

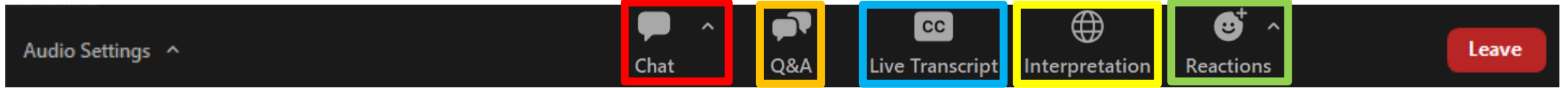


Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (CHDV) Grant Program Grant Forms and FAQs Webinar

JUNE 17, 2024

OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION AND AIR QUALITY
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Zoom Webinar Logistics



This presentation is being recorded. The slides and recording will be posted to <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program> as soon as they are processed for posting.

All attendees are in listen-only mode. Audio is available through your computer speakers or by phone.

Live transcription: Live captioning is available by clicking the “Live Transcript” icon.

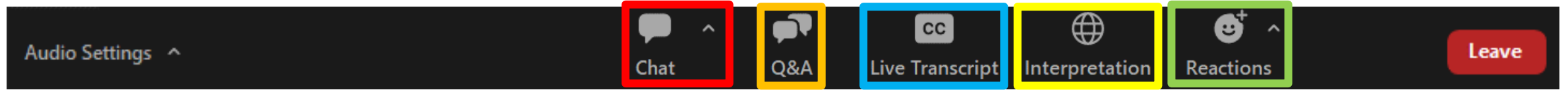
Live interpretation Live Spanish interpretation is available by clicking the “Interpretation” icon and selecting Spanish. Click “Mute Original Audio” to mute English audio when listening in Spanish.

Questions: Use the Q&A feature to ask questions during the presentation. We will list all questions and answers in the Q&A document available on our website. You can also submit written questions to the EPA Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Program helpline at cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov.

Chat: Chat is disabled, but the presenters might share links through the chat feature.

Reactions: Reactions are enabled for you to interact with the presenter.

Logística de seminarios web en Zoom



Esta presentación es grabada. Las diapositivas y la grabación se publicarán en <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program> tan pronto sean procesadas para su publicación.

Todos los asistentes se encuentran solo en modo escucha. Hay audio disponible a través de los altoparlantes de su computadora o por teléfono. El presentador le pedirá que quite el silencio si corresponde.

Transcripción en vivo Hay subtítulos disponibles haciendo clic en el icono “Live Transcript” [Transcripción en vivo].

Interpretación en vivo Hay interpretación en español disponible haciendo clic en el icono “Interpreting” [Interpretación] y seleccionando el español. Haga clic en “Mute Original Audio” [Silenciar audio original] para silenciar el audio en inglés al escuchar en español.

Preguntas: Use la función Q&A [preguntas y respuestas] para hacer preguntas durante la presentación. Abordaremos todas las que sea posible después de la presentación. Si no podemos contestar su pregunta en este momento, anotaremos todas las preguntas y respuestas en el documento Q&A correspondiente disponible en nuestro sitio web. Puede también enviar preguntas por escrito a la línea directa de ayuda del Programa de Autobuses Escolares Limpios de la EPA en cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov.

Chat: Se encuentra inhabilitado el chat, pero los presentadores podrían compartir enlaces a través de la función de chat.

Reacciones: Las reacciones están habilitadas para que usted interactúe con el presentador.

Live Transcription / Transcripción simultánea



Live transcript is available

CC

Live Transcript

Live Spanish Interpretation / Interpretación simultánea



✓ Off

English

Spanish

Mute Original Audio



Interpretation

AGENDA

**Overview of the 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles
(CHDV) Grant Program**

Federal Grant Forms

CHDV Supplemental Grant Forms

Frequently Asked Questions

Summary

Overview of the CHDV Grant Program

Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (CHDV) Grant Program Overview

EPA anticipates awarding up to **\$932 million** in funding under this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Eligible activities include the **replacement of existing non-zero-emission Class 6 and/or Class 7 heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles**, as well as the purchase and installation of **associated infrastructure**, and **workforce development and training**.

There are **two** sub-programs, one for school bus replacement projects (**School Bus Sub-Program**) and one for non-school-bus vehicle replacement projects (**Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program**).

There is a set-side for **Tribal and territory applicants**.

EPA is committed to ensuring the CHDV Program delivers on the Justice40 Initiative to ensure that at least 40% of the benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities. Per the statute, **at least \$400 million** of the funding under this NOFO will go to applications that **replace vehicles to serve 1 or more communities located in a nonattainment area**.



* Please read Section III.D of the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the full list of eligible and ineligible costs and activities.

Vehicle Replacements

- EPA will offer funding to cover the **incremental** cost of replacing a non-zero-emission Class 6/7 heavy-duty vehicle with a **Class 6/7 zero-emission vehicle**. Zero emission vehicles include battery electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Infrastructure

- Funding may be used for the **purchase and installation of infrastructure** that will support vehicles replaced under this program.

Workforce Development & Training

- Funding may be used to pay for **driver/mechanic training** related to the maintenance and operation of new technologies, and vehicle **warranties**.

Implementation Costs

- Funding may be used to cover costs **directly related to the implementation, management, and oversight of the project**, including recipient and subrecipient personnel and benefits, contractual services, consulting on vehicle deployments, travel, supplies, and indirect costs.

Eligible Applicants

States (including territories)

Municipalities
(includes school districts)

Indian Tribes

Nonprofit school transportation associations

* Note, by statute third-party contractors (OEMs, Dealers, EaaS providers, private bus fleets, etc.) are NOT eligible to apply directly to this grant competition but may participate by encouraging eligible applicants to apply and subsequently participating in the bidding process during the procurement process after grants are awarded.

CHDV Funding per Replacement Vehicle

Vehicle Type	Battery-Electric Vehicles (BEVs)		Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles (FCEVs)	
	EPA Cost Share Percentage of New Vehicle Price	Per-Vehicle Funding Cap (Vehicle + Infrastructure)	EPA Cost Share Percentage of New Vehicle Price	Per-Vehicle Funding Cap (Vehicle + Infrastructure)
School Bus	75%	\$280,000*	N/A	N/A
Straight/Box Truck	65%	\$190,000	80%	\$400,000
Step Van		\$160,000		\$340,000
Septic Truck or Bucket Truck		\$330,000		\$670,000
Other Vocational Vehicle		\$355,000		\$720,000
Refuse Hauler	50%	\$260,000	70%	\$600,000
Street Sweeper		\$315,000		\$720,000
Transit Bus	33%	\$265,000	60%	\$780,000

The EPA will fund up to the **EPA cost share percentage of the new vehicle, up to the per-vehicle funding cap**, as shown in the table. Applicants will be responsible for providing or securing the remaining costs. Note, the applicant cost share is waived for Tribal and territory applicants, but such applicants are still subject to the per-vehicle cost caps shown in the table.

