

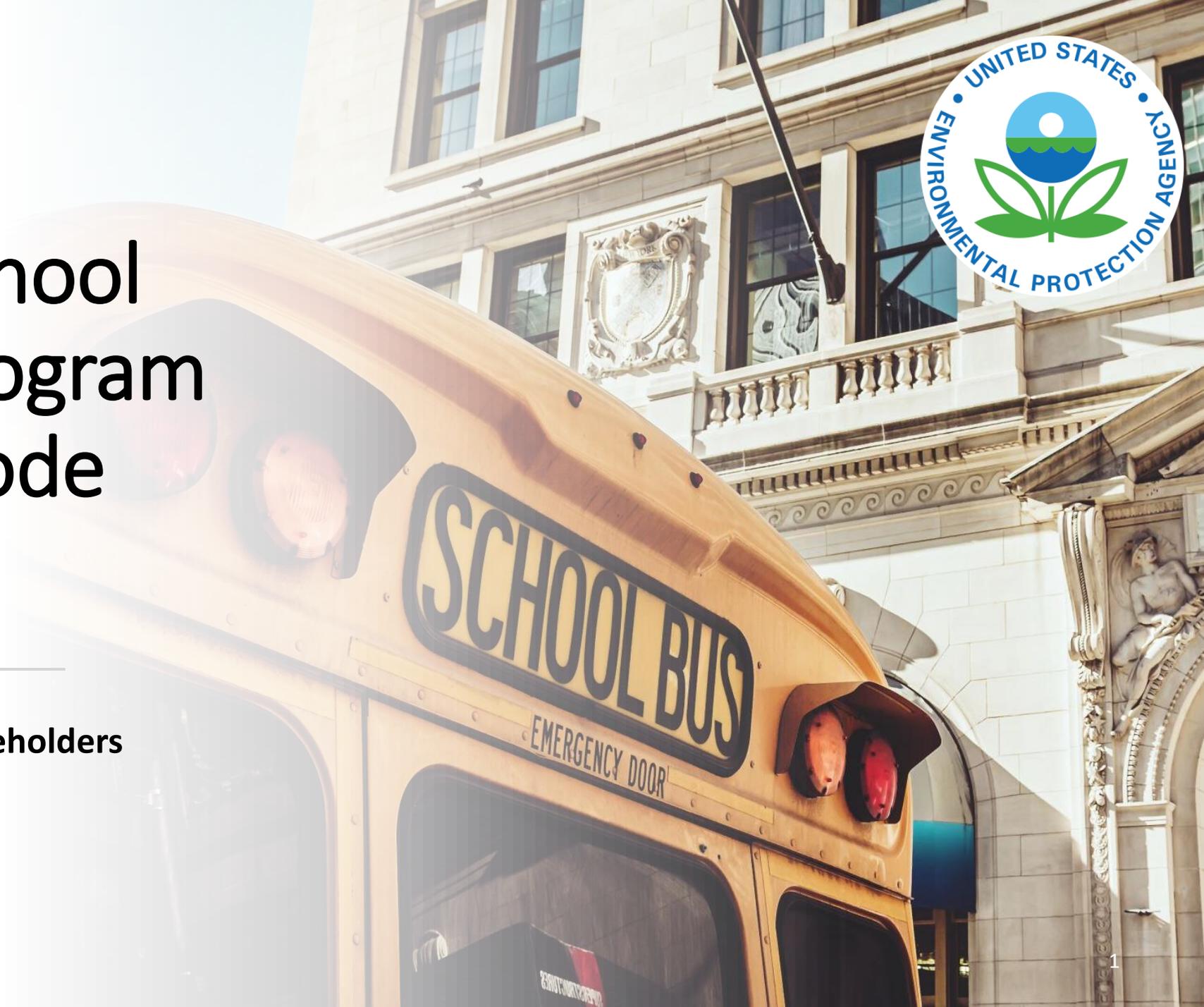


# EPA's Clean School Bus Rebate Program – a look at Rhode Island

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**Webinar with Rhode Island Stakeholders**

**June 9, 2022**



# Agenda

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Overview of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's  
Clean School Bus Program

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# Overview of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Clean School Bus Program

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The BIL's Clean School Bus (CSB) Program provides EPA with **\$5 billion over 5 years** to replace old diesel school buses with new electric and clean school buses.

