



# ALLIANCE FOR ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES

[ElectricSchoolBuses4Kids.org](https://ElectricSchoolBuses4Kids.org)

# WHO WE ARE

A young boy with dark hair, wearing a light-colored polo shirt and dark pants, is walking towards the camera. He has a red and blue backpack on his back and is smiling. In the background, a yellow school bus is parked on a street. The scene is outdoors with some greenery and a utility pole visible.

We are a diverse coalition of not-for-profit organizations committed to an **equitable transition of the nation's school bus fleet to electric** models.

Our goal is to ensure this transition **prioritizes the highest-need school districts in the most polluted areas** -- which, as data shows, are disproportionately low-income communities and communities of color -- **while creating good-paying careers for U.S. workers.**

# OUR MEMBERS



*About the*  
EPA Clean School Bus Program  
*2023 Rebates*

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 created the **Clean School Bus Program** at the EPA, allocating **\$5 billion** from **2022 to 2026** to replace diesel school buses with cleaner alternatives, including electric, propane and compressed natural gas.

\$2.5 billion for  
only electric

\$2.5 billion for  
propane, CNG  
& electric

The first funding opportunity was the **2022 Clean School Bus rebates**. The second funding opportunity was the **2023 grants**.





# EPA Clean School Bus Program

## *2023 Rebates Overview*

**\$500  
MILLION**



DELIVERED  
**UPFRONT**

**NOW THROUGH  
JAN 31, 2024**



AT 4PM ET

**UP TO 25  
SCHOOL BUSES**



AND THEIR  
CHARGING  
STATIONS

# WHO CAN APPLY?

## EPA Clean School Bus 2023 Rebates

- **Public school districts**
  - Public charter schools
  - State and local government agencies that provide school bus service
- **Indigenous tribes**, organizations or Tribally-controlled schools
- **Third parties**
  - **Eligible contractors** that sell school buses or their infrastructure or arrange financing for such a sale
    - Dealers or manufacturers
    - Private bus fleet companies
    - Charging companies
  - **Nonprofit student transportation associations**

# WHO IS PRIORITIZED?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- **Low-income** school districts
  - With 20% or more students living in poverty
- **Rural** school districts
- **Tribal** school districts
- School districts in the U.S. territories

**At least 60%** of 2023 rebate funds are reserved for priority school districts.

# HOW MUCH FUNDING PER BUS?

	Electric Class 7+	Electric Class 3-6	CNG Class 7+	CNG Class 3-6	Propane Class 7+	Propane Class 3-6
Priority School District	<b>\$345,000</b>	<b>\$265,000</b>	\$45,000	\$30,000	\$35,000	\$30,000
Non-Priority School District	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$20,000

- Winners pay for any costs beyond maximum rebate amounts above
- Limit 25 school buses per application
- Additional \$20,000 for wheelchair lifts and \$20,000 for shipping overseas