Project Implementation Costs: Eligible additional project costs include those costs directly related to the implementation, management, and oversight of the project, including vehicle delivery costs. Project implementation costs are not included or subject to the per-vehicle caps listed in the table.

*ADA-compliant school buses are eligible for an additional \$20,000 per-vehicle funding cap (i.e., a total per-vehicle funding cap of \$300,000)



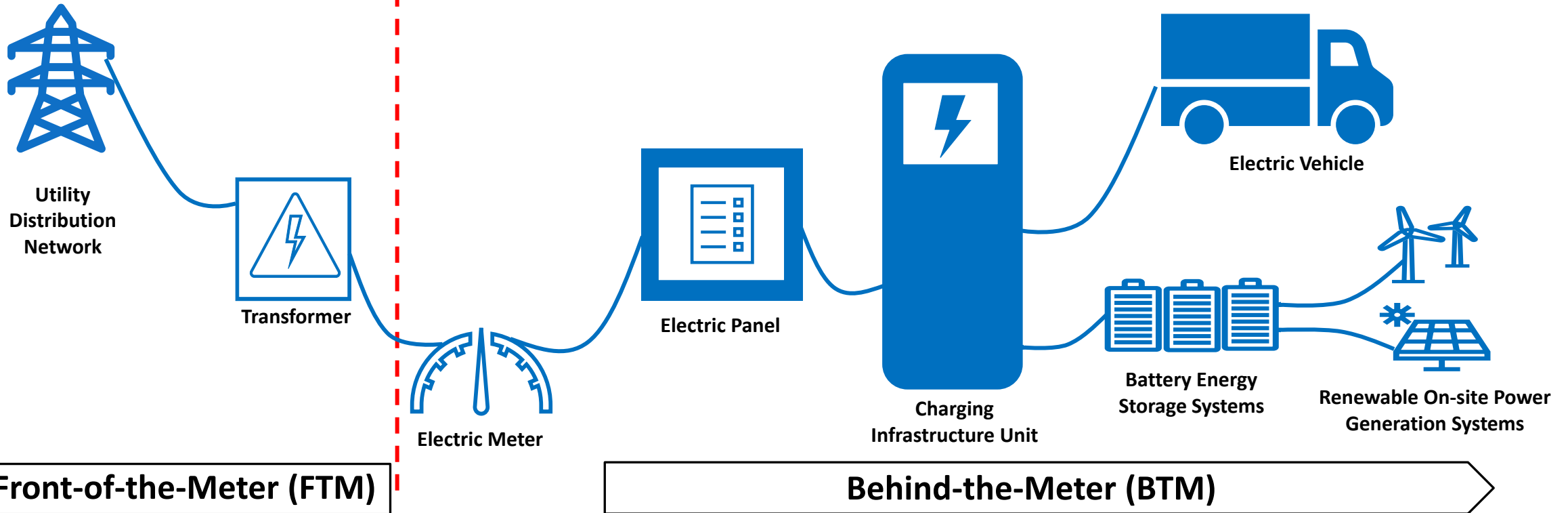
Application packages must be submitted to EPA via Grants.gov no later than July 25th, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

For more information, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program>.

EVSE Infrastructure Funding Restrictions

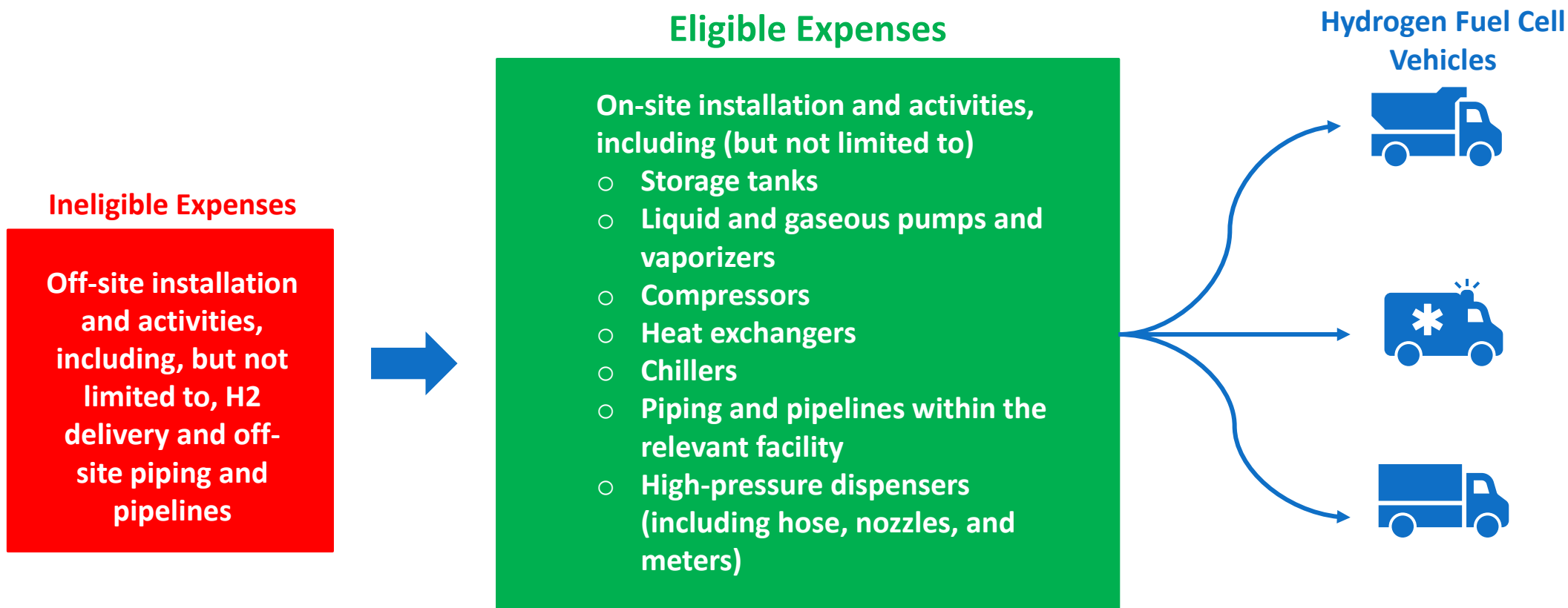
Non-Eligible Expenses

Eligible Expenses



- EPA funding for infrastructure is **limited to installations and upgrades behind the electric meter**. This may include, but is not limited to, upgrades (including software and telematic equipment) and permits. Funds may also be used for battery energy storage systems (BESS) associated with new electric vehicles funded in the program, as well as solar- or wind-powered on-site power generation systems that power the vehicles, if behind the meter.
- **All Level 2 charging infrastructure purchased under this program must be EPA ENERGY STAR certified at the time of purchase**. The EPA strongly recommends that all other charging infrastructure funded under this program be listed by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

Hydrogen Infrastructure Funding Restrictions



In general, eligible Hydrogen fueling infrastructure expenses include those associated with activities and installations that are **on-site**. For specific hydrogen fueling eligibility information, refer to Section III.D of the NOFO.

