2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Electric School Bus Rebates Program Guide



2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) Electric School Bus Rebates Program Guide

Transportation and Climate Division Office of Transportation and Air Quality U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Section 1: Overview

This document details the criteria and requirements for the 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) School Bus Rebates.

As background, the U.S. EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction program (DERA) was originally authorized by Title VII, Subtitle G (Section 791 to 797) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58). DERA was amended by the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-364), codified at 42 U.S.C 16131 et seq, adding, among other provisions, a rebate program option. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 appropriated a total of \$50,000,000 to several EPA programs, including DERA, for "activities that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks in minority populations or low-income populations." EPA allocated \$7 million of this total to DERA to fund electric school bus rebates for these populations.

School buses collectively travel over four billion miles each year, providing the safest transportation to and from school for more than 25 million American children every day. However, diesel exhaust from these buses has a negative impact on human health, especially for children who have faster breathing rates than adults and whose lungs are not yet fully developed. The ARP Electric School Bus Rebates will replace old, highly polluting diesel buses with zero-emission battery-electric buses. This results in cleaner air on the bus, in bus loading areas, and throughout the communities in which they operate.

In this funding opportunity, eligibility is limited to (1) high-poverty public school districts, (2) tribal governments and (3) private school bus fleets serving these public schools. Applicants selected in the lottery will be awarded rebates for replacing old Type C or D diesel school buses powered by model year 2006 or older engines with new Type C or D electric school buses. EPA will offer \$300,000 per bus, for up to 4 buses, to fleets scrapping and replacing their old diesel buses. Scrapping old buses is necessary to ensure that the older, dirty buses will not be put back on the road.

Please continue reading for detailed instructions on how to apply and participate in this funding opportunity. See Appendix A for the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates timeline.

Section 2: Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants Include:

- Public school districts listed on the ARP Rebate Eligibility List posted on the ARP Rebates website
 - Districts on the eligibility list are estimated to have 30.00%¹ or more students living in poverty based on the <u>US Census Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)</u> <u>School District Estimates for 2019</u>
- Federally recognized Indian tribal governments responsible for providing school bus transportation.
 - A Federally recognized Indian tribal government is any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community (including Native villages) certified by the

¹ States and territories without any school districts estimated to have 30.00% or more students in poverty are represented in the eligibility list by the single highest poverty school district in those states/territories.

Secretary of the Interior as eligible for special programs and services provided through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

- Private entities that operate school buses under a contract with an entity listed above.
 - o If the applicant is a private entity, the applicant must certify on the rebate application that it has an existing and executed contract to provide transportation services to a specific public school district at the time of the rebate application. Private schools and other organizations that operate school buses are <u>not</u> eligible to apply for this rebate, unless they operate those school buses under a contract with an entity listed above.

Bus Ownership:

At the time of application, the applicant must own and operate the old school bus for which funds are being requested. The applicant must submit a copy of the current vehicle title and vehicle registration if registration is required by law in the state where the vehicle operates. If vehicle registration is not included in the application package, the applicant must submit documentation that registration is not required in its jurisdiction. If the existing vehicle title is not available at the time of application, a copy of the current and valid vehicle registration may be used as alternative ownership documentation until a duplicate title is obtained. **Note: Leased buses and buses with active lien-holders do not qualify for rebates.**

In some cases, a company may have wholly owned subsidiaries that own the buses that will be replaced. In this situation, the application may be submitted under the name of the parent company. If the owner listed on the bus title differs from the name of the parent company, then the applicant must also provide a letter of explanation that details the relationship between the parent company and subsidiaries.

State-Owned Buses:

Eligible public school districts that operate state-owned school buses meeting the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebate requirements may apply to replace up to 4 buses per district. Each public school district applicant must submit the required ownership documents as stated above in the Program Guide that show state ownership. The buses targeted for replacement must meet the requirements for eligibility as stated in Section 3 of the Program Guide.

The district must submit a signed letter from the state agency that owns the buses authorizing the district to participate in the rebate program and, if the district is selected, to proceed with the required scrappage of the replaced bus. The letter must be signed by the authorizing official and must be submitted on the official letterhead of the state agency that owns the buses. Please see <u>Appendix D</u> for a template of this letter.

Section 3: Eligible Vehicles

For the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates, a school bus is defined as a vehicle primarily used for transporting 10 or more preprimary, primary, or secondary school students to or from schools.

Old Vehicles to be Replaced:

Vehicles listed for replacement on the application must meet the following criteria:

- Type C or D diesel school buses powered by a 2006 or older model year engine²;
- Owned by the applicant or state government without any liens on the title;
- Operational Able to start, move in all directions, and have all operational parts; and
- Have accumulated at least 10,000 or more miles transporting students over either the previous 12 months or calendar year (Jan. Dec.) 2019, or been in use for at least four days per week on average transporting students between 9/1/2019 and 2/29/2020.

Applicants are required to certify on the rebate application that the school bus or buses to be replaced meet the above requirements.

New Replacement Vehicles:

All replacement buses must meet the following criteria:

- Must not be ordered prior to receiving signed EPA selection letter³;
- Drivetrain operates solely on battery-electric power;
- Must be a Type C or D school bus;
- Be purchased, <u>not</u> leased or leased-to-own⁴;
- Not funded with any other federal funds or Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust funds;
- Operate in a similar manner and over similar routes as the original school bus; and
- Meet Federal safety standards.

