

Clean School Bus Program (1 of 4)



Sec. 71101 – Clean school bus program	Section Summary	Provides grants to assist in the conversion of school bus fleets from traditional fuels to alternative fuel and zero emission drivetrains		
	Department/ Authority	Environmental Protection Agency	Competitive vs Formula	Competitive
	Utilities Opportunity	Partnership		
	Timeline	2022-2026	Cost Share	No matching requirement
Grant Homepage	Link to Grant Homepage			
Funding Remaining	\$400M (Estimated funding for August 2023 applicants)			
Last Application Deadline	August 22, 2023			
Eligible Entities	State or local governments, contractors, Indian Tribes, and nonprofits. Eligible contractors are those with the capacity to sell clean or zero emission school busses, related infrastructure, or fleet operators of such buses/infrastructure.			
Eligible Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replacement of school buses with clean buses • Replacement of school buses with zero emission busses • Charging infrastructure to support clean and zero emission school buses 			
Funding Limitation/ Match Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA may make awards for up to 100% of the costs for replacement of existing school buses with clean school buses, zero-emission school buses, and charging or fueling infrastructure 			
Establishment/ Application Deadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications for funding will be made available later this spring • Not later than 120 days after IIJA enactment the Administrator will develop an educational outreach program to promote and explain the award program 			
Prioritization Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award Criteria/Prioritization: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowest Overall Cost of bus replacement • Local conditions, including the length of bus routes and weather conditions • Technologies that most reduce emissions and ability to bring new technologies to scale or promote cost parity for new tech • Social Impact, including buses that serve high-need, Bureau-funded, or Indian land schools, and buses that serve rural or low-income areas • Plan to complement federal funding through additional funding channels 			

Clean School Bus Grant Program (2 of 4)



EPA announced \$400 million to the Clean School Bus (CSB) Grant Program

Funding Program Overview

Name: 2023 Clean School Bus (CSB) Grant Program

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-OAR-OTAQ-23-06

Funding: \$400 million (total funding)

Opportunity: CSB grants provide funding to eligible recipients so that they may replace existing school buses with clean and ZE models. 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 of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) infrastructure and EVSE installations

Important Milestones

April 24, 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity

July 26, 2023 Final Date to Submit Questions

August 22, 2023 Application Deadline

November 2023 to January 2024 Anticipated Notification of Selection

Program Goals and Key Metrics

- 1 Improve air quality by replacing highly polluting buses while accelerating the transformation to low and zero emission alternatives
- 2 Engage stakeholders in program development
- 3 Promote cost parity between bus technologies
- 4 Allow school districts multiple funding opportunities to apply for funding
- 5 Maximize the number of zero-emission and clean buses that get funded
- 6 Linkage to EPA Strategic Objectives. It will support Goal 1, "Tackle the Climate Crisis;" Objective 1.1, "Reduce Emissions that Cause Climate Change."

Key Metrics:

- Number of replaced school bus vehicles
- Number of school districts that replaced one or more school bus vehicles
- Number of school children transported on clean buses rather than diesel buses
- Number and type of electric vehicle charging infrastructure installed

Expected Outcomes:

- Improved ambient air quality in communities in which the buses operate
- Increase in number of school children transported on clean buses
- Establishment of workforce training programs for zero emission vehicles and charging infrastructure
- Benefits to the communities affected by the project

Clean School Bus Grant Program (3 of 4)



To ensure a healthy grant competition, this NOFO includes two sub-programs

01

Eligible Entities

Public School Districts

- One or more local or State governmental entities responsible for providing bus service to public school systems.
- A public charter school district

02

Tribal Applicants

- Providing school bus service to one or more Bureau-funded schools.
- The purchase, lease, license, or contract for service of school buses

03

Third Parties

- A nonprofit school transportation association; or
- An eligible contractor.

Application & Submission Information

Important Portals For Application

The applications can be submitted on the 2 portals:

1. SAM.gov (System for Award Management)
2. Grants.gov

Last Application Deadline

Tuesday, August 22, 2023, 11:59 PM ET

Application Documents

- Standard Form 424, Application for Federal Assistance.
- Standard Form 424A, Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs
- EPA Form 4700-4, Pre-Award Compliance Review Report
- EPA Form 5700-54, Key Contacts Form
- Applicant Fleet Sheet
- Documentation of Third-Party Approval
- Documentation of Partnership with Utility
- Self-Certification of Prioritization
- Leveraged Resources Commitment Letter(
- Project Narrative

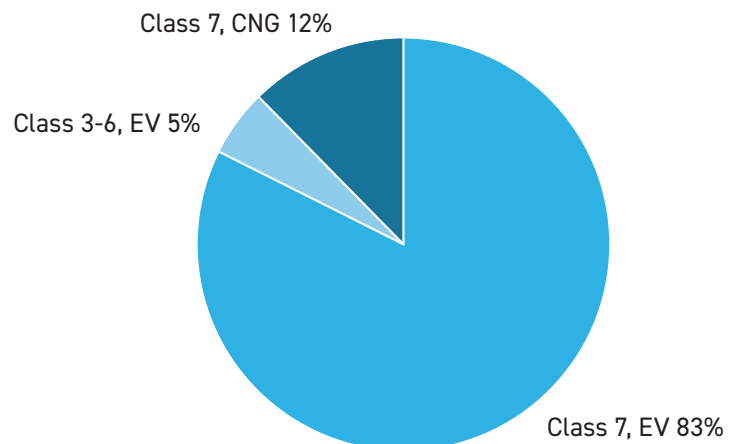
2022 CSB Rebates Program Overview

- The 2022 CSB Rebates was the first of several funding opportunities for the multiyear CSB Program
- The Rebate Program utilized lottery system to select winners; the applicants were required to fill out an online application form
- The program was the fastest funding program to develop, provided the quickest timeline for fleets to receive funding, ensured straightforward rules that rebates were for bus replacements and infrastructure only
- Total funding for the program was ~\$1 billion (almost double of what was initially scoped)

2022 CSB Rebates Program Review

- **2000+** Application received from school districts
- **400** Applications were selected
- **2600** buses were replaced
- **~90%** of the buses were electric
- **~7** Average # of Buses Awarded per School district

% of Bus Type Awarded



CSB 2023 Grant vs CSB 2022 Rebate

EPA has considered stakeholder feedback from CSB 2022 to target beneficiaries with diverse needs and attempts to address gaps, with reform as follows:

- To meet the unique needs of diverse recipients 2 separate sub-programs are designed in CSB 2023; School Sub District Program, 3rd Party Program
- 2022 CSB Rebate program used a lottery to select winners; this grant competition will require an application that will be scored
- Although a rebate program provides a multiple benefits, the grant program will give school districts multiple opportunities to apply for funding
- EPA intends to open another rebate application later in 2023 to allow school districts to choose which competition structure suits their need