Filling out your Grant Forms

Christopher Kent
Office of Grants and Debarment
EPA National Policy, Training, & Compliance Division





First things first:













Read the NOFO and Q&A doc and check the Terms and Conditions. If you still have questions, contact the CHDV Helpline (cleanHDvehicles@epa.gov)

Mandatory federal grant forms:

Application Documents

The 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Programs NOFO includes information on how to prepare and submit an application package. The application package must be received by 11:59 PM (ET) on Wednesday, July 25, 2024. Please refer to Appendix B in the NOFO for an Application Submission Checklist to ensure that all required materials have been included in your application package.

- [Standard Form SF 424 \(pdf\)](#)  (102 KB) – Application for Federal Assistance
- [Standard Form SF 424A](#)  (132 KB)– Budget Information
- [EPA Form 4700-4](#)  (115 KB) – Pre-Award Compliance Review
- [EPA Key Contacts Form](#)  (41 KB) – Key Contacts Form
-  [2024 CHDV NOFO \(pdf\)](#) (880.4 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Sample Project Narrative \(docx\)](#) (680.7 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Supplemental Application Template \(xlsx\)](#) (908.8 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Electric Utility Partnership Template \(pdf\)](#) (1.1 MB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants School Board Awareness Certification \(docx\)](#) (655.4 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Third Party Approval Certification \(docx\)](#) (654.7 KB, April 2024)

Application packages must be submitted to EPA via Grants.gov no later than July 25th, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

For more information, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program>.

Standard Form-424

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- Preapplication
 Application
 Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- New
 Continuation
 Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

AZ Division of Environmental Policy

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

99-9999999

* c. UEI:

XXXXXX12X3XXX4

Refer to SAM.gov for information
on transition from DUNS to UEI.

SF -424

d. Address:

* Street1:	123 Grand Canyon Road
Street2:	
* City:	Lava Falls
County/Parish:	Dry County
* State:	AZ: Arizona
Province:	
* Country:	USA: UNITED STATES
* Zip / Postal Code:	85364

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Division Name:



SF-424

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

Title:

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:





SAMPLE

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
	Federal				
a. Personnel	\$ 18,631		\$	\$	\$ 23,431
b. Fringe Benefits	5,776				7,264
c. Travel	7,142				7,142
d. Equipment	23,500				23,500
e. Supplies	7,325				7,325
f. Contractual	136,720				156,720
g. Construction					
h. Other	39,000				41,811
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)					\$
j. Indirect Charges	14,480				\$ 14,480
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 252,574		\$	\$	\$ 281,673
7. Program Income	\$		\$	\$	\$

Authorized for Local Reproduction

Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)
Prescribed by OMB (Circular A -102) Page 1A



EPA Form
4700-4

OMB Control No. 2030-0020
Approval expires 06/30/2024

**Preaward Compliance Review Report for
All Applicants and Recipients Requesting EPA Financial Assistance**

Note: Read Instructions before completing form.

This collection of information is approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. (OMB Control No. 2030-0020). Responses to this collection of information are required to obtain an assistance agreement (40 CFR Part 30, 40 CFR Part 31, and 40 CFR Part 33 for awards made prior to December 26, 2014, and 2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 1500, and 40 CFR Part 33 for awards made after December 26, 2014). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 0.5 hours per response. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden to the Regulatory Support Division Director, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2821T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

I. A. Applicant/Recipient (Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code)

Name:

Address:

City:

State: Zip Code:

B. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):

C. Applicant/Recipient Point of Contact

Name: Phone: Email:

Title:



EPA Form
4700-4

III. List all pending civil rights lawsuits and administrative complaints filed under federal law against the applicant/recipient that allege discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Do not include employment complaints, unless covered by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7.)

IV. List all civil rights lawsuits and administrative complaints decided against the applicant/recipient within the last year that alleged discrimination under federal law based on race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability and enclose a copy of all decisions. Please describe all corrective actions taken. (Do not include employment complaints, unless covered by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7.)

V. List all civil rights compliance reviews of the applicant/recipient conducted under federal nondiscrimination laws by any federal agency within the last two years and enclose a copy of the review and any decisions, orders, or agreements based on the review. Please describe any corrective action taken. (40 C.F.R. § 7.80(c)(3))

EPA Form 4700-4

VI. Is the applicant requesting EPA assistance for new construction? If no, proceed to VII; if yes, answer (a) and/or (b) below.

Yes No

a. If the grant is for new construction, will all new facilities or alterations to existing facilities be designed and constructed to be readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities? If yes, proceed to VII; if no, proceed to VI(b).

Yes No

b. If the grant is for new construction and the new facilities or alterations to existing facilities will not be readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities, explain how a regulatory exception (40 C.F.R. 7.70) applies.

VII. Does the applicant/recipient provide initial and continuing notice that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in its program or activities? (40 C.F.R. 5.140 and 7.95)

Yes No

a. Do the methods of notice accommodate those with impaired vision or hearing?

Yes No

b. Is the notice posted in a prominent place on the applicant's/recipient's website, in the offices or facilities or, for education programs and activities, in appropriate periodicals and other written communications?

Yes No

c. Does the notice identify a designated civil rights coordinator?

Yes No

EPA Form 4700-4





EPA KEY CONTACTS FORM

OMB Control No. 2030-0020
Approval expires 06/30/2024

Key Contacts Form

This collection of information is approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. (OMB Control No. 2030-0020). Responses to this collection of information are required to obtain an assistance agreement (40 CFR Part 30, 40 CFR Part 31, and 40 CFR Part 33 for awards made prior to December 26, 2014, and 2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 1500, and 40 CFR Part 33 for awards made after December 26, 2014). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 0.5 hours per response. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden to the Regulatory Support Division Director, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2821T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

Authorized Representative: *Original awards and amendments will be sent to this individual for review and acceptance, unless otherwise indicated.*

Name: Prefix: First Name: Middle Name:
Last Name: Suffix:
Title:

Complete Address:
Street1:
Street2:
City: State:
Zip / Postal Code: Country:
Phone Number: **Fax Number:**
E-mail Address:

Payee: *Individual authorized to accept payments.*

Name: Prefix: First Name: Middle Name:
Last Name: Suffix:
Title:

Complete Address:
Street1:
Street2:
City: State:
Zip / Postal Code: Country:
Phone Number: **Fax Number:**
E-mail Address:





Project Narrative

A complete application requires a project narrative (work plan).

