

Medium and heavy-duty diesel trucks operating in densely-populated urban areas expose many people to harmful diesel emissions. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) Clean Diesel Rebate Program is offering rebates to replace older diesel refuse trucks and medium to heavy-duty local diesel construction, freight, delivery, and maintenance trucks. The replacement trucks may be new or used, but they must have an engine model year 2021 or newer and be fueled by compressed natural gas (CNG) or diesel. In order to ensure emissions reductions are achieved through this program, each truck being replaced must be permanently disabled and scrapped. Funding for this year's program is made possible by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's State Clean Diesel Grant program.

NDEE anticipates awarding rebates for replacing five (5) diesel trucks. **Individual applicants may apply for a rebate for up to two trucks. Preference will be given to projects proposing to purchase trucks powered by compressed natural gas.** NDEE will determine the number of diesel truck rebates after evaluating applications for all Nebraska Clean Diesel programs.

NDEE will reimburse:

- 35% of the base purchase cost of each truck powered by compressed natural gas (CNG) engines certified to meet California Air Resources Board (CARB) Optional Low-NOx Standards (see below). The maximum rebate is \$160,000 per CNG replacement truck.
- 25% of the base purchase cost of trucks powered by diesel engines certified to meet EPA or CARB emissions standards. The maximum rebate is \$100,000 per diesel replacement truck.

The truck owner is responsible for the remainder of the purchase price (mandatory cost-share). No other federal grant funds may be used to cover any portion of the mandatory cost-share.

#### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

- Public or private entities operating diesel refuse trucks or diesel trucks used in local delivery, construction, or maintenance operations in Nebraska communities.
- The applicant (or your organization) must be in compliance with all Nebraska environmental laws and with the Department's regulations and permits at all Nebraska locations.

#### **VEHICLES ELIGIBLE FOR REPLACEMENT**

- Operational Class 7 or Class 8 diesel-powered refuse trucks (gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 lbs or greater)
- Operational medium or heavy-duty diesel trucks (gross vehicle weight rating of 19,500 lbs or greater; Class 5 and higher) that are used in local delivery, construction, or maintenance operations in Nebraska.
- Trucks with model year 2009 or older may be replaced with diesel-fueled or Low-NOx CNG-fueled trucks. Trucks with engine model years 2010 or newer may only be replaced by Low-NOx CNG trucks.
- The applicant must certify that they have owned and operated the trucks to be replaced for two full years prior to the date of submission of the application.
- Trucks must have been driven at least 7,000 miles each year during the past two years. Documentation of mileage is required with the application.

#### **ELIGIBLE REPLACEMENT TRUCKS**

- Trucks with 2021 or newer model year CNG engines certified to meet CARB's Optional Low-NOx Standards of 0.1 g/bhp-hr, 0.05 g/bhp-hr, or 0.02 g/bhp-hr NOx.
- Trucks with 2021 or newer model year diesel engines certified to meet EPA or CARB emissions standards.

## 2024 Clean Diesel Rebate Program

### Local Diesel Truck Rebate Application Instructions

- The replacement truck must be in the same (or lower) gross vehicle weight rating class as the truck being replaced and must operate in the same manner.

#### **OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

- A replacement truck cannot be used to expand the applicant's current fleet but must replace a truck that is currently in use. Each replaced truck must be disabled (scrapped) within 90 days of replacement.
- One bid or quote for the replacement truck(s) must be submitted with the application.
- If selected for an award, the rebate recipient must maintain ownership of the new truck(s) for at least five years from the date of purchase and continue to operate it/them in Nebraska. If a new truck is sold before the end of the five-year period, moved out of state, or used for purposes other than specified under this program, the rebate recipient must notify NDEE and may be required to return up to the full amount of the rebate to NDEE. The amount required to be returned is at the discretion of NDEE and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Recipients may be required to file annual reports of mileage and fuel use for the duration of the agreement.

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE:**

To qualify for a Clean Diesel rebate, submit the attached Application Form and the supporting documents listed in the Application Materials Checklist before **5:00 pm on July 25, 2025**. Only **one application per applicant** will be accepted, and **a maximum of two truck replacements are allowed per application**.

***Applications will only be accepted if complete and received in the NDEE Lincoln office on or before 5:00 pm Friday, July 22, 2025.***

Applications will be evaluated on the basis of the public health benefit of the vehicle replacement and the cost-effectiveness of the emissions reduction (determined from the annual hours of operation, fuel use, and estimated remaining years of service of the replaced vehicles).

Preference will be given to projects proposing to purchase trucks powered by compressed natural gas. The ranking of applications with identical scores will be determined by random drawing.

