

## **Electric School Bus Fact Sheet**

10/8/2024

The 2024 Clean School Bus Rebate Program funding round is open. The federal government has appropriated \$1 billion for this round to assist school districts in acquiring electric school buses. It is a rebate program and is a much simpler process than a full grant application. We are prepared to assist you in this process in any way that we can.

Electric school buses run about \$400,000 each for the bus, chargers and electric service modifications. Range of electric buses is between 120 and 200 miles.

For priority school districts, which likely would include all tribes in Montana, the rebate program offers \$325,000 per bus towards the \$400,000 total. In addition, there is a clean vehicle tax credit of \$40,000 per bus that tribes would be eligible for. Finally there is money from the VW settlement that tribes can apply for to cover the funding shortfall. The settlement arose out of the diesel cheating scandal. We may be able to uncover some other funding sources.

Here are the dollar amounts for what was just discussed above (all figures are per bus). Districts can apply for 1-50 buses.

Electric school bus, charging equipment and electric service modification	\$400,000.00
EPA rebate	-\$325,000.00
Clean vehicle tax credit	<u>-\$40,000.00</u>
Funding shortfall (Could be covered by VW settlement money or other sources.)	-\$35,000

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Why electric school buses, instead of diesel school buses which have a lower purchase price?

- Diesel exhaust is a known carcinogen and can cause or aggravate respiratory illness and impact student performance in school.
- Electricity is much cheaper per mile than diesel fuel. Electric school buses have far fewer moving parts than diesel buses which means less maintenance and repair.

- Electric school buses have zero tailpipe emissions and produce less greenhouse gas emissions per mile.

Here is the link to the application:

<https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/clean-school-bus-rebates-online-application-forms>

The application deadline is January 9, 2025 at 4:00 pm Eastern Time.

If there is an award a payment request form must be submitted (scroll down):

<https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/clean-school-bus-rebates-online-rebate-forms>

Choice of applicants for an award are determined by lottery. Montana tribes will likely be given priority status in the application process.

2024 Clean School Bus Rebate Program main website:

<https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus>

Detailed videos on all aspects of electric school bus purchase, operation and maintenance.

[https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-school-buses#p8\\_m4](https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-school-buses#p8_m4)

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