The project narrative must align with the proposed budget, and contain milestones, and measurable outputs and outcomes.

Exceptions to the Grants.gov Submission Requirement

Exceptions to the Grants.gov Submission Requirement

- Only utilize this option when experiencing extreme difficulty with Grants.gov
- The Office of Grants and Debarment must provide authorization to use waiver
- EPA encourages applicants not to wait to submit proposals. **Start and submit early!**
- Still required to have a SAM.gov registration

RAIN-2020-G04-R1 Establishment of Standards for Submission of Administrative and Financial Assistance Agreement Forms/Documents with Electronic or Digital Signatures by Email

- Policy states to use electronic signature system, such as DocuSign or Adobe Pro, to sign documents
- Typed name/date will not be accepted



Training, Guidance, and Help

- [EPA Grants Website](#)
- [EPA Grants Management Training for Applicants and Recipients](#)
- [How to Develop a Budget](#)
- [Budget Development Guidance](#)
- [EPA Grants Webinars](#)
- [SAM.gov – Get Started](#)
 - [SAM.gov helpdesk](#)
- [Grants.gov Helpdesk \(or call 1-800-518-4726\)](#)
- [EPA General Terms and Conditions](#)













A solid blue vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the top to the bottom.

CHDV Grant Program Supplemental Applicant Forms

Application Documents

The 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Programs NOFO includes information on how to prepare and submit an application package. The application package must be received by 11:59 PM (ET) on Wednesday, July 25, 2024. Please refer to Appendix B in the NOFO for an Application Submission Checklist to ensure that all required materials have been included in your application package.

- [Standard Form SF 424 \(pdf\)](#)  (102 KB) – Application for Federal Assistance
- [Standard Form SF 424A](#)  (132 KB)– Budget Information
- [EPA Form 4700-4](#)  (115 KB) – Pre-Award Compliance Review
- [EPA Key Contacts Form](#)  (41 KB) – Key Contacts Form
-  [2024 CHDV NOFO \(pdf\)](#) (880.4 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Sample Project Narrative \(docx\)](#) (680.7 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Supplemental Application Template \(xlsx\)](#) (908.8 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Electric Utility Partnership Template \(pdf\)](#) (1.1 MB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants School Board Awareness Certification \(docx\)](#) (655.4 KB, April 2024)
-  [2024 CHDV Grants Third Party Approval Certification \(docx\)](#) (654.7 KB, April 2024)

Application packages must be submitted to EPA via [Grants.gov](https://www.epa.gov/grants) no later than July 25th, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

For more information, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program>.

Utility Partnership Template

- Applicants requesting battery-electric vehicles are required to complete the Utility Partnership Template.
- Goal: ensure that applicants seeking to electrify their fleet fully understand the anticipated costs and timelines of electrification. Planning early for an electrified fleet’s long-term infrastructure needs is important for project success.
- As noted in the Template, the EPA recommends discussing both the **anticipated costs and timelines of this potential electrification project and the applicant’s future plans for electrification.**
- This “futureproofing” for upcoming needs may ultimately decrease overall utility upgrade costs.
- Applicants completing this template may choose to reference it and/or discuss the information provided in the template as additional demonstration of engagement with their utility under the Project Sustainability section of the project narrative.



OMB Control Number: 2060-0754
Expiration Date: 04/30/2027

Office of Transportation and Air Quality
April 2024

Burden Statement for EPA Form 5900-685: This collection of information is approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. (OMB Control No. 2060-0754). Responses to this collection of information are voluntary (2 CFR 200 at 2 CFR 1500). An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 2 hours per response. Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden to the Regulatory Support Division Director, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2821T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.



TCD Utility Partnership Template

Application packages must be submitted to EPA via Grants.gov no later than July 25th, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

For more information, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program>.

1. Fleet Information

	Requested in Application <i>[Please provide the number of mobile source equipment (by type) and chargers requested in your application.]</i>	Current Electric Fleet at time of Application Submission <i>[Please provide the number of vehicles and chargers already in your electric fleet.]</i>
Type and Number of Electric Vehicles/Equipment:		
Number of DC Fast Charger Units:		
Number of Level 2 AC Charger Unites:		
Number of Other EV Charger Units: <i>(please specify the type of chargers)</i>		
Number of Shore Power Pedestals:		
Number of Units of Other Eligible Charging and/or Fueling Infrastructure: <i>(please specify the type of infrastructure)</i>		
Expected location(s) (street, city, state) of Charger and/or Electrical Infrastructure Installations:		

2. Utility Information

The EPA recommends that applicants fill out information for each individual utility provider they are communicating with about their potential electric infrastructure project. The EPA recommends that applicants communicating with more than one utility identify whether the project scope occurring with a specific utility provider would constitute all or only part of the potential electric infrastructure project.

a. Utility Provider #1

Name of the Utility Provider:	
Utility Contact Name:	
Utility Contact Phone:	
Utility Contact Email:	

3. Applicant and Utility Coordination Affirmation

By signing this Affirmation, I certify that I am an Authorized Representative for the Applicant or Utility Provider identified below.

If an applicant has not received a response from their local utility provider(s) after repeated attempts to discuss this form, then they may submit the document with signatures from all parties involved in the application except for the utility, with the understanding that there will be continued outreach with the utility after the application deadline. During application review, the EPA may reach out to request an updated copy of this form that includes all required signatures. The EPA expects all the appropriate signatures to be present at the time of award, and omission of these signatures may compromise an applicant's selection status.

- **For applicants to the Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program:** In the event the applicant attempted to contact the utility provider about this form, but received no response, the applicant should also email cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov with the following information: name of the utility, name of utility point of contact they've been working with, (or attempting to work with), and information on when the applicant attempted to contact the utility provider.

Applicant Affirmation

I have discussed the project plan for the fleet and charging infrastructure outlined above with the Utility Company, and if applicable with the School District and/or Port Authority, and others as appropriate.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Applicant Organization Name	Authorized Representative (Signature)	Date

Utility Provider Affirmation

I have discussed the project plan for the fleet and charging infrastructure outlined above with the Applicant listed above, and if applicable, the third parties below, including the relevant School District and/or Port Authority, and others as appropriate.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Utility Provider #1 Name	Authorized Representative (Signature)	Date
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Utility Provider #2 Name	Authorized Representative (Signature)	Date

4. OPTIONAL: Planning for Utility Upgrades

This section is NOT required to be completed and/or submitted to the EPA, however, the EPA strongly encourages applicants and utility providers to discuss the items listed in Section 4. Additionally, applicants should keep fleet electrification expansion plans in mind, as futureproofing for upcoming needs can ultimately decrease overall utility upgrade costs.