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**The 2022 rebate application launched on May 20 offering \$500 million**, split in two equal pools:

**\$250 million for clean school buses**  
(i.e., electric, propane, CNG)

**\$250 million for zero emission buses**  
(i.e., electric school buses)

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School bus upgrades funded under this program will result in cleaner air on the bus, in bus loading areas, and in the communities in which they operate.

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Commitment to ensuring **representation from all 50 states and territories** and within them, **rural, low-income, and tribal school districts**.

## Funding Pools and Number of Applications

School districts applying directly for funds may only submit one application to replace up to 25 buses.

EPA will not fund multiple applications for bus replacements that will serve the same school district.

## \$500 Million in Available Funding for 2022 CSB Rebates

Zero Emission Funding Pool:



Applications **exclusively requesting zero-emission buses**

Clean School Bus Funding Pool:



Applications requesting **zero-emission, propane, and/or compressed natural gas (CNG) buses**

# Clean School Bus Rebate Timeline

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
2022 CSB Rebates open. EPA begins accepting applications submitted via online form	May 20, 2022 – August 19, 2022
EPA reviews applications and begins the selection process	September 2022
EPA notifies applicants of selection status. Selectees can proceed with purchasing new buses and eligible infrastructure.	October 2022
Selectees submit Payment Request Forms with purchase orders demonstrating that new buses and eligible infrastructure have been ordered	October 2022 - April 2023
Project period deadline for selectees to receive new buses, install eligible infrastructure, replace old buses, and submit Close Out Forms	October 2024

# Eligible Applicants

State and local governmental entities responsible for:

- 1) providing bus service to one or more public school systems;
- or 2) the purchase of school buses

Nonprofit School  
Transportation Associations

Indian Tribes, Tribal  
Organizations, or tribally  
controlled schools

Eligible Contractors

# Example 1: Bus Dealer Applying for Private Fleet Partner

## While applying:

**Bus Dealer:**  
Yellow Bus Sales

Can apply to replace buses owned by

Bus dealer must list the **private fleet** and **the school district** in the application.

**Private Fleet:**  
Safety-First Bus Company

Old buses serve

**Public School District:**  
Washington County School District (under contract)

## If selected:

**Bus Dealer:**  
Yellow Bus Sales

Must pass funds to (e.g., via point-of-sale discount)

\*Buses must serve district for at least 5 years

**Private Fleet:**  
Safety-First Bus Company

New buses serve\*

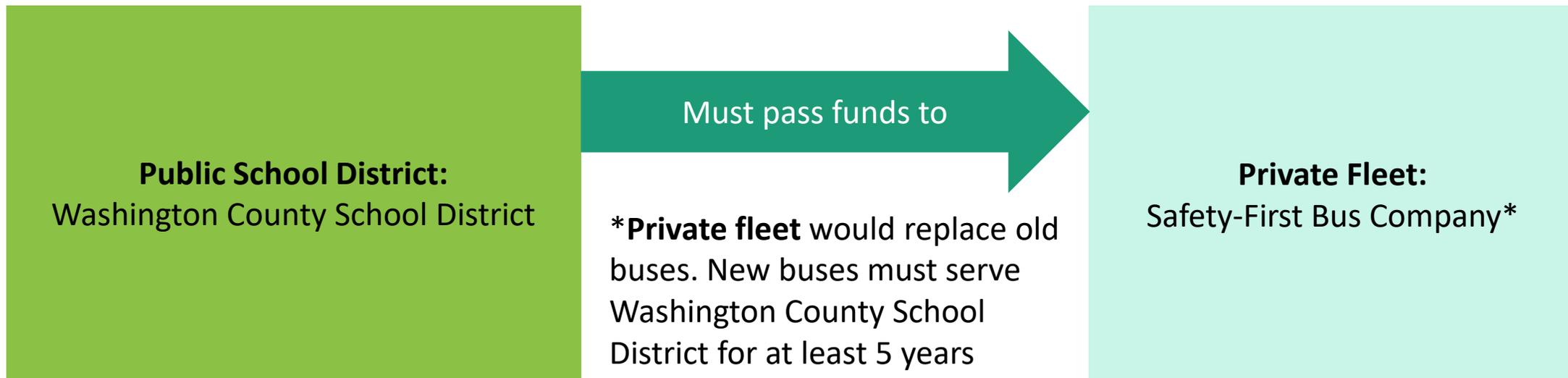
**Public School District:**  
Washington County School District (under contract)