The selected applicant (selectee) takes sole responsibility for ensuring the replacement bus remains in operational condition. In addition, selectees must agree to:

- Register the replacement bus as required by state law (if applicable);
- Maintain insurance as required by law;
- Be available for follow-up inspection of the school bus and related documents for three years after receipt of the rebate, if requested by EPA or its designee.

Selectees must maintain ownership of the replacement school bus for three years after receipt of the rebate, and the bus must be used primarily for transporting 10 or more preprimary, primary, or secondary school students to or from schools during that three-year period. The bus must continue to serve the school district listed on the application for at least three years. If the replacement school bus is sold before the end of the three-year period or used for purposes other than described above, the selectee may be required to return up to the full amount of the rebate to EPA. The amount required to be returned is at the discretion of EPA and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

²Per 2015 (16th NCST) National School Transportation Specifications and Procedures:

[&]quot;A Type "C" school bus is constructed utilizing a chassis with a hood and front fender assembly. The entrance door is behind the front wheels; also known as a conventional school bus. This type also includes cutaway truck chassis or truck chassis with cab with or without a left side door and a GVWR greater than 21,500 pounds."

[&]quot;A Type "D" school bus is constructed utilizing a stripped chassis. The entrance door is ahead of the front wheels; also known as rear or front engine transit style school buses."

³ EPA may revise this requirement if there are delays in the selection letter process. Any changes will be clearly communicated via email to selectees.

⁴ Standard vehicle loans are permitted if the title to the new bus is under the applicant's name

Section 4: Funding Amounts

For the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates, EPA anticipates offering \$7,000,000, subject to the availability of funds. Funding will not be provided for administrative expenses. EPA reserves the right to partially fund applications, reject all applications and make no selections under the program, or to make fewer selections than anticipated.

Applicants can request funds for replacing up to 4 buses. The rebate amount per electric bus replacement is \$300,000 and the maximum amount of funding that can be requested per application is \$1,200,000.

Section 5: Application

Eligible applicants may only submit one application. EPA must receive all rebate applications and required supporting documentation by **Friday**, **November 5**, **2021**, **4:00 pm Eastern Time**. The application should be downloaded as a fillable Portable Document File (PDF) from the <u>ARP Rebates</u> website. See Appendices <u>B</u> and <u>C</u> for sample rebate applications. See <u>Appendix E</u> for a checklist outlining the application requirements.

To open the application, please download the PDF to your desktop before opening it with the free Adobe Reader program. For more information about PDFs and a link to download the free Adobe Reader program, please see www.epa.gov/home/pdf-files.

The rebate application includes identifying information such as organization name, Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS) number, Employer ID Number (EIN), and the name of the organization's authorized representative, who can sign on behalf of the applicant organization. If an applicant does not have a DUNS or EIN, they must obtain one prior to applying for a rebate. Organizations may obtain a DUNS number at no cost by calling the toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711, or visiting the D&B website at: www.dnb.com/duns-number.html. An EIN may be obtained by visiting the IRS website at: www.irs.gov/Businesses/Small-Businesses-&-Self-Employed/Apply-for-an-Employer-Identification-Number-EIN-Online

The rebate application requires the applicant to supply the following information related to the school buses to be replaced:

- 1) Vehicle Information Number (VIN)

 The VIN or vehicle identification number is most frequently located on the driver's side dash and is visible through the windshield. The VIN can also be located on the vehicle title. The VIN is 17 letters and numbers and does not use the letters "i" or "o" so as to avoid confusion with the numbers 1 and 0.
- 2) Engine Model Year

 The engine model year can be found on the nameplate that is permanently affixed to the engine. The engine model year can also be determined from the 12-character EPA engine family name. The first character in the engine family name corresponds with the engine model year pursuant to the table below. For example, the EPA engine family name on the

engine plate in the photo in <u>Appendix F</u> of this program guide is 1NVXH0466ANB which corresponds with engine model year 2001. **Note**: The engine model year is often one or more years older than the vehicle model year. Be sure to use the engine model year when filling out your application and Payment Request Form, <u>not</u> the vehicle model year.

Table 1: First Character of EPA Engine Family Name and Corresponding Engine Model Year

1980	Α	1991	М	2002	2	2013	D
1981	В	1992	N	2003	3	2014	Ε
1982	С	1993	Р	2004	4	2015	F
1983	D	1994	R	2005	5	2016	G
1984	Ε	1995	S	2006	6	2017	Н
1985	F	1996	Т	2007	7	2018	J
1986	G	1997	V	2008	8	2019	K
1987	Н	1998	W	2009	9	2020	L
1988	J	1999	Χ	2010	Α	2021	М
1989	K	2000	Υ	2011	В	2022	N
1990	L	2001	1	2012	С	2023	Р

3) Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)

Gross vehicle weight rating is often listed on the same sticker that the VIN is displayed on near the driver's side dash. It may also be listed on the bus registration. Be sure to list the GVWR in pounds.