Please work with your utility to provide a rough estimate of the total engineering and construction cost for utility owned infrastructure (in front of the meter) for the project based on the number of vehicles and eligible charging and/or fueling infrastructure listed in the applicant's application:	
In the box below, please briefly describe the scope of any needed utility upgrades for the project. Please consider whether engineering, construction, and/or permitting is needed, whether an interconnection study is necessary, and the extent of services needed for completion. This should include whether upgrades are necessary for the following pieces of equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Power transformer• Terminator Pole• Service lateral/conductor• Metering• Primary line extension• Any additional equipment	
Based on the information provided above, please provide an estimate of time required to complete the necessary utility-owned infrastructure (in front of the meter) upgrades:	

Third-Party Approval Certification

- Third-party applicants applying on behalf of a school district to the School Bus Sub-Program are required to complete the Third-Party Approval Certification.
- Goal: ensure **awareness** of all parties involved in the potential new bus project; the form is **nonbinding**.

2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (CHDV) Grants School District Approval Letter for Third-Party Applicants

Please complete this form for all applications in which the applicant is not the direct beneficiary of the vehicles funded under the project (e.g., a nonprofit school transportation association applying on behalf of a school district).

The intent of this form is to ensure awareness of all parties involved in the potential new bus project. This form is not binding, meaning that applicants do not need to fully commit to proceeding with the potential new bus project if selected for funding. This early communication is meant to provide notice of consent and the EPA fully expects that awardees and their appropriate school districts will have additional communications as needed as part of the award acceptance process.

For this form, an authorized representative may include, for example, Transportation Director or their representative, who could sign the form after notifying an appropriate person at the school district of the application for the potential new bus project.

By signing, I certify that I am an Authorized Representative for [School District Name] (the District) and that [Applicant Name] (Applicant) has [School District Name]'s approval to apply for 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program funding on behalf of the District. I also certify that, in discussions with [Applicant Name], we have discussed the number of buses for replacement, the fuel type of the new buses, and which party will own the new buses if the Applicant is selected for funding in the 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program.

School District Authorized Representative

_____		_____
<i>School District Authorized Representative Name (Print)</i>		<i>Authorized Representative Signature</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Authorized Representative Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

School District Alternative Representative

_____		_____
<i>School District Alternative Representative Name (Print)</i>		<i>Alternative Representative Signature</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Alternative Representative Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

Applicant Authorized Representative

_____		_____
<i>Applicant Authorized Representative Name (Print)</i>		<i>Authorized Representative Signature</i>

School Board Awareness Certification

- Applicants to the School Bus Sub-Program are required to complete the School Board Awareness Certification Template.
- Goal: verify the school board's **awareness** of the CHDV grant application; the form is **nonbinding**.
- Note: applicants to the Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program have the option to modify this form to demonstrate support from any State or municipal office that will need to approve the purchase and replacement of vehicles and infrastructure under this application, if selected.

2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles (CHDV) Grant Program School Board Awareness Certification

The intent of this form is to ensure awareness of all parties involved in the potential new bus project. This form is not binding, meaning that applicants do not need to fully commit to proceeding with the potential new bus project if selected for funding. This early communication is meant to provide notice and the EPA fully expects that awardees and their appropriate school board will have additional communications as needed as part of the award acceptance process.

For this form, an authorized representative may include, for example, the Superintendent or their representative, who could sign the form after notifying an appropriate person at the Board of the application for the potential new bus project.

By signing, I certify that I am an Authorized Representative for [School Board Name] and that [Applicant Name] (Applicant) has made us aware that [Applicant Name] is applying for 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program funding for [School District Name]. I also certify that, in discussions with [Applicant Name], we have discussed the number of buses for replacement, the fuel type of the new buses, and which party will own the new buses.

School Board Authorized Representative


_____		_____
<i>School Board Authorized Representative Name (Print)</i>		<i>Authorized Representative Signature</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Authorized Representative Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

School District Authorized Representative

_____		_____
<i>School District Authorized Representative Name (Print)</i>		<i>Authorized Representative Signature</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Authorized Representative Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

Applicant Authorized Representative

_____		_____
<i>Applicant Authorized Representative Name (Print)</i>		<i>Authorized Representative Signature</i>
_____	_____	_____
<i>Authorized Representative Title</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email</i>

A solid blue vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the top to the bottom.

Frequently Asked Questions

FAQ Category: Overview

How many vehicles
can be replaced?

Applicants applying through the School District Sub-Program must replace a minimum of **10 school buses**. Applicants applying through the Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program must replace a minimum of **3 vehicles**. Tribal and territory applicants are not subject to vehicle replacement minimums. There is **no maximum limit** set for vehicle replacements.

FAQ Category: Eligible Applicants

Can multiple eligible applicants from the same EPA Region jointly apply to this program on a single application?

While an eligible applicant may partner with any number of partners that own or operate fleets, a **single eligible organization/entity must be the applicant**. This single applicant will ultimately be the direct recipient of the grant. Please refer to pages 1 and 2 of the NOFO for additional information on naming project partners in an application and relevant requirements for competing for contracts for services and products.

FAQ Category: Eligible Applicants

Are not-for-profit higher education institutions eligible applicants?

No. In Section III.D. of the NOFO, 2 CFR §200.1 specifically excludes Institutions of Higher Education from the definition of nonprofit organization.

FAQ Category: Eligible Vehicles

Are any classes of vehicles other than Class 6 & 7 vehicles eligible for replacement?

No. Per the CHDV provisions in the IRA statute, and Section II. D. of the NOFO, vehicles to be replaced must be a Class 6 or Class 7 heavy-duty vehicle with Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) between **19,501 pounds to 33,000 pounds** to be eligible for funding.

FAQ Category: Eligible Vehicles

Where can I find information on “other vocational vehicles”?

Vocational Vehicles are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations at [49 CFR Part 523](#). Types of vocational vehicles not specifically listed in Table 2 of Section III.B.1 of the NOFO, but that meet the program's eligibility requirements in Section III.D.2, including a vehicle weight of Class 6 or 7, are considered “Other Vocational Vehicles” under the 2024 CHDV Grant Program.

FAQ Category: Eligible Costs & Funding Amounts

If an eligible vehicle is purchased within the period of performance but delivered after the period of performance will the cost be an eligible expense?

All project activities and costs incurred, including order and delivery of new eligible vehicles, must be completed within the period of performance. The estimated project period for awards resulting from this solicitation is up to **24 months, however, initial project periods of up to 36 months will be allowed where justified** by the activities, timeline, and milestones detailed in the workplan. The estimated project start date for awards is January 2025.

FAQ Category: Eligible Costs & Funding Amounts

Is there a cost sharing or matching fund requirement for this grant program?

Yes. Applicants are subject to a mandatory cost share, as described in Section III.B.1 of the NOFO. The mandatory cost share is waived for territory and Tribal applicants, but territory and Tribal applicants are still subject to the per-vehicle cost caps described in Table 2 of the NOFO. Applicants are not required to, but may also choose to commit to a voluntary cost share and/or leveraged resources, as described in Sections III.B.2 and III.B.3 of the NOFO. The EPA will award evaluation points for voluntary cost share and leveraged funding commitments as described in Sections IV.C and V.A of the NOFO.