## Example 2: School District Applying for Private Fleet Partner

While applying:



If selected:



# Prioritized Applicants

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law allows EPA to prioritize certain applicants.
- Applicants requesting funds to replace school buses that serve a school district that meets one or more of the **prioritization criteria** will be offered more funding per bus and receive preference in the selection process.
- EPA offers equal prioritization for school districts that meet one or multiple prioritization criteria.
- School districts that qualify under one or more of the prioritizations are identified in **EPA's prioritized funding list.**

# Prioritization Criteria

## 1. High-need school districts and low-income areas

- School districts listed in the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) School District Estimates for 2020 as having **20% or more students living in poverty**
- School districts not listed in the SAIPE data, including most charter schools, **that self-certify as having 20% or more students living in poverty.**

## 2. Rural school districts

- School districts identified with locale codes “43-Rural: Remote” and “42-Rural: Distant” by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)

## 3. Tribal school districts

- Bureau of Indian Affairs funded school districts and school districts that receive basic support payments for children who reside on Indian land

# Prioritized School Districts in RI

- Posted under Supporting Materials [here](#)
- PDF lists prioritized school districts with the state, name, and [NCES ID](#)
- Excel version adds the city and the prioritization criteria that each district meets

District	ID
Central Falls	4400120
Foster	4400390
New Shoreham	4400690
Newport	4400720
Providence	4400900
Woonsocket	4401200

# School Bus Replacement Guidelines



- Buses eligible for replacement must be 2010 or older diesel-powered school buses that will be scrapped if selected for funding.
- If a fleet has no eligible 2010 or older diesel school buses and is requesting zero-emission school bus replacements, the fleet can either:
  - Scrap 2010 or older non-diesel internal combustion engine buses; or
  - Scrap, sell, or donate 2011 or newer internal combustion engine buses

# School Bus Replacement Guidelines (Continued)

- Buses eligible for replacement must:
  - Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs. or more.
  - Be operational at the time of application submission.
  - Have provided bus service to a public school district for at least 3 days/week on average during the 2021/2022 school year at the time of applying, excluding COVID-related school closures.



# School Bus Replacement Guidelines



## **New replacement buses must:**

- Have a battery-electric, CNG, or propane drivetrain.
- Be EPA certified vehicle model year 2021 or newer.
- Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs. or more.
- Not be ordered prior to receiving official notification of selection for EPA funding.
- Be purchased, not leased or leased-to-own.

# School Bus Replacement Guidelines (Continued)



## **New replacement buses must:**

- Serve the school district listed on the application for at least 5 years from the date of delivery.
- Meet federal safety standards and be maintained, operated, insured, registered, and charged/fueled according to manufacturer recommendations and state requirements.
- Not include an unvented diesel passenger heater.
- **Not be funded with other federal funds.**
- Upon request, be made available for inspection by EPA or its representatives for 5 years from the date of delivery.