# WHAT IS COVERED?

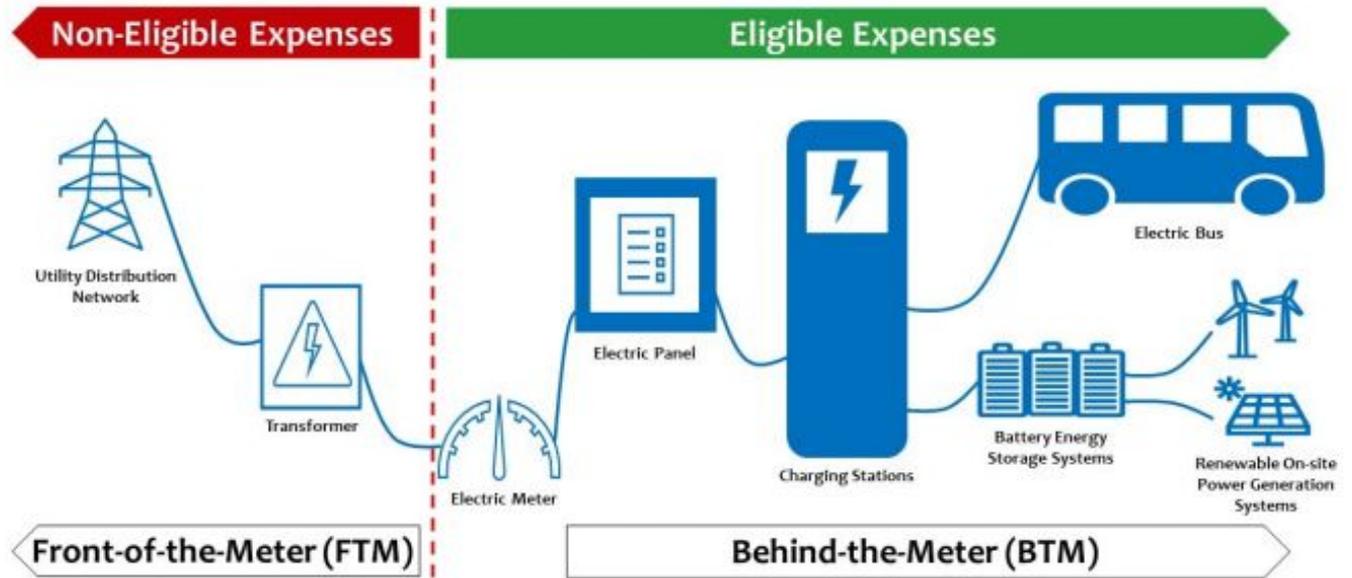
## EPA Clean School Bus 2023 Rebates

- **Electric school bus**
  - Including delivery and warranty costs
- **Charging equipment**
  - L2, L3 (fast chargers), bidirectional (V2G)
- **Charging equipment installation from the electrical meter to the charging station**
  - Design and engineering
  - Trenching, wiring & electrical upgrades
  - Labor and permitting
  - Telematics & charge management software
  - Battery energy storage systems or renewable power generation systems
- **Workforce development**
  - Training for drivers, mechanics, electricians and other essential staff
  - Consulting services

# FUNDING FOR WHICH INFRASTRUCTURES?

EPA funding covers infrastructure only for **electric school buses**

- Upgrades needed by the utility will not be covered
- Level 2 charging stations must be ENERGY Star and likely Buy America certified



# HOW WILL IT WORK?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- **Short** online application with supplemental forms:
  - School Board Awareness Certification
  - Utility Partnership Agreement
  - School District Approval Certification (for third party applicants)
- One application per school district
- Selection via randomized **lottery**
- Funds transferred **upfront**, before purchase

# HOW TO APPLY

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

1. Register for **SAM.GOV** organizational account and know your Unique Entity ID
  2. Collect model years and VINs for school buses to replace
  3. Talk to your utility company
  4. Talk to your school board
  5. **Apply via**  
**[epa.gov/cleanschoolbus](https://epa.gov/cleanschoolbus)**
-

# HOW WILL WINNERS BE SELECTED?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

Applicants will be numbered through a random number generator and selected in this order:

1. The **highest numbered application per state and territory** that submitted an application, regardless of fuel type or priority status.
  2. Applications from **priority school districts**, any fuel type.
  3. Applications from **non-priority school districts**, any fuel type.
  4. Applications from **priority school districts** requesting **electric school buses**.
  5. Applications from **non-priority school districts** requesting **electric school buses**.
-

# WHICH BUSES CAN BE REPLACED?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- **Model year 2010 or older diesel school bus**
- If a fleet has no eligible 2010 or older diesel buses and is requesting electric school buses, it can:
  - Scrap 2010 or older fossil fuel school buses
  - Scrap, sell or donate 2011 or newer fossil fuel buses
- Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001+ lbs
- **Operational when applying**
- Served school district for at least 3 days/week during the \_\_\_\_\_2022-2023 school year

# Electric School Buses Can Replace All Types of Buses

Table 3: Eligible Bus Replacements by Fuel Type

Existing Bus Fuel Type	Replacement 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.*

# ARE OLD BUSES RECYCLED?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- Diesel buses 2010 or older must be **scrapped**:
  - Engine must be crushed or a hole drilled into it
  - Chassis must be cut or crushed between the axles
  - EPA may approve other methods
- School districts don't have to scrap old diesel buses right away; they can be retained as back-ups up until Oct. 2026.