FAQ Category: Application Process

Can a State apply for CHDV Grant Program funding and subaward to other entities through its own grant program?

Grant recipients may make subawards to subrecipients to carry out a portion of the grant project; in such cases, the grant recipient is also known as a pass-through entity.

Subawards establish a financial assistance relationship under which the subrecipient's employees and contractors implement programs and projects to accomplish the goals and objectives of the grant. As noted in the NOFO Appendix A, Section III, subrecipients are subject to the same federal requirements as the pass-through entity. Under this competition, a nonfederal entity is eligible to receive a subaward even if it is not eligible to receive a grant from the EPA directly. Please also review pages 1 and 2 of the NOFO, along with der Section I.F., for additional information relevant to subawards.

FAQ Category: Scrappage, Sale, or Donation of Existing Vehicles

If a grantee possesses only 2011 or newer engine model year (EMY) in their fleet, and they choose to sell the existing vehicle(s), can the grantee sell the vehicle(s) to any entity they choose?

If no model year 2010 or older vehicles are available, an EMY 2011 or newer vehicle that meets the usage requirements (see Section III.D.2 of the NOFO) may be scrapped, sold, or donated) per the instructions under "Fleet Expansion" in Section III.D. of the NOFO. **If sold or donated, the grantee may sell or donate their vehicles to any entity and must retain documentation of that transaction.**

FAQ Category: Scrappage, Sale, or Donation of Existing Vehicles

Can a grantee keep the body of a vehicle they scrap?

The engine block and chassis of scrapped vehicles must be permanently disabled within the grant period of performance using the methods described in Section III.D.5.k of the NOFO. Other acceptable scrappage methods may be considered and will require prior written approval from the EPA project officer. **Vehicle components that are not part of the engine or chassis may be salvaged from the unit being replaced.**

FAQ Category: Terms & Conditions

Has the EPA requested a **Build America, Buy America (BABA) waiver for vocational vehicles replacements** funded through the CHDV Grant Program? Where and when will the EPA provide additional guidance on projects subject to BABA provisions?

Applicants to the Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program are advised to apply with procurement plans subject to BABA provisions, as the EPA cannot guarantee future applicable BABA program waivers for vocational vehicles. **Project-level waivers may be applicable depending on applicable factors.** Please monitor the EPA's Build America, Buy America website for updates regarding EPA's general applicability waivers and for information on applying for project level waivers.

Summary

2024 CHDV NOFO

- [Q&A documents](#) will be posted bi-weekly on the CHDV webpage.
 - Deadline to submit new questions: **July 8th at 11:59 p.m. ET**
- Application packages must be submitted to the EPA via Grants.gov no later than **Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET.**

Next Steps

- Register your organization with Sam.gov and Grants.gov
- Begin coordinating with utilities, school boards, and other partners
- Start engaging your community
- Visit the CHDV website for resources and updates
- Prepare and submit your application package

Resources

- [EPA's CHDV Program website](#)
- The CHDV helpline (cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov)
- Technical assistance helpline (cleanhdvehiclesTA@nrel.gov)

Stay in Touch

- View the full 2024 CHDV Grant NOFO at [epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-grant-program](https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-grant-program)
- Submit questions to cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov
- Don't miss any updates! To sign up for the listserv, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program>

Appendix

FAQ Category: Overview

Will there be additional funding opportunities for the CHDV Program after the July 25th deadline?

The total estimated funding expected to be awarded under this competitive CHDV Grant Program is up to \$932 million; however, total funding awarded is dependent upon the number of meritorious applications received and other applicable considerations described in the NOFO. To that end, the EPA reserves the right to make fewer awards than anticipated. Please refer to Section II of the NOFO for more information on available funding.

FAQ Category: Application Process

In a nutshell, how does the application process work?

The NOFO describes all the project eligibility and application submission information. The NOFO, as well as a sample project narrative and all related materials (including standard forms (SF) 424, SF 424A, EPA Form 4700-4, and the EPA form 5700-54 from Grants.gov under Funding Opportunity Number EPA-OAR-CHDV-24-06) may be found on EPA's CHDV Grant Program webpage. The project narrative and any supporting documents should be attached to the application package, and the full package submitted to the EPA through Grants.gov. You will find instructions to submit your application through Grants.gov in Section IV of the NOFO.

Important Dates

Wednesday, April 24, 2024	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Opens
Anticipated June 2024 – Date TBA	CHDV Webinar: Evaluation Criteria, Grant Forms, and Popular Q&A <i>Registration information will be made available at http://www.epa.gov/clean-heavy-duty-vehicles-program under the “Webinars” section</i>
Monday, July 8, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET	Final Date to Submit Questions
Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 11:59 PM ET	NOFO Closes – Application Deadline <i>Application packages must be submitted electronically to EPA through Grants.gov (www.grants.gov) no later than Thursday, July 25, 2024, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) in order to be considered for funding</i>
November 2024	Anticipated Notification of Selection
December 2024	Anticipated Awards

Eligible Vehicles

Class 6/7 School Buses

Class 6/7 Vocational Vehicles

- Including (but not limited to):
 - Delivery Trucks
 - Utility Trucks
 - Bucket Trucks
 - Other box trucks
 - Refuse Haulers/Dump Trucks
 - Class 6/7 Transit Buses

Class 6 and Class 7 Vehicles include vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) between 19,501 and 33,000 lbs.

Eligible Existing Vehicles Must*:

All Vehicles Must:

- Be a **Class 6 or Class 7 heavy-duty vehicle** with Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) between 19,501 lbs to 33,000 lbs
- Be **fully operational** at the time of application submission
- Be an **engine model year (EMY) 2010 or older diesel-powered vehicle** that will be **scrapped** if selected for funding. If a fleet has no eligible EMY 2010 or older diesel-powered vehicles, the fleet can either:
 - Scrap an EMY 2010 or older non-diesel internal combustion engine (ICE)-powered vehicle
 - Scrap, sell, or donate an EMY 2011 or newer diesel or non-diesel ICE-powered vehicle
 - Move an EMY 2011 or newer diesel or non-diesel ICE-powered vehicle to a “reduced service” fleet and scrap an EMY 2010 or older reduced-service vehicle in its place

All School Buses Must:

- Have provided bus service to a public school district at least **3 days/week on average during the 2022/2023 school year** at the time of application, excluding emergency-related school closures

All Other Non-School Bus Vehicles Must:

- Have accumulated at least **7,000 miles/year** during each of the two years prior to replacement
 - The mileage of two or more vehicles may be combined to reach 7,000 miles/year where two or more vehicles will be scrapped, sold, or donated and replaced by a single vehicle
 - For **Tribal and territory applicants**, the mileage minimum is **5,000 miles/year** during each of the two years prior to replacement
 - If a vehicle does not meet the mileage requirement, the applicant can demonstrate that the vehicle has **idled at least 500 hours/year** during the two years prior to replacement

**Refer to Section III.D of the NOFO for specific eligibility information*

2024 CHDV Grant Program Structure

School Bus Sub-Program

Level of Funding: 70% of total funds

Eligible Vehicles: Class 6/7 school buses

Minimum of 10 buses per application

Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program

Level of Funding: 30% of total funds

Eligible Vehicles: Non-school-bus Class 6/7 vehicles, including, but not limited to, delivery trucks, utility trucks, bucket trucks, other box trucks, refuse haulers/dump trucks, and Class 6/7 transit buses

Minimum of 3 vehicles per application

EPA anticipates awarding at least 15 grants from either sub-program to eligible applicants from Tribes and territories under a Tribal/territory set-aside. Territories and Tribal applicants are not subject to vehicle minimums.

Eligible New Replacement Vehicles Must*:

All Vehicles Must:

- Be a **zero-emission** vehicle
 - Vehicles which have been converted to a zero-emission drivetrain after the first retail sale are *not* eligible
 - The conversion of a vehicle to a battery-electric drivetrain is *not* an eligible cost or activity
- Be a **Class 6 or Class 7 heavy-duty vehicle**
- Be an **engine model year 2023** or newer that is certified to **conform with all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards**
- Be **ordered only after receiving official notification of award** for EPA funding
- Be **purchased**, not leased or leased-to-own
- **Not be manufactured or retrofitted with, or otherwise have installed, a power unit or other technology that creates air pollution within the vehicle**, such as an unvented diesel passenger heater
- **Not be purchased or otherwise subsidized with other federal grant funds.** The total of funds from the CHDV grant and other eligible external funds allocated for the vehicle replacements cannot exceed the cost of the new vehicles

Build America Buy America (BABA) requirements will be discussed later in the presentation.

**Refer to Section III.D of the NOFO for specific eligibility information*

Eligible Infrastructure Equipment*

For Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE):

- Eligible infrastructure is limited to installations and upgrades behind the meter up to the charging port, including (but not limited to):
 - Charging equipment (such as alternating current (AC) Level 2 charging equipment, direct-current (DC) fast charging equipment, or vehicle-to-grid (V2G) enabled equipment);
 - Design and engineering
 - Installation costs such as trenching, wiring and electrical upgrades, labor, and permitting;
 - Related intelligent equipment and software designed to monitor vehicle and infrastructure performance (such as telematics or charge management software)
- **Build America, Buy America requirements apply to eligible vehicle charging infrastructure equipment**
- EPA funds cannot be used for any infrastructure costs associated with work in front of the electrical meter

For Hydrogen Fueling Infrastructure:

- Eligible infrastructure includes (but is not limited to):
 - Storage tanks
 - Liquid and gaseous pumps and vaporizers
 - Compressors
 - Heat exchangers
 - Chillers
 - Piping and pipelines within the relevant facility
 - High-pressure dispensers (including hose, nozzles, and meters)
- **Build America, Buy America requirements apply to eligible hydrogen fueling infrastructure equipment**

All electricians installing, operating, or maintaining EVSE are required to be certified from the [Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program](#) (EVITP), or another program approved by the EPA in consultation with the Department of Labor and Department of Transportation. To find an EVITP-certified electrician in your area, visit <https://evitp.org/>.

**Refer to Section III.D of the NOFO for specific eligibility information*

Build America, Buy America (BABA) Requirements

What is Build America, Buy America (BABA)?

- Certain infrastructure projects are subject to BABA provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)
- BABA requires items that are predominantly iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in federal infrastructure projects to be produced in the U.S.

How Does BABA Impact the CHDV Program?

- The CHDV Grant Program is subject to BABA, which requires that applicants apply a Buy America preference to all Federal financial assistance projects where funds are appropriated or otherwise made available and used for a project for infrastructure.
- The EPA has determined that school buses are not subject to BABA
- Please monitor [EPA's Build America, Buy America website](#) for updates regarding EPA's general applicability waivers and for information on applying for project level waivers.

Application Package: Mandatory Documents*

Application Narrative

- Applicants are not required, but are highly encouraged, to use the **Project Narrative template** provided in the Grants.gov application package.
- The project narrative, including the cover page, workplan, and budget table and detail, **must not exceed a maximum of 15 single-spaced typewritten pages**. Pages in excess of the 15-page limit will not be reviewed.

Applicant Fleet Description

- Applicants must use the **applicant fleet description template contained in the Supplemental Application Document** provided in the Grants.gov application package.
- The purpose of the supplemental application template is to **describe in detail the specific vehicles targeted for emissions reductions** as well as **installation of charging or fueling equipment** to be implemented under the proposed project.

Cost Share Commitment Letters (if applicable)

- Projects are subject to the mandatory cost share and cap requirements. (Slide 12) If the source of an applicant's proposed cost share is a named project partner, the applicant **must provide a letter of commitment from the named project partner**.
- Letters should be **addressed to the applicant organization and included as attachments** to the application. Please do not ask partners to submit letters directly to the EPA.

**Refer to the NOFO for the full list and description of mandatory and optional documents.*

Application Package: Mandatory Documents (continued)*

School Board Awareness (if applicable)

- Applicants applying under the School Bus Sub-Program are required to upload documentation verifying that the school board is aware of the CHDV grant application. A **School Board Awareness Certification Template** is available in the Grants.gov application for applicants to use.
- An authorized representative, such as a Superintendent or their representative, will sign the form to demonstrate that the school board is aware of the application and involved in the process of transitioning to a cleaner fleet.
- This documentation is **not binding**, meaning that applicants do not need to fully commit to proceeding with the potential new bus project if selected for funding.

Utility Partnership (if applicable)

- Applicants proposing to replace their vehicles with electric vehicles are required to provide documentation demonstrating coordination with their utility(ies). A **Utility Partnership Template** is available in the Grants.gov application for applicants to use.
- Planning early for long-term infrastructure needs is important for project success. To prepare for the CHDV application, the EPA recommends that applicants **identify** their utility(ies) and begin coordinating and/or consulting with them on project feasibility including **charging needs, upgrades needed, costs, rates for future service, and the timeframe for necessary upgrades.**
- This document is **not binding**, meaning that applicants do not need to complete a full utility analysis prior to being selected for funding.

**Refer to the NOFO for the full list and description of mandatory and optional documents.*

Application Evaluation Process

Step 1: Threshold Criteria Review

Applicant must meet
threshold criteria to
move on to Step 2

- Application submitted by deadline via Grants.gov.
- Applicants in the School Bus Sub-Program must request a minimum of 10 school buses. Applicants in the Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program must request a minimum of 3 vehicles.
- Applications in the School Bus Sub-Program cannot include non-school bus vehicles. Applications in the Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program cannot include school buses.
- Applicants may only submit one application per sub-program.
- Applicants must identify one EPA Region for their application, based on the proposed location
- Applications must meet requirements as defined in the NOFO to be considered eligible.