# School Bus Replacement Funding

## Maximum Bus Funding Amount per Replacement School Bus

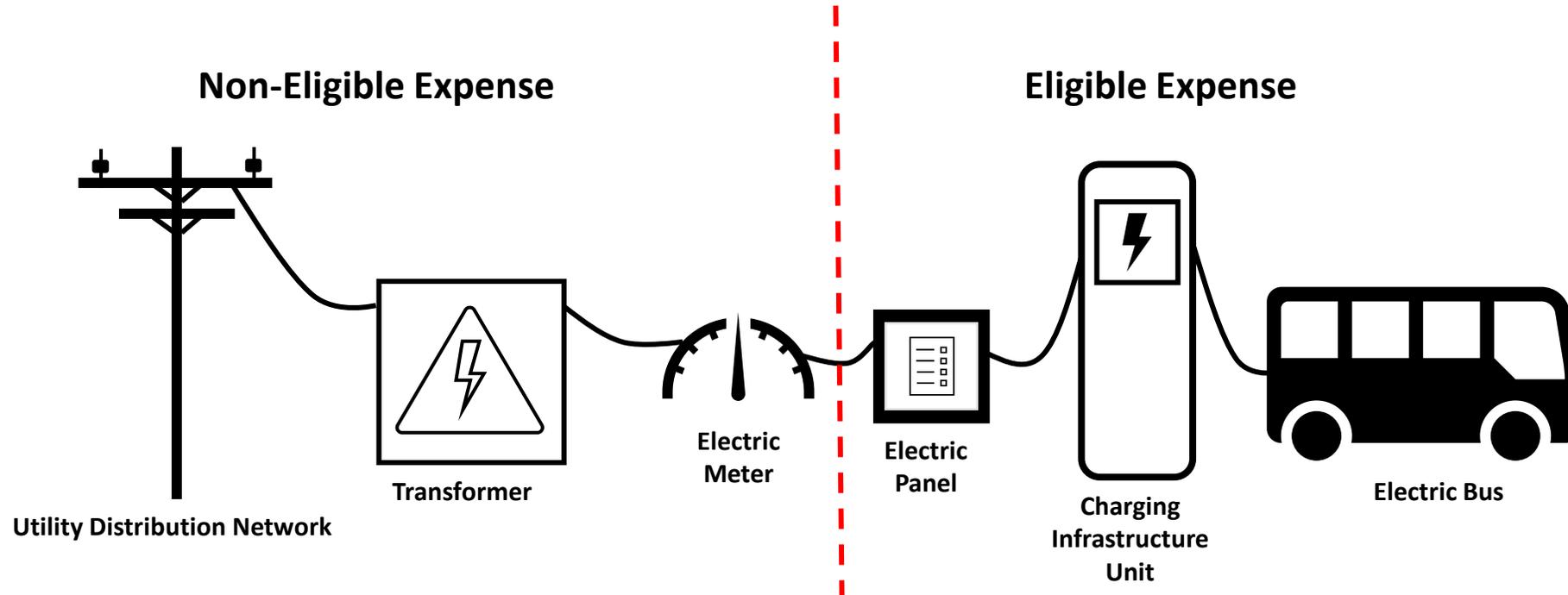
School District Prioritization Status	Replacement Bus Fuel Type and Size					
	ZE – Class 7+	ZE – Class 3-6	CNG – Class 7+	CNG – Class 3-6	Propane – Class 7+	Propane – Class 3-6
Buses serving school districts that meet one or more prioritization criteria	\$375,000	\$285,000	\$45,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$25,000
Buses serving other eligible school districts	\$250,000	\$190,000	\$30,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$15,000

# Infrastructure Funding

Talk to your utility now if you are interested in zero-emission buses!

School District Prioritization Status	ZE – Class 3+ Infrastructure Funding
Buses serving school districts that meet one or more prioritization criteria	\$20,000/bus
Buses serving other eligible school districts	\$13,000/bus

# Infrastructure Funding Restrictions



# Application Process

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- Applicants must submit applications using EPA's Clean School Bus Rebate forms.
  - To apply, organizations must:
    1. Have an *active* **System for Award Management** (SAM.gov) entity registration
    2. Have Points of Contact listed under their organization's SAM.gov entity registration in SAM.gov
- EPA will post a Questions and Answers document and anticipates updating the Q&A document every two weeks during the application period.
- The application deadline will be August 19, 2022. *Late applications will not be accepted.*