4) Engine Family Name

The EPA engine family name is a 12-character number/letter designation included on the engine nameplate for all heavy-duty truck engines sold in the United States. The EPA engine family name is usually found on the nameplate that is permanently affixed to the engine. The exact location and appearance of the nameplate varies by engine manufacturer. See Appendix F for an example of an engine nameplate with engine family name 1NVXH0466ANB.

If the EPA engine family name does not appear on the engine or it is difficult to read, the manufacturer of your engine may be able to assist you in determining the engine family name. Some manufacturers also have online tools where their customers can enter engine serial numbers and determine the engine family name.

5) 2019 Miles Traveled

Enter the vehicle miles travelled in calendar year 2019. This figure should be obtained from driver or maintenance logs.

6) 2019 Fuel Use

Enter the fuel use in gallons in calendar year 2019. This figure should be obtained from driver or maintenance logs.

7) Estimated Remaining Life

Enter your best estimate of years of remaining useful life of the vehicle. Remaining life is the fleet owner's estimate of the number of years until the bus would have been retired from

service if the bus were not being scrapped because of the rebate funding. The remaining life estimate is the number of years of operation remaining, including if the unit were to be rebuilt or sold to another fleet. The remaining life estimate depends on the current age and condition of the vehicle at the time of scrappage, as well as things like usage, maintenance, and climate.

- 8) Replacement Bus Fuel Type
 Select "Batt. Electric" for each school bus being replaced with a battery-electric school bus.
- 9) Rebate Amount See <u>Section 4</u> to find the corresponding rebate amounts. This field should autofill based on the Replacement Bus Fuel Type entered in the previous field.
- 10) Idle Reduction Policy
 Use the drop-down menu to indicate if the school transportation provider has an idle reduction policy for the buses listed on the application. This is not a requirement for eligibility, it is for inventory purposes only. For more information about idle reduction, please visit www.epa.gov/dera/school-bus-idle-reduction.

By signing the rebate application, applicants are certifying that the information provided is true to the best of their knowledge. EPA reserves the right to request copies of documentation, such as activity logs, to verify the above information.

EPA or its representatives may contact an applicant to clarify any information provided by the applicant.

See <u>Appendix B</u> for a sample rebate application for a public school district and <u>Appendix C</u> for a sample rebate application for a private fleet owner.

Submitting the Application:

Applicants must submit the application via email. A copy of the vehicle title and registration for each bus must be submitted with the application package and must be attached to the email. The applicant must be listed on the title as the sole owner of the vehicle unless applying to replace state-owned buses. Public school districts applying with state-owned buses must also submit a signed letter (see Appendix D) on the official letterhead of the state agency that owns the buses at the time of application. See Section 2 for additional information.

Email the completed rebate application, along with a <u>scanned copy of each vehicle's title and registration</u>, and if applicable, a letter from the state agency that owns the buses to: <u>DERARebates@epa.gov</u>. Emailed applications must include the subject line: **"2021 ARP ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS REBATES APPLICATION —" and the name of your organization**.

Section 6: Selection

All applications that are submitted to EPA by the deadline will be assigned a unique identification number. These numbers will be placed in an ordered list using a random number generator lottery

process. Subject to the availability of funds, EPA will select applicants for funding from the list in this order:

- 1. The single highest ranked tribal applicant
- 2. The single highest ranked applicant from each EPA region⁵ not represented by the selected tribal applicant
- 3. The remaining highest ranked applicants until all funds are allocated

After selection, each selectee will be assigned an EPA contact to work with throughout the rebate process. The rebate contact will confirm applicant eligibility and assist the applicant with any questions on fulfilling the rebate program requirements.

Applicants not selected by lottery will remain in random number order on the wait list. If a selectee does not complete the remaining required steps in the rebate process, drops out, or is otherwise deemed ineligible, that selectee will be removed from the program. The funds from that selectee will be offered to other 2021 applicants if there is sufficient time remaining in the 2021 ARP Rebates. EPA will follow the selection process above when reallocating these funds.

Both the selectees and applicant wait list will be posted on the <u>ARP School Bus Rebates website</u>.

Section 7: Notification

EPA will notify selectees and those applicants that are on the wait list within 90 days of the application deadline.

Selectees must register in the System for Award Management (SAM). EPA will direct selectees to register in SAM prior to receiving their official selection letter. Information can be found at www.sam.gov. Be advised, there are a number of companies that claim to offer assistance with the sam.gov registration process for a fee. Please avoid any non ".gov" websites in this process and complete your free registration on www.sam.gov. You can find free support resources at the Federal Service Desk here: www.fsd.gov

After the selectee receives the official selection letter from EPA, they can purchase the eligible replacement school bus.

Section 8: Purchase Order Submittal

Proof of purchase for the new school bus and EV charger is required to be submitted to EPA within 90 days of the date of the selection letter. The date of the purchase cannot pre-date the date of the selection letter.⁶ The proof of purchase may be a procurement request, purchase order, or any other

⁵ Depending on the amount of funds requested in selected applications, EPA may not be able to fund an applicant from each region. See a map of EPA regions at the following link: www.epa.gov/aboutepa/regional-and-geographic-offices

⁶ EPA may revise this requirement if there are delays in the selection letter process. Any changes will be clearly communicated via email to selectees.

document that clearly shows a transaction being initiated between the selectee and a school bus vendor on purchaser letterhead and include the following information for each bus:

- 1) Purchaser name, address, and phone number;
- 2) Vendor name, address, and phone number;
- 3) Vehicle make, model, fuel type, engine model year, and purchase price;
- 4) EV charger make, model, and purchase price⁷;
- 5) Purchase order date; and
- 6) Delivery date estimate.