Application Evaluation Process

Step 2: Evaluation Criteria

Applicants should explicitly address these criteria as part of their application package submittal in the project narrative, following the content requirements set forth in the NOFO.

EPA Evaluation Criteria (130 total points)

- 1) Project Summary and Approach (20 pts)
- 2) Environmental Results – Outputs, Outcomes and Performance Measures (20 pts)
- 3) Programmatic Capability and Past Performance (15 pts)
- 4) Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities (20 pts)
- 5) Project Readiness (10 pts)
- 6) Project Sustainability (5 pts)
- 7) Climate Resilience (5 pts)
- 8) Job Quality and Workforce Development (10 pts)
- 9) Funding Beyond the Mandatory Cost Share (5 pts)
- 10) Budget (20 pts)

#1: Project Summary and Approach

Overall Project

The extent and quality of the applicant's project summary and approach described throughout the application and how the overall strategy fits together to meet the goals and objectives of the CHDV program.

**10
Points**

Applicant Fleet Description

The degree to which detailed information is provided within the applicant fleet description in CHDV Supplemental Application Template (EPA Form Number 5900-689), including how consistent the information provided within the applicant fleet description is with the information presented in the project narrative.

**10
Points**

#2: Environmental Results, Outputs, Outcomes & Performance Measures

Expected Project Outputs & Outcomes

The extent and quality to which the applicant identifies and proposes environmental outputs and outcomes to be achieved under assistance agreements.

10
Points

Performance Measures & Plan

The quality of the proposed performance measures and effectiveness of the applicant's plan for tracking and measuring its progress toward achieving the expected project outputs and outcomes,.

5
Points

Timeline & Milestones

The reasonableness of the proposed timeline including key milestones for specific tasks and the likelihood of completion of the project's goals and objectives by project end.

5
Points

#3: Programmatic Capability & Past Performance

Past Performance

Past performance in successfully completing and managing assistance agreements that the applicant is performing or has performed within the last three years.

5
Points

Reporting Requirements

The applicant's history of meeting the reporting requirements under the assistance agreements identified in the project narrative, including

- Whether the applicant submitted acceptable progress and final reports;
- The extent to which the applicant adequately and timely reported on their progress towards achieving the expected outputs and outcomes under those agreements; and
- If progress was not being made, whether the applicant adequately reported why not.

5
Points

Staff Expertise

Organizational experience, including a description of the staff's knowledge, expertise, qualifications, and resources and/or the ability to obtain them, to successfully achieve the goals of the proposed project.

5
Points

#4: Environmental Justice & Disadvantaged Communities

10
Points

Prioritized Counties Containing Disadvantaged Communities: Non-Attainment Areas

Must meet both of the following criteria

- 1) Any county that includes at least one of the following:
 - A. any census tract that is identified as disadvantaged in the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) version 1.0; and/or
 - B. any census block group that is at or above the 90th percentile for any of EJScreen's Supplemental Indexes when compared to the nation or state; and/or
 - C. any geographic area within Tribal lands as included in EJScreen; **AND**
- 2) Any county that contains at least one designated nonattainment area or maintenance area for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone or PM2.5.

#4: Environmental Justice & Disadvantaged Communities

(cont.)

5
Points

Prioritized Counties Containing Disadvantaged Communities: Areas with Air Toxics Concerns

Must meet both of the following criteria

- 1) Any county that includes at least one of the following:
 - A. Any census tract that is identified as disadvantaged in the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) version 1.0; and/or
 - B. Any census block group that is at or above the 90th percentile for any of EJScreen's Supplemental Indexes when compared to the nation or state; and/or
 - C. Any geographic area within Tribal lands as included in EJScreen; **AND**
- 2) Any county that contains at least one census tract where the modeled ambient diesel PM concentration from the 2019 Air Toxics Screening Assessment is above the 80% percentile for census tracts nationwide.

5
Points

Community Engagement

The extent to which the project addresses engagement with affected EJ communities and/or populations, especially local residents, to ensure their meaningful participation with respect to the design, planning, and performance of the project.

#5: Project Readiness

10
Points

The EPA will evaluate applicants based on the extent to which they demonstrate coordination and consultation with their utility (for electric vehicle replacements) or hydrogen refueling provider (for hydrogen fuel cell vehicle replacements), as well as the extent to which they demonstrate coordination and consultation with any staff or entities that would need to approve the purchase and replacement of vehicles and infrastructure under this project (e.g., a school board).

For electric vehicle replacements, this must include, but is not limited to, demonstration of coordination and/or consultation with utilities on project feasibility including:

1. Charging needs
2. Upgrades needed
3. Costs
4. Rates for future service, and
5. Timeframe for necessary upgrades

For hydrogen fuel cell replacements, this should include demonstration of awareness and/or communication with the applicant's anticipated refueling provider

#6: Project Sustainability

5
Points

The extent to which the project results and benefits are sustainable and the ability of the applicant and project partners to promote and continue efforts to reduce emissions from vehicles after EPA funding for this project has ended.

Applicants demonstrating existing initiatives or firm commitments will score higher than those with only tentative initiatives or soft commitments. Some examples of sustainability efforts may include:

- **For school bus projects, stakeholder-based programs to reduce traffic congestion** and air pollution near schools by maximizing bus ridership and minimizing idling from cars in pick-up/drop-off lines.
- **Consideration of upstream emissions** and commitments to use less carbon-intensive energy or hydrogen to charge or refuel vehicles purchased under this program. For example, using solar-or wind-powered on-site power generation systems that power the vehicles.
- **Consideration of broader community electric charging and hydrogen fueling needs**, for example, making charging or fueling infrastructure publicly accessible.

#7: Climate Resilience

5
Points

The EPA will evaluate applications based on the quality and extent to which the project assesses and implements adaptation measures to help protect grant-funded investments (i.e., vehicles, infrastructure) from extreme weather and other climate-related events (e.g., wildfire, heat, drought) and ensure that the project achieves its expected outcomes even as the climate changes.

Projects can demonstrate climate resilience through measures taken to anticipate, prepare for, and avoid adverse impacts of climate change on the fleet or operations targeted by the application. For example, an applicant could:

- Assess project vulnerability to climate impacts;
- Discuss how such vulnerability would be incorporated into project planning, design, and oversight, in areas such as infrastructure, siting decisions, vehicle garaging, and operations planning; and
- Include measures taken to avoid damages could include ensuring fleets and equipment are protected from impacts such as flooding, sea level rise, wildfire, heat, drought, and storm damage.