#### **APPLICATION MATERIALS CHECKLIST**

Use the following checklist to ensure you've submitted all required materials with your application. A complete application will include all the documents listed below.

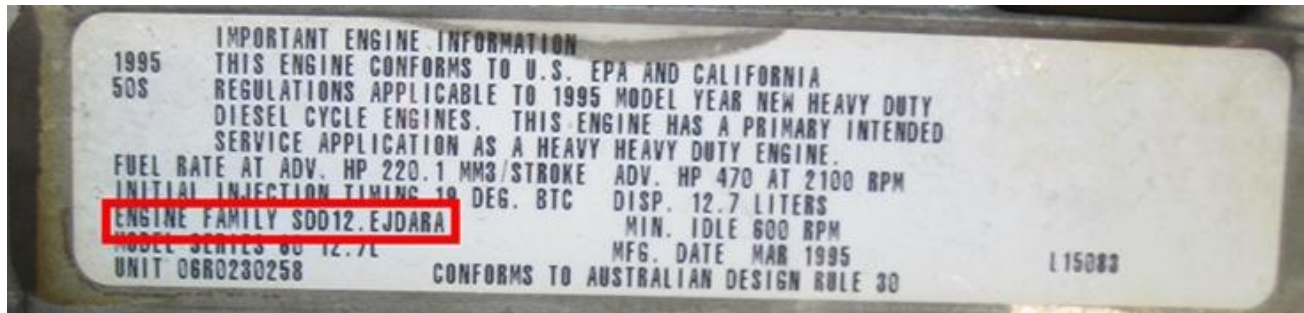
- ☐ Completed and signed application form.
- ☐ Photocopy of the Nebraska vehicle registration form(s) for the truck(s) being replaced.
- ☐ Photocopy of the title(s) of the truck(s) being replaced.
- ☐ Photograph of the truck(s) (side profile) being replaced showing the vehicle unit identifying number.
- ☐ One bid or price quote for the replacement truck(s), including estimated delivery dates.
- ☐ Photograph of the diesel engine emissions label showing the EPA Engine Family (see next page).

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#### DIESEL ENGINE EMISSIONS LABEL AND EPA ENGINE FAMILY:

NDEE's grant from EPA requires documentation of the engine model year of the vehicle(s) to be replaced. The EPA Engine Family is a 12 character (letters and numbers) identifier assigned when a diesel engine model is certified in compliance with EPA emission standards. The first character in the EPA Engine Family identifier is a code for the model year of the engine. Some examples of diesel engine emission labels showing the EPA Engine Family are shown below.



If the engine emissions label is missing or illegible, applicants should provide the engine serial number to the engine manufacturer to obtain written confirmation of the engine model year and submit that manufacturer's confirmation with their application.

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### **REBATE ACCEPTANCE:**

1. All rebate recipients must sign an agreement with NDEE. ***The replacement truck(s) cannot be purchased until the signed agreement is on file at NDEE.***
2. After NDEE has received the signed agreement, the applicant will be notified that they can complete the purchase of the new truck(s). **Note: The date of the purchase order cannot pre-date the signing date of the agreement.**

### **REIMBURSEMENT TIMELINE:** By **August 31, 2026**, the selectee should have completed the following:

1. Accept delivery of the new truck(s);
2. Scrap the old truck(s) in accordance with the program requirements\*; and
3. Submit the Request for Reimbursement Form, the Final Report Form, Certificate of Destruction, and all required supporting documentation after the new truck has been purchased and received.
4. Project extensions may be available if the replacement truck cannot be delivered by August 31, 2026.

When the reimbursement documents have been received, NDEE may perform an inspection. After the documents have been reviewed and approved, NDEE will issue the rebate funds.

### **\*Scrappage:**

The old truck being replaced must be scrapped (permanently disabled) within 90 days of replacement and prior to submission of the reimbursement request to NDEE. Scrappage consists of:

1. Cutting, drilling, or punching a 3" by 3" hole through the wall of the engine block.
2. Cutting completely through the chassis frame rails on either side between the front and rear axles.

### **SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION**

Only signed and dated original applications received by mail, e-mail, or in person at the address below will be accepted. Rebate applications cannot be submitted by fax. **The application deadline is 5:00 pm July 25, 2025.**

**Applications received or incomplete after that deadline will not be eligible.** The department is not responsible for any applications that are delayed or lost in the mail. Applicants will receive an e-mail confirming NDEE's receipt of the application. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their application was received by the department by the respective deadline.

Mail, e-mail, or hand-deliver the application to:

Nebraska Clean Diesel Rebate Program  
Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy  
245 Fallbrook Blvd., Suite 100  
Lincoln NE 68509-8922  
[NDEE.AirGrants@nebraska.gov](