While leases and lease-purchases are <u>not</u> allowed, standard vehicle loans are permitted if the title to the new bus is under the applicant's name. Selectees that submit false or misleading information may be barred from future participation in DERA and other federal funding programs or may face other penalties.

The proof of purchase document should be scanned and saved in PDF format titled "Proof of Purchase" and should be emailed to your assigned EPA contact. The subject line should include, "DERA 2021 School Bus Proof of Purchase —", and the name of your organization.

Section 9: Vehicle Delivery

Selectees must take delivery of the new vehicle within eight months from the date of the selection letter and prior to submitting the payment request to EPA. New vehicles must meet the requirements described in Section 3. Selectees must obtain documentation of proof of delivery from the vendor. Proof of delivery must be submitted to EPA with the Payment Request Form as described in <u>Section 11</u>.

Section 10: Scrappage

Each bus being replaced must be scrapped or rendered permanently disabled prior to the selectee submitting the payment request to EPA. Scrappage may be completed by the selectee or by a salvage yard, or similar service, provided all scrappage requirements are met and all necessary documentation is provided. The bus being replaced must be scrapped and permanently disabled by:

- 1) Drilling a three inch by three-inch hole completely through the engine block; and
- 2) Cutting the chassis rail in half.

Past selectees have successfully used a three-inch hole-saw or a torch to create the hole in the engine block.

Proof of scrappage must be provided with the payment request. Scrappage documentation must include JPEG images of the following with corresponding file names. Please append the last 4 digits of the bus's VIN to the file name (e.g., SideProfile1234.jpg):

⁷ EV Charger may be on a separate purchase order than the replacement buses

Table 2: Scrappage Photos

	Photo	File Name (insert last 4 digits of VIN for "####")
1	Side profile of the bus	SideProfile####.jpg
2	Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) label	VIN####.jpg
3	Engine plate showing the EPA engine family name	EngineTag####.jpg
4	Chassis rail cut in half	Chassis###.jpg
5	Engine block, prior to hole being drilled	EngineBlockPrior####.jpg
6	Engine block, after hole has been drilled	EngineBlockAfter###.jpg

Please see Appendix F for example scrappage photos.

The selectee must also provide a letter on their letterhead or the letterhead of the salvage yard that performed the service confirming the scrappage requirements have been met. The letter must be signed by the salvage yard that performed the service, or, if the selectee performs the scrappage service themselves, the authorized representative listed on the application form. A template of the letter may be found in Appendix G. The letter must include:

- 1) The date the buses were scrapped;
- 2) A listing of the buses with engine model year and VIN; and
- 3) The name and contact information for the entity that scrapped the buses

The letter confirming scrappage should be scanned and saved in PDF format titled "Scrappage Letter" and emailed to your rebate contact. This letter should be sent with the scrappage photos.

Equipment and vehicle components that are not part of the engine or chassis may be salvaged from the bus being replaced (e.g., seats, tires, etc.). The engine and chassis may be sold for scrap metal, provided that the bus is disposed of in accordance with federal and state requirements for vehicle disposal. Selectees are not required to report any income from scrappage to EPA.

Section 11: Request for Payment

Selectees must submit the following documentation to request reimbursement from EPA:

- Payment Request Form;
- Scrappage photos and letter for buses being replaced (see <u>Section 10</u>);
- A copy of the invoices for the new bus and EV charger; and
- Proof of delivery for the new bus and EV charger (e.g., dated bill of lading)

Please refer to Appendix H for a more detailed checklist of payment materials. To request reimbursement, selectees must email these documents to their assigned EPA contact. These documents must be sent no later than eight months⁸ after the date of the selection letter (see Section 7). The

⁸ Fleets can request extensions to the payment request deadline. EPA will review these requests on a case-by-case basis and may grant extensions if sufficient justification is provided. For example, EPA could grant an extension of the deadline if a fleet is purchasing an electric school bus that takes more time between order and delivery than a diesel bus.

subject line should include, "DERA 2021 School Bus Payment Request and Scrappage – ", and the name of your organization.

Section 12: Payment

Once EPA has received and approved the selectee's Payment Request Form and supporting documentation, EPA will issue the rebate funds electronically to the selectee. EPA anticipates the payment will be issued to the selectee within a month from when complete documentation is received by EPA.

Section 13: Cancellation of Rebate Application

If a selectee fails to submit all the required forms and other documents by the deadline, the rebate application will be canceled and any reserved funds may be offered to other applicants on the wait list. EPA will notify the selectee prior to canceling any reserved funds.

Section 14: Agency Contacts

EPA will respond to questions from individual applicants regarding eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the application, and requests for clarification about any of the language or provisions in the announcement through a "Frequently Asked Questions" document. Applicants may email written questions to: DERA@epa.gov. Please type "Rebate Application Question" in the subject line of your email. Questions and answers will be posted in the FAQ document at https://www.epa.gov/dera/2021-american-rescue-plan-arp-electric-school-bus-rebates. The deadline for submitting application questions is **Thursday, October 28, 2021**.