# WHICH NEW BUSES ARE ELIGIBLE?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- **Electric**, CNG or propane
- Model year 2022 or newer
- Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001+ lbs
- Serve the school district for at least 5 years from delivery, unless the contract ends earlier
- Meet federal safety standards and be maintained, operated, insured, registered, and charged/fueled according to state requirements and manufacturer recommendations

# WHAT IS **NOT** ELIGIBLE?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- Repowered school buses
- Leased or leased-to-own school buses
- Pairing CSBP funds with other federal funds
  - State VW funds okay, DERA is not
- Funding for administrative costs or technical assistance
- Buses with unvented diesel heaters
- School districts who do not currently own or contract buses - this is a replacement program

# LABOR CONSIDERATION S

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- Charging infrastructure must be installed by **EVITP-certified** electricians
- **Build America, Buy America** requirements may apply to charging equipment
- All applicants must attest to the importance of **workforce planning**

# AFTER APPLYING

## EPA Clean School Bus 2023 Rebates

- Selected recipients will receive an **electronic notification** from EPA in **April 2024**, and will be told the maximum amount of funds reserved for them.
- School districts have **until October 2024** to submit their purchase order to receive a rebate, and **until April 2026** to scrap, sell or donate their older bus and deploy the newer bus. They will fill out a Close Out Form confirming this.

# IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- 2010 or older diesel buses must be **scrapped** after being replaced with electric school buses within 2 years
- Charging infrastructure must be **installed by EVITP-certified electricians**
- Charging equipment may need to comply with **Build America, Buy America requirements**

# KEY DATES

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

- **Ask:** by January 10, 2024
- **Apply:** by January 31, 2024
- **Lottery:** February 2024
- **Awards:** April 2024
- **Purchase:** by October 31, 2024
- **Replace:** by April 2026

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

Visit [epa.gov/cleanschoolbus](https://epa.gov/cleanschoolbus) for:

- Official program guidelines
- List of priority school districts
- Technical resources for fleet inventories and charging infrastructure
- Upcoming webinars
- Application guidance
- **The application itself!**

# Changes from 2022

- New list of **priority school districts**
  - Redefined “rural” school districts
  - New option for large school districts to self-certify as low-income
- **Private bus fleets** can now apply
- **Lower funding** amounts for electric school buses
- **New funding** for shipping overseas and buses with wheelchair lifts
- **Combined funding** for infrastructure and bus
- **EVITP certification required** for charging station installations
- **New supplemental forms** for school board awareness & utility engagement
- New **manufacturer questionnaire on job quality** for workers

# IRA Tax Credits

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 created new tax credits that EPA rebate recipients can apply to their bus and infrastructure.

- 45W - Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicle Tax Credit
  - **Up to \$40,000 per school bus**
- 30C - Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Tax Credit
  - **Up to \$100,000 per charger**
  - **For rural and low-income communities**

School districts can **receive these credits as a check** through a new system called elective payment.

## In conclusion...

**\$500 million** in **upfront rebates** to replace diesel buses cleaner alternatives, with up to \$345,000 per bus, for a maximum **25 electric school buses**.

Public school districts, charter schools, manufacturers, dealers, Tribal schools and nonprofit school bus associations can **apply online now** through **January 31, 2024**. Limit of one application per school district.

Priority applicants serving **low-income, rural and Indigenous students** will get more funding per bus.

Awards will be conducted via a **lottery** and announced in **April 2024**. School districts will then have six months to purchase and two years to deploy the new school buses.

# EPA Clean School Bus REBATES vs. GRANTS

- \$500 million, maybe more or less
- Short, easy application
- Lottery - winners selected at random
- Bus, charger, charger installation, workforce training
- 1-25 electric school buses
- Administered by HQ (D.C. office)

Great for:

- Small or rural school fleets
- First ESB pilot project

- \$400 million, maybe less
- Thorough, 15-page application
- Competitive - applications scored, ranked, then selected
- Bus, charger, charger installation, workforce training AND project implementation costs
- Minimum 15 or 25 school buses
- Administered by regional EPA offices

Great for:

- Large or innovation-seeking fleets
- Adding buses to an existing ESB fleet

# WHO SHOULD APPLY?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebate

1. Applicants waitlisted during 2022 rebates
2. Priority school districts
3. School districts in areas of nonattainment

# STEPS IN DECIDING TO APPLY



## LEARN ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Rebates Fact  
Sheet

Rebates vs. Grants  
Comparison



## EDUCATE YOURSELF ON ESBS

Benefits of ESBS

Resource Directory

Attend an EPA  
webinar



## DECIDE

Register for EPA's  
newsletter

Get technical  
assistance from  
WRI

Read the Rebates  
Program Guide



## APPLY

Register for  
SAM.GOV

Talk to your utility  
Talk to school board

Collect bus info

There has never been a better time to invest in a **#CleanRide4Kids**



# *Show your support for the 2023* **CLEAN SCHOOL BUS REBATES**

1. Reach out to your **school district** and ask if they're interested in applying, and what help they might need to apply
  - a. Are they on the EPA's priority school districts list?
  - b. Do they need community, political, technical or utility support to apply?
2. Reach out to your local **electric utility company** and ask if they're working with school districts to deploy electric school buses
3. Reach out to **local and state decision makers** and ask if they're helping to promote this opportunity for schools

**QUESTIONS?**

# Resources for Advocates

# Resources

Available for Advocates

- [Toolkit for advocates](#)
- [Toolkit for policymakers](#)
- [Rebates at a glance](#)
- [Resource directory](#)
- [Contacts directory](#)
- [Blog](#) - soon to be published on our website
- [FAQs - ESB Hot Topics](#) (Range, Climate, Terrain, Cost & Savings, Propane)
- [FAQs - Comprehensive](#)
- [New Tax Credits & Direct Payment for School Districts](#)

# Strategies for Outreach & Education

# Who to Contact?

## EPA Clean School Bus 2023 Rebates

1. Applicants **waitlisted** during 2022 rebates
  2. **Priority** school districts
  3. School districts in areas of **nonattainment**
  4. School districts in **strategically important** states
    - a. Delaware, Wisconsin, Georgia, Virginia, Oregon, Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Alaska
-

# How to Contact?

EPA Clean School Bus  
2023 Rebates

1. Through a mutual contact
  2. Through trusted messengers
    - a. School association
    - b. School bus vendors
    - c. Elected or community leaders
    - d. Parents zoned to school district and PTAs
    - e. Student groups
-

# Best Practices for Outreach

## EPA Clean School Bus 2023 Rebates

### 1. Education

- a. Share program details
- b. Answer questions
- c. Plan webinars with regional EPA office or local Clean Cities coalition

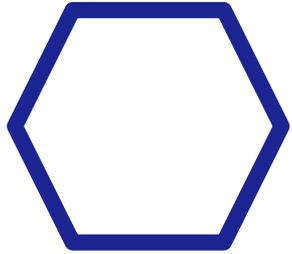
### 2. Persuasion

- a. Offer to meet
- b. Offer to present at school board meeting or conference
- c. Plan ESB demo/tour, if possible
- d. Answer questions

### 3. Support

- a. Share technical assistance resources and contacts
  - b. Connect with other school districts who've electrified
-

# RESOURCES FOR OUTREACH & EDUCATION

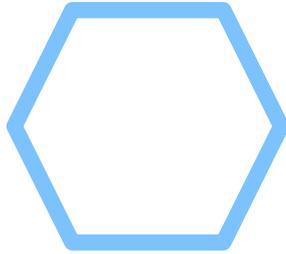


## LEARN

Rebates Fact Sheet

Rebates vs. Grants Comparison

Rebates Program Guide

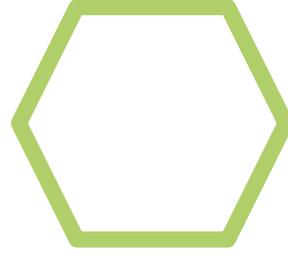


## ESB EDUCATION

Benefits of ESBs

Resource Directory

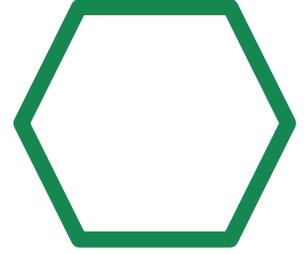
Attend an EPA webinar



## DECIDE

Register for EPA's newsletter

Get technical assistance from WRI



## APPLY

SAM.GOV technical assistance

Talk to your utility

Talk to school board

Collect bus info



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