# Important! SAM.gov Registration

Check the Systems for Award Management ([SAM.gov](https://www.sam.gov)) to ensure your organization is *actively* registered as an entity

- An individual user account on SAM.gov is not the same thing as an organization's entity registration
- Review all SAM.gov entity registration information for accuracy, including bank accounts, addresses, the [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#), and Points of Contact
- If your organization has no record of a SAM.gov registration, expired or active, and needs to create a new registration, the simplest entity registration type that can participate in the Clean School Bus Rebates is the "Federal Assistance Awards Only" registration.
- For help with SAM.gov, reach out to the Federal Service Desk at: <https://www.fsd.gov>

Only individuals with email addresses listed as one of the following Points of Contact (POC) under an *active* SAM.gov entity registration will have access to create, edit, save, and submit a Clean School Bus Rebate application for that entity:

- Electronic Business POC
- Alternate Electronic Business POC
- Government Business POC
- Alternate Government Business POC

Note: When entering the rebate application, applicants must use the same email as is listed in their POC information in SAM.gov. They will be prompted to sign-in to, or create, a free login.gov account.

# Getting to the Application

- An [Application User Guide](#) with screenshots will be posted on this page soon.

[Clean School Bus Home](#)

[Clean School Bus Rebate Program](#)

**[Clean School Bus Rebate Online Application Information](#)**

[Benefits of Clean School Buses](#)

[Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Resources](#)

[Events](#)

## Online Rebate Application Information: Clean School Bus Program

### On this page:

- [Who can submit an application?](#)
- [What information do I need to complete the application?](#)
- [Where can I get help?](#)
- [User Guide and other application resources](#)



After reviewing this page, [click here](#) to access the application form

### Who can submit an application?

1. Review the [Rebate Program Information](#) page and 2022 Clean School Bus (CSB) Program Guide posted there to determine if your organization is eligible to apply.
2. Check the System for Award Management ([SAM.gov](#) **EXIT**) to ensure your organization is **actively** registered as an entity

# Selection and Notification

- Applications received by the deadline will be placed in a single ordered list using a random number generator lottery process.
- 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.
- Applicants not selected by lottery will remain in random number order on a wait list.

# Selectee Requirements – Payment Request & Closeout

- Applicants notified of their selection within 60 days of application deadline.
- Applicant receives electronic status update that includes:
  - (1) that they have been selected for funding,
  - (2) the maximum amount of funds that have been reserved for them, and
  - (3) instructions on proceeding with the purchase of new buses and eligible infrastructure.
- After receiving notice of selection, selectees must submit an online **Payment Request Form** that includes an attached scan of the **purchase order(s) for the new school buses and eligible infrastructure within six months.**
- Once selectees have received their new buses and eligible infrastructure and have replaced their old buses, they must submit an online Close Out Form. The **Close Out Form** must be submitted **within two years** of the date of the selection notification.

# Recap

- EPA anticipates awarding \$500 million in rebate funding for zero-emission and clean school buses.
- Don't forget to verify your organization's SAM.gov entity registration and POCs!
- Initiate discussions with your utility now if you will apply for zero-emission buses!
- **The application deadline is August 19, 2022.**

# 2022 Clean School Bus Rebates

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## Upcoming Webinars:

June 15, 2022 1:00PM ET (How to Apply to Rebate Program)

June 22, 2022 1:00PM ET (Infrastructure: Joint Office)

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Sign up for the [Clean School Bus Listserv](#)

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Continue to check [www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus](http://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus) for updated resources and information on additional webinars

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After reviewing the Program Guide, if you still have questions, please contact [cleanschoolbus@epa.gov](mailto:cleanschoolbus@epa.gov).

Thank You!



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**EPA Region 1 CSB Contacts:**

Gary Rennie ([rennie.gary@epa.gov](mailto:rennie.gary@epa.gov))

Rini Maiti ([maiti.pujarini@epa.gov](mailto:maiti.pujarini@epa.gov))

John Rogan ([rogan.john@epa.gov](mailto:rogan.john@epa.gov))