Selectees will be assigned an EPA contact to assist with any questions throughout the project period.

Appendix A: Rebate Timeline

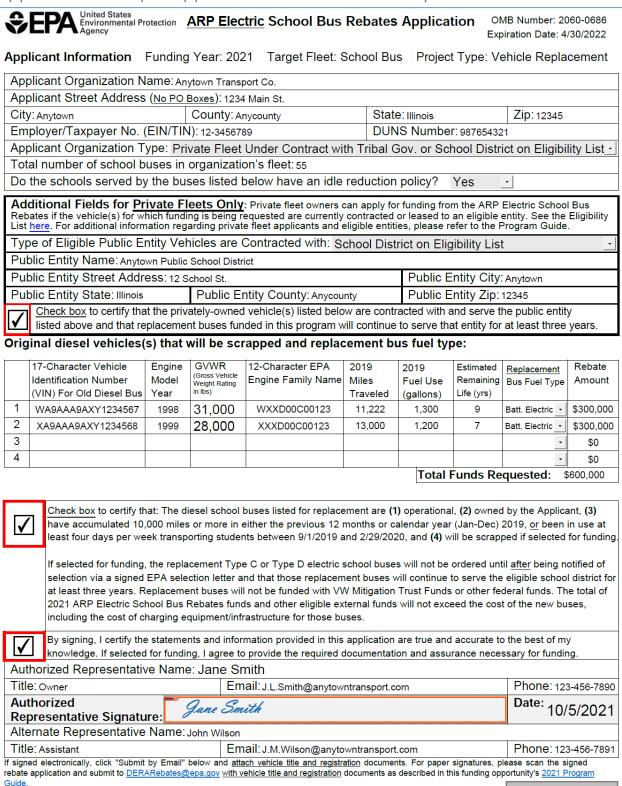
Table 3: Rebate Timeline

Wednesday,	2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates open. EPA begins accepting
September 29, 2021	application submissions to DERARebates@epa.gov
Thursday, October 28,	Deadline for submitting application questions to DERA@epa.gov
2021	helpline
Friday, November 5,	Deadline for submitting applications
2021, 4pm Eastern	
Time	
January-February 2022	EPA posts selectees and wait list online and emails official selection
(Estimated)	letters to selectees
April 2022	Deadline for submitting copies of purchase orders for replacement
(Estimated)	buses and EV chargers to EPA (90 days after the date on the selection
	letters)
September 2022	Deadline for Payment Request Form and supporting documentation
(Estimated)	(8 months after the date on the selection letters)
Within one month of	EPA will process the payment and the selectee will receive an
receipt of complete	electronic deposit in the bank account associated with their SAM.gov
Payment Request Form	registration
and supporting	
documentation	

Appendix B: Sample Application for a Public Entity

	<u>'</u>	<u> </u>	<u>'</u>						
\$	Protection Agency United States Environmental Protection Agency ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Application OMB Number: 2060-0686 Expiration Date: 4/30/2022								
App	Applicant Information Funding Year: 2021 Target Fleet: School Bus Project Type: Vehicle Replacement						cement		
App	olicant Organization N	lame: An	town Public	School District					
App	olicant Street Address	(<u>No PO E</u>	<u>3oxes</u>): 1234	Main St.					
_	/: Anytown	.=	County: Ar	•		9: Illinois		Zip: 12345	
	ployer/Taxpayer No.		•			IS Number	r: 98765432	1	-
	olicant Organization T				ity List				•
	al number of school b				raduation	poliov2	Vos	1	
D0	the schools served by	y the bus	ses listed t	below have an idle	reduction	policy?	Yes	<u> </u>	
Reb	ditional Fields for <u>Pr</u> ates if the vehicle(s) for w <u>here</u> . For additional inform	hich fundii	ng is being r	equested are currently	contracted	or leased to	an eligible e	entity. See the	Eligibility
Тур	e of Eligible Public E	ntity Veh	icles are (Contracted with: S	elect				•
Puk	olic Entity Name:								
Puk	olic Entity Street Addr	ess:				Public E	ntity City:		
Puk	olic Entity State:			ntity County:			ntity Zip:		
	Check box to certify the								
بيا	listed above and that re			· · ·				at least three	years.
Orig	inal diesel vehicles((s) that v	vIII be scr	apped and replac	ement bi	us tuei typ	oe:		
	17-Character Vehicle	Engine	GVWR (Gross Vehicle	12-Character EPA	2019	2019	Estimated	Replacement	Rebate
	Identification Number (VIN) For Old Diesel Bus	Model Year	Weight Rating in lbs)	Engine Family Name	Miles Traveled	Fuel Use (gallons)	Remaining Life (yrs)	Bus Fuel Type	Amount
1	WA9AAA9AXY1234567	1998	31,000	WXXD00C00123	11,222	1,300	9	Batt. Electric -	\$300,000
2	XA9AAA9AXY1234568	1999	28,000	XXXD00C00123	13,000	1,200	7	Batt. Electric -	\$300,000
3									\$0
4									\$0
						Total F	unds Re	quested:	600,000
				ouses listed for replace					
✓				either the previous 12 i its between 9/1/2019 a		•		· —	
	least lour days per we	ek transp	orting studer	its between 9/1/2019 a	IIIU 2/29/202	20, and (4) w	iii be scrap	bed ii selected	ior furiding.
	If selected for funding	, the repla	cement Type	C or Type D electric	school buse	s will not be	ordered unt	il <u>after</u> being n	otified of
	_			nd that those replacem				-	
	at least three years. Replacement buses will not be funded with VW Mitigation Trust Funds or other federal funds. The total of 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates funds and other eligible external funds will not exceed the cost of the new buses,								
				astructure for those bu					,
	By signing. I certify the	e statemer	nts and infor	mation provided in this	application	are true and	accurate to	the best of m	v
✓	By signing, I certify the statements and information provided in this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If selected for funding, I agree to provide the required documentation and assurance necessary for funding.								
Aut	Authorized Representative Name: Jane Smith								
Title	Title: Transportation Director Email: J.L.Smith@anytownschool.edu Phone: 123-456-789								
	Authorized Representative Signature: Jane Smith Date: 10/5/202					5/2021			
_									
	Alternate Representative Name: John Wilson								
Title: Vice Principal Email: J.M.Wilson@anytownschool.edu Phone: 123-456-7891 If signed electronically, click "Submit by Email" below and attach vehicle title and registration documents. For paper signatures, please scan the signed									
	application and submit to DER								
Duide.								Submit b	y Email

