



**EPA CLEAN
SCHOOL BUS**

2023 Clean School Bus Rebate Program
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Mid-Atlantic Region

Clean School Bus (CSB) Program: Ethics Disclaimer

This presentation aims to provide information related to the Clean School Bus Program. EPA does not endorse any specific companies, products, or organizations by allowing external parties to present at Clean School Bus Program events. The presenters at this event are not intended to be a comprehensive list of companies or products related to the Clean School Bus Program.

Mention of or referral to commercial products or services, and/or links to non-EPA sites does not imply official EPA endorsement of or responsibility for the opinions, ideas, data, or products presented at those locations, or guarantee the validity of the information provided. Mention of commercial products/services on non-EPA websites is provided solely as a pointer to information on topics related to environmental protection that may be useful to EPA staff and the public.

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.

- 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.

Clean School Bus Rebates



Quickest timeline
for fleets to receive
funding



Lower bus minimum and
maximums –
Great for first time adopters
and small fleets



Simple and
straightforward
application, selection, and
funding processes

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 **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.

Eligible Applicants

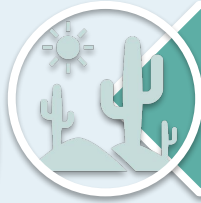
Who can apply?



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



Public charter school districts responsible for 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.)

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

- 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.***

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

**See the Prioritization Self-Certification Instructions, which can be found on the [CSB Rebates webpage](#), for more information on this option.*



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
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 non-contiguous 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.

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.

Must*:

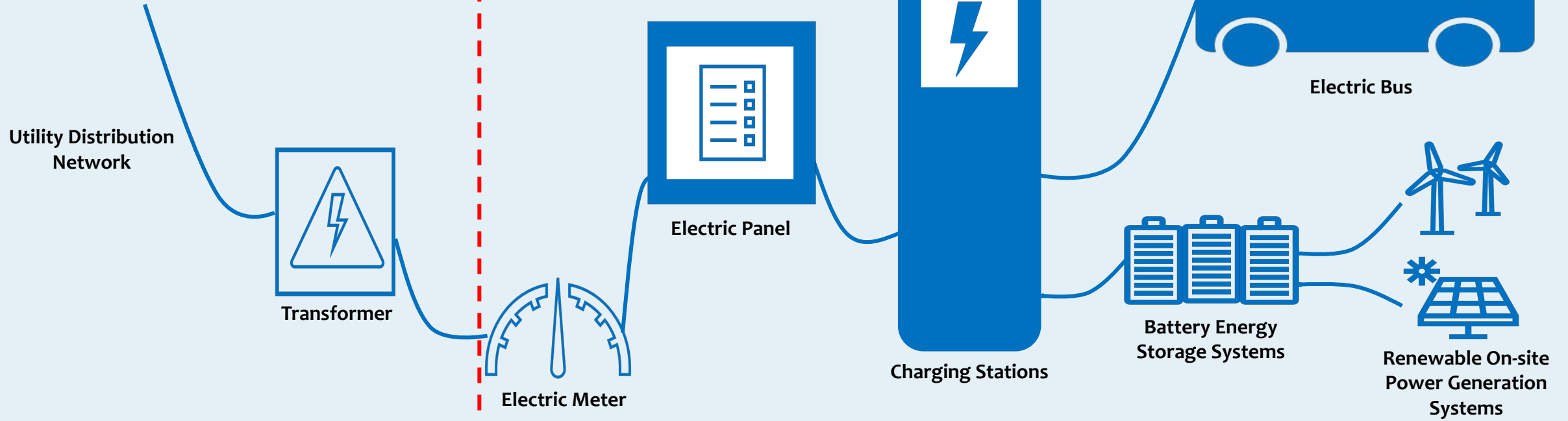
- 
1. **Be a vehicle MY2010 or older diesel-powered school buses that will be scrapped if selected for funding.**
 1. If a fleet has no eligible 2010 or older diesel school buses and is requesting zero-emission school bus replacements, the fleet can either:
 1. Scrap 2010 or older non-diesel internal 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 emergency-related 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.*

Non-Eligible Expenses

Eligible Expenses



Front-of-the-Meter (FTM)

Behind-the-Meter (BTM)

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.



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 **NOT** subject to BABA requirements.
- Electric Chargers (EVSE) and supporting equipment **ARE** 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 [Build America, Buy America \(BABA\) | US EPA](#)

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](https://www.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

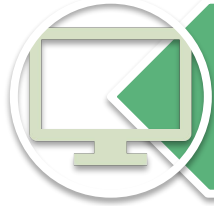
Application packages must be submitted to EPA no later than 1/31/24 at 4:00 p.m. ET.
For more information, please visit www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus.



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

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.

Important Dates

September 27, 2023	2023 Rebate Program Opens
September 2023 – January 2024	Various Webinars on CSB Program <i>More information can be found on the epa.gov/cleanschoolbus website under the ‘Webinars’ section.</i>
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



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.



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



**EPA CLEAN
SCHOOL BUS**

Contact:

**Emily Sapio, Region 3 –
sapio.emily@epa.gov**

**Sydney Stern, Region 3 –
stern.sydney@epa.gov**

**Helpline-
cleanschoolbus@epa.gov**

**Website-
epa.gov/cleanschoolbus**