clean School Buses Are the Future of Student Transportation



Meet the Electric School Bus

Instructions: Locate and color the charger, charge port, battery, and motor.





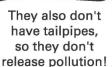
CHARGER

Equipment that provides power to an electric vehicle.

Electric school buses look the same as regular school buses.

They use batteries to store energy rather than getting energy from fuels like diesel and gasoline.

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100% ELECTRIC

Connects an electric bus to a power source to recharge the battery.

BATTERY

A device that stores energy that can power an electric motor.

MOTOR

Uses power from a battery to move the wheels.



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B

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Cruising for Words

Instructions: Find the hidden words and draw a circle around them.







AIR



BUS



CLEAN



MOTOR



ASTHMA



HEALTH



PLANET



SCHOOL



BATTERY



CHARGER



COMMUNITY



ELECTRIC



POLLUTION



TECHNOLOGY

S K D

Did you know that an electric school bus can be used to store energy? They can return energy to the electrical grid or a building, or even provide power during an emergency.



Keeping the Wheel Turning

Instructions: Solve the brain teasers below.



- 2. I have a lot of energy, but I do not move. I transfer my energy to buses and cars using a cord. What am I?
- 3. I transfer air from our atmosphere to the body and you use me to breathe. What am I?
- You cannot see me. I keep our planet warm, which is essential for life. Too much of me, however, causes our climate to change. What am I?
- The motor of a new school bus runs on batteries. How many pollutants are released when the bus is running?



Did you know that kids breathe faster than adults? That means they take in more air.



- 6. A bus driver starts her morning pickup route in the country, where she makes five stops. Four students get on at each stop. On the way into town, she makes another six stops, picking up seven students at each stop. The bus driver does her final pickup near the elementary school. If 75 elementary students get off her bus, how many students got on her bus during the final pickup?
- 7. An electric school bus battery takes eight hours to fully charge. If the battery is charged halfway, how many hours does it need to charge all the way?
- If one electric school bus can travel 100 miles when it is fully charged, how many 30-mile routes can it complete?
- 9. A third grader takes about 20 breaths in a minute. A teacher takes about 14 breaths in a minute. How many more breaths does a third grader take an hour in comparison to the teacher?
- 10. The distance around the Earth at the equator (its circumference) is 24,901 miles. School buses travel more than 4 billion (4,000,000,000) miles each year. How many trips around the Earth's equator do buses take each year?



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K-2-ETS1-3: Engineering Design					

- Electric School Bus Activity Book (Spanish) COMING SOON
- Electric School Bus Activity Book (Printable B&W) COMING SOON



Alternative Fuels Activity Book for Middle and High School Students

EPA plans to develop a second activity book and will update this page when the new book is available. **COMING SOON**





Outreach Resources for Award Recipients

Engagement Activities for School Districts

Success Story Guide

Flyers and Banners







Engagement Activities for School Districts

A guide of suggestions on how Clean School Bus Program award recipients can engage and educate their communities about the benefits of their new buses.

 Engagement Activities for School Districts (pdf) (516.1 KB, December 2023, 420-F-23-008)





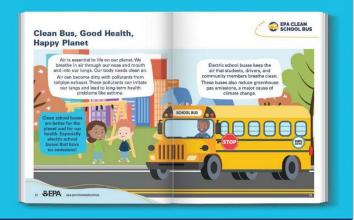
Educate Before the Buses Arrive

- Encourage teachers to talk about clean school bus technology in their classrooms to educate the students ahead of the buses arriving to your school. Teachers can access an EPA Clean School Bus (CSB) Activity Book and other educational resources via the <u>CSB Program website</u>.
- Educate your community about the CSB Program and your new buses at parent organization meetings, school board meetings, or other local events. <u>Learn more</u> about clean school bus technology in preparation for any questions you might receive.



Route Rotation and Prioritization

- Consider rotating the new school buses across compatible routes to make sure more students and parents have an opportunity to experience your new clean school buses.
- Consider prioritizing new buses for routes that serve disadvantaged and overburdened areas, such as those with high asthma rates, high particulate matter levels, and/or close proximity to high-traffic areas.
- For more information on planning the deployment of your new clean school buses, see our technical assistance resources on the CSB Program website.

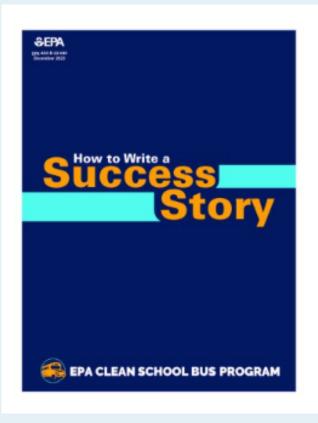


Announce the Arrival of Your New Buses

- Announce the arrival of your new clean school buses on your school's website and social media accounts, as well as local media outlets, to promote your participation in the CSB Program.
- Host a roll-out event with the community to celebrate the arrival of your new clean school buses. Consider partnering with your utility provider, bus dealer, and local government.
- Access digital versions of CSB Program-branded materials, including banners, flyers, and more, on the <u>CSB Program website</u> to promote your school's new clean school buses.

For more information on the EPA Clean School Bus Program, please visit epa.gov/cleanschoolbus or email us at cleanschoolbus@epa.gov





Success Story Guide

A guide on how to write impactful success stories that award recipients can share with their communities and EPA to promote the Clean School Bus Program and its benefits to local air quality and student health.

• <u>Success Story Guide (pdf)</u> (238.1 KB, December 2023, 420-B-23-040)





How to Write a Success Story

Congratulations on receiving funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean School Bus (CSB) Program! This guide will help you write a success story to share with your community so they can learn more about your transition to clean school buses.

Why Gather and Share Success Stories?

Sharing success stories is a great way to educate your community on the benefits of transitioning to clean school buses! It is also a great way to connect with others who have worked through similar challenges and can serve as a guide to other school districts just starting their Clean School Bus journey.

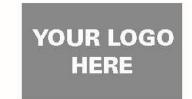
Building Your Success Story

The first step in developing a success story is to create an outline. Below are some basic elements you can use with italicized examples about an electric school bus project.

Title

Write a short, attention-grabbing title that describes the scope of the project. Be sure to include your organization's logo somewhere in the success story.

Charge! Our District Is Leading the Way with Electric and Propane School Buses



Background

Describe in 200 words or less why your school district decided to transition to clean school buses.

What's Next

Share information on future projects, performance monitoring results, next steps, and resources. Please also link to the EPA CSB Program website.

We will continue to assess the cost, efficiency, and health benefits of our electric and propane buses and publish the results. Our school district is planning to purchase two new electric buses in the next three years with the money we saved by participating in the EPA Clean School Bus Program. We also plan to apply for additional funding offered by EPA and other state and local funding programs to further transition our fleet. We are excited to see the long-term benefits of our new buses and share updates with the community!

To learn more about the EPA Clean School Bus Program, please visit: epa.gov/cleanschoolbus.

Now that you've completed your success story, share it with your community! EPA also wants to share your success story on epa.gov/cleanschoolbus and in other materials! Please send your complete success story and high-resolution photos to cleanschoolbus@epa.gov with the subject CSB Success Story. An EPA staff member will respond to your email with the required consent forms for you to complete and return to EPA. Thank you in advance for your participation!





Banners and Flyers

Printable banners and flyers for award recipients and other stakeholders to display at their schools, businesses, and events to celebrate the Clean School Bus Program.

- **8.5x11 CSB Flyer #1 (pdf)** (3.6 MB, January 2024, EPA-420-F-24-006)
- **8.5x11 CSB Flyer #2 (pdf)** (486.8 KB, January 2024, EPA-420-F-24-005)
- 3x5 CSB Banner #1 (pdf) (2.5 MB, January 2024, EPA-420-F-24-004)
- **3x5 CSB Banner #2 (pdf)** (2.6 MB, January 2024, EPA-420-F-24-003)







EPA CLEAN SCHOOL BUS

Tomorrow's Buses for Today's Children



provides funding to replace existing school buses with new, zero- and low-emission school buses.

Learn how to bring clean school buses to your community at epa.gov/cleanschoolbus or contact us at cleanschoolbus@epa.gov









Question & Answer Session





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.

cleanschoolbus@epa.gov

epa.gov/cleanschoolbus

Next Steps – How to Apply



1. Visit the Clean School Bus Website for Tools & Resources



2. Register your Organization with SAM.gov



3. Complete your Application Form and Supplemental Applicant Forms



4. Submit Application Package by January 31st, 2024 at 4:00pm ET





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: epa.gov/cleanschoolbus technical assistance





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





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.







Summary



2023 CSB Rebates

- Applications must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET.
- Please join our '2023 CSB
 Rebates Feedback and Next
 Steps' webinar on February 7,
 2024, at 1 PM ET.

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-rebates-clean-school-bus-program
- Submit questions to <u>cleanschoolbus@epa.gov</u>
- Don't miss any updates! To sign up for the listserv, please visit epa.gov/cleanschoolbus.



cleanschoolbus@epa.gov epa.gov/cleanschoolbus