Appendix C: Sample Application for a Private Entity



Submit by Email

Appendix D: Letter Template for State-Owned Buses

[MUST BE PRINTED ON OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD OF THE STATE AGENCY THAT OWNS THE BUS LISTED ON THE APPLICATION]

The [NAME OF STATE AGENCY THAT OWNS THE BUSES] owns the buses operated by [SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME]. The [NAME OF STATE AGENCY THAT OWNS THE BUSES] authorizes [AUTHORIZED APPLICANT REPRESENTATIVE NAME] to apply on behalf of [SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME] to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates to replace the buses listed on the application.

[SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME] may apply to replace up to 4 buses owned by the state and operated by the **[NAME OF SCHOOL DISTRICT]**. **[SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME]** must submit the signed rebate application, the required documents as stated in the Program Guide, and this signed letter to be eligible for participation in the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates.

If selected to participate, [SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME] is authorized by the [NAME OF THE STATE AGENCY THAT OWNS THE BUSES] to proceed with all scrappage requirements as set out in the Program Guide.

All other eligibility restrictions for the applicant, vehicles, and program requirements must be met as specified in the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates Program Guide. All eligible applications will be selected by a lottery system.

[SIGNATURE OF THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE AGENCY THAT OWNS THE BUSES]

[PHONE NUMBER OF THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE]

Appendix E: Rebate Application Checklist

state agency letterhead (Appendix D)

The following information is required for an application to be considered eligible to potentially receive funds through the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates.

Applicants must email the materials listed below to DERARebates@epa.gov by Friday, November 5,

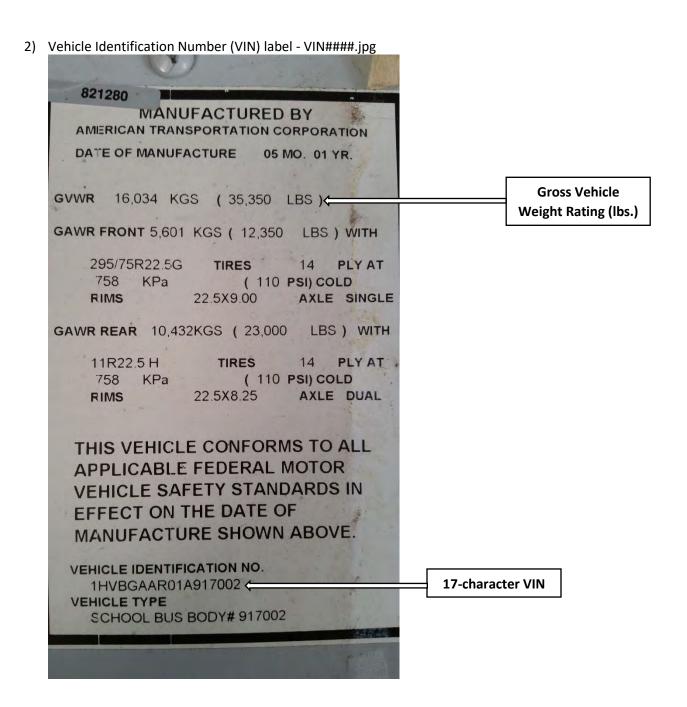
2021, 4:00 pm Eastern Time. ☐ Confirm eligibility of applicant to apply (Section 2) ☐ Confirm old bus eligibility (Section 3) including: o Diesel engine model years must be 2006 or earlier Buses must have accumulated at least 10,000 or more miles transporting students over either the previous 12 months or calendar year (Jan. - Dec.) 2019, or been in use for at least four days per week on average transporting students between 9/1/2019 and 2/29/2020 ☐ Complete the rebate application posted on the ARP Rebates website o Complete vehicle information required on the rebate application for **each** school bus to be replaced o Include Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS) and Employer ID Number (EIN) o Provide name, title, contact information, and signature of the applicant's authorized representative o Provide name, title, and contact information for an alternate representative who can be reached if the authorized representative is unavailable ☐ Attach a scanned copy of the vehicle title and registration for **each** bus to be replaced. Note: A school bus with an active lien-holder does not qualify in this program ☐ For public school districts applying with <u>state-owned buses</u>, attach a signed letter on official

Appendix F: Sample Scrappage Photos

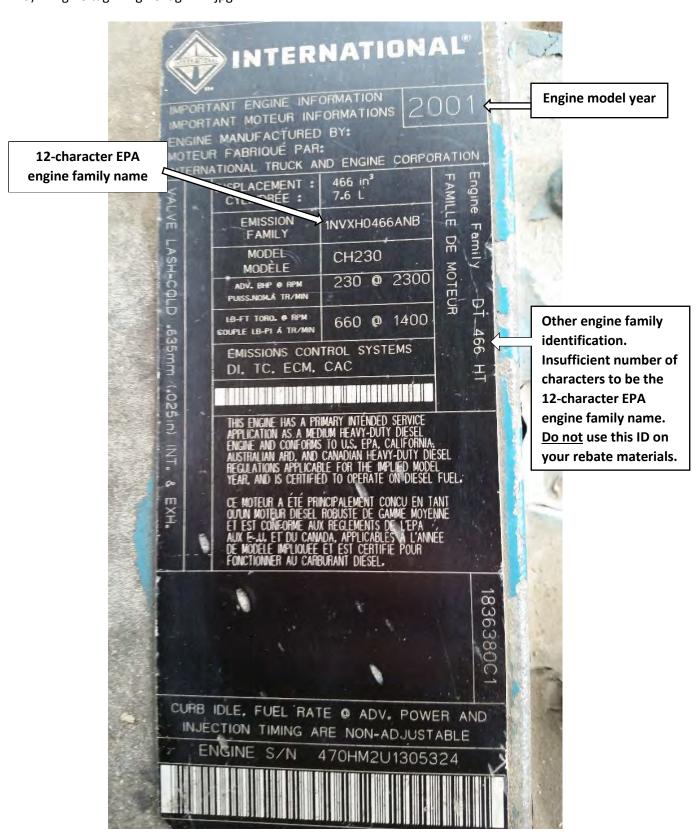
1) Side profile of the bus - SideProfile###.jpg (Add last 4 digits of VIN in place of "####")

| The profile of the bus - SideProfile###.jpg (Add last 4 digits of VIN in place of "####")

| The profile of the bus - SideProfile###.jpg (Add last 4 digits of VIN in place of "####")



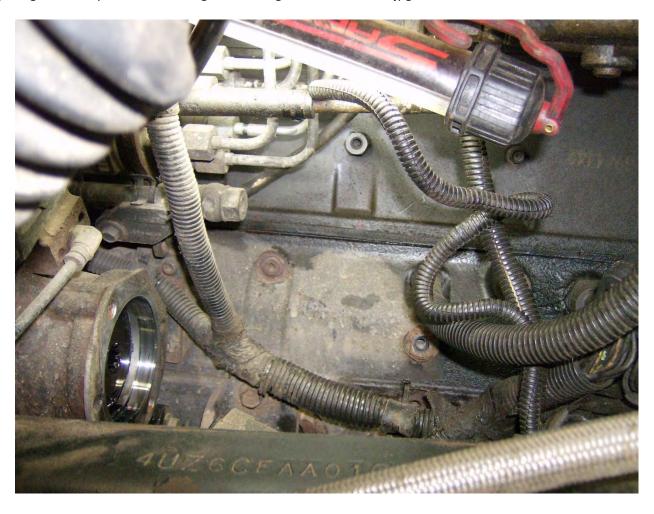
3) Engine tag - EngineTag###.jpg



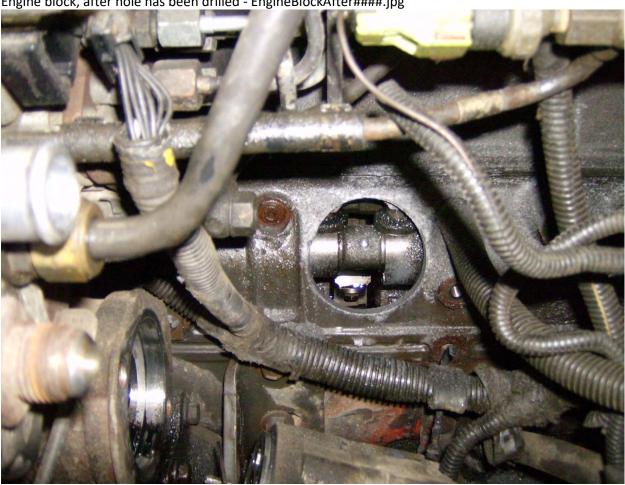
4) Chassis rail cut in half - Chassis####.jpg



5) Engine block, prior to hole being drilled - EngineBlockPrior####.jpg



6) Engine block, after hole has been drilled - EngineBlockAfter###.jpg



Appendix G: Sample Scrappage Certification Letter

[MUST BE PRINTED ON THE APPLICANT'S OR SALVAGE YARD'S LETTERHEAD]

[DATE]

The following bus(es) was/were disposed of according to Section 10 of the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates. The program requires that the bus being replaced must be scrapped and permanently disabled by 1) drilling a three inch by three-inch hole completely through the engine block; and 2) cutting the chassis rail in half.

I confirm that the EPA scrappage requirements have been met. [NAME OF ENTITY THAT SCRAPPED THE BUS] performed the bus scrappage on [DATE]. The phone number of the organization is [PHONE NUMBER].

[BUS 1 VIN] [ENGINE MODEL YEAR] [BUS 2 VIN] [ENGINE MODEL YEAR]

[SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF SELECTEE OR SALVAGE YARD REPRESENTATIVE]

Appendix H: Payment Request Checklist

o request payment after receipt of new buses and scrappage of old buses, selectees must email the naterials listed below to their EPA rebate contact within 8 months of the date on their selection letter:
☐ Signed Payment Request Form listing new buses
☐ 6 Scrappage photos for <u>each</u> bus being scrapped with correct filename listing the last 4 digits of
the bus VIN. See <u>Section 10</u> for guidance.
 Side profile of bus – SideProfile####.jpg
2. VIN label – VIN####.jpg
Engine plate showing the EPA engine family name – EngineTag####.jpg
4. Chassis rail cut in half – Chassis####.jpg
5. Engine block, prior to 3" hold being drilled – EngineBlockPrior####.jpg
6. Engine block, after 3" hole has been drilled – EngineBlockAfter###.jpg
☐ Signed scrappage letter (see <u>Appendix G</u> for template)
☐ Invoice for the new buses and EV chargers

☐ Proof of delivery for the new buses and EV chargers listing the date of delivery and the bus VINs

Appendix I: Terms and Conditions

Applicants are required to comply with the following terms and conditions. By signing the rebate application (see Appendix B for example), applicants certify that they have read and agree to the requirements of this document and the program terms and conditions.

Use of Replacement School Bus

The replacement school bus must operate in a similar manner and over similar routes as the bus it replaces. In addition, the selectee agrees that they will:

- Register the replacement school bus as required by state law (if applicable);
- Maintain vehicle insurance as required by state law (if applicable);
- Be available for follow-up inspection of the school bus for three years after the receipt of the rebate, if requested by EPA or its designee.

Ownership of Replacement School Bus

Selectees must maintain ownership of the replacement school bus for three years after receipt of the rebate and the bus must primarily be used for transporting 10 or more preprimary, primary or secondary school students to or from schools during that three-year period. The bus must continue to serve the school district listed on the application for at least three years. If the replacement school bus is sold before the end of the three-year period or used for purposes other than described above, the selectee may be required to return up to the full amount of the rebate to EPA. The amount required to be returned is at the discretion of EPA and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Restriction for Mandated Measures

Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 16132(d)(2), no funds awarded under the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates shall be used to fund the costs of emission reductions that are mandated under federal law.

Restriction on Other Funding Sources

No other federal funds or Volkswagen (VW) Environmental Mitigation Trust funds can be used on the same bus replacement project as 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebate funds. Fleets can use external non-federal and non-VW funding sources as part of their bus replacement project, but must confirm with the source of those funds that they are not pass-through federal or VW Trust funds.

The total of 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebate funds and other eligible external funds cannot exceed the cost of the new buses, including the cost of charging equipment/infrastructure for those buses.

Documentation Requirement

If an applicant is selected, that selectee is responsible for providing the Payment Request Form and required supporting documentation to EPA. Selectees are responsible for maintaining copies of all submitted forms and documents, and EPA responses, for a period of three years after receipt of the rebate.

EPA Responsibilities

EPA will review rebate applications for eligibility within the timelines established in Section 7. EPA will notify applicants that have been selected for rebates by email within 90 days of the close of the open application period. EPA will also post a list of selectees and organizations on the wait list on the ARP

Rebates website.

Disbursement of Funds

EPA will issue rebate funds within a month of determining that a selectee has submitted a completed Payment Request Form and all supporting documents, including proof of scrappage of the replaced vehicle and proof of the new vehicle delivery or technology installation. If necessary, EPA may request additional documentation from a selectee prior to issuing funds if EPA determines that any required information is missing or incomplete. In such a case, EPA will provide the selectee with a reasonable amount of time to submit additional information.

Emission Reductions Reporting

EPA will use the vehicle information supplied by applicants to calculate emissions reductions attributable to the 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates for the purposes of program evaluation and reporting to Congress on the effectiveness of the program.

Program Audit

EPA will conduct random reviews of selectees to protect against waste, fraud, and abuse. As part of this process, EPA, or its designees, may request copies of rebate documents from prior selectees who have received rebates, or may request documentation from current selectees to verify statements made on the application and payment forms. EPA, or its designees, may also conduct site visits to confirm documentation is on hand and that replacement buses are still in service. Selectees are expected to comply with site visit requests and recordkeeping requirements and must supply EPA with any requested documents for three years from date of rebate issuance, or risk cancellation of an active rebate application or other enforcement action.

Record Retention Requirements

Selectees must retain all financial records, supporting documents, accounting books and other evidence of Rebate Program activities for three years after receipt of the rebate. If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the three-year period, the recipient must maintain all appropriate records until these actions are completed and all issues resolved.