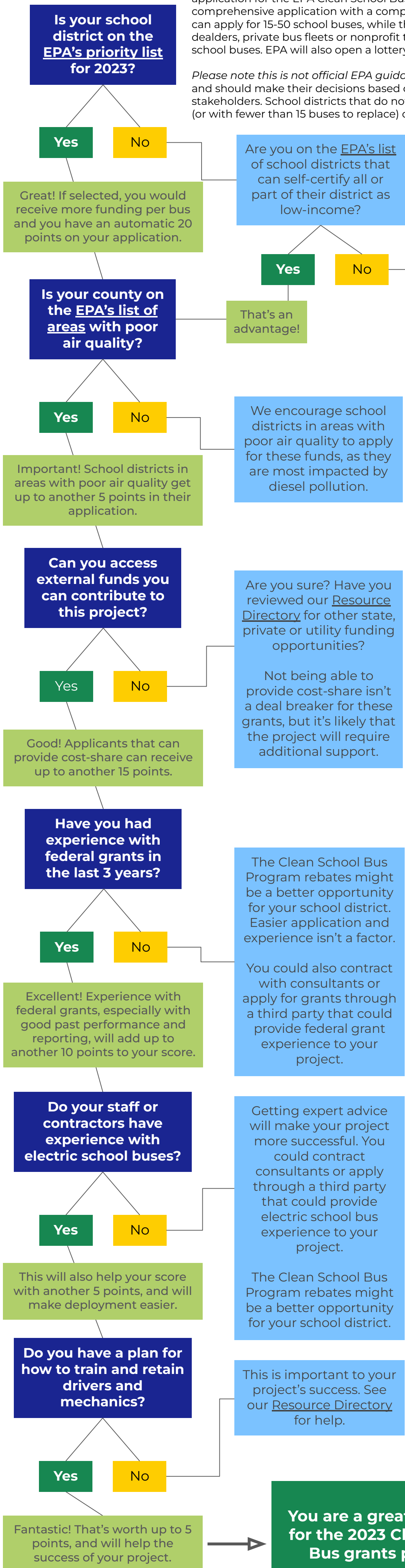


# Are EPA Clean School Bus Program Grants or Rebates the better fit for my school district?

## START HERE

School districts can use as a guide to understand what it takes to craft a competitive application for the EPA Clean School Bus Program 2023 grants, which require a comprehensive application with a competitive selection process. Single school districts can apply for 15-50 school buses, while third-party applicants (such as manufacturers, dealers, private bus fleets or nonprofit transportation associations) can apply for 50-100 school buses. EPA will also open a lottery-based rebate funding opportunity this fall.

*Please note this is not official EPA guidance. Each school district has their own merits and should make their decisions based on additional information and consultation with stakeholders. School districts that do not want to submit a grant proposal on their own (or with fewer than 15 buses to replace) can partner with a Third-Party applicant.*



## EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Project Summary (10 points)
2. Environmental Results - Outputs, Outcomes and Performance Measures (15 points)
3. Environmental Justice & Disadvantaged Communities - Low-Income, Rural & Tribal School Districts (25 points)
4. Project Location Air Quality - Nonattainment or Maintenance Areas (5 points)
5. Programmatic Capability & Experience (15 points)
6. Long-Term Project Sustainability (10 points)
7. Workforce Development (5 points)
8. Project Resilience to Climate Impacts (5 points)
9. Leveraging of Additional External Funds (15 points)
10. Budget (15 points)

For strong candidates to the 2023 grants, here are other things we recommend:

- **Read through the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) carefully.**
- **If you don't have a grant writer already, get technical assistance.** Check out our [Resource Directory](#) for non-profit options.
- **If you don't already have a relationship with your electric utility, reach out immediately.** Utility support is critical and projects will not succeed without it.
- Sign up for [Clean School Bus Program news](#).
- Start setting up or activating your SAM.GOV and GRANTS.GOV accounts.

**You are a great candidate for the 2023 Clean School Bus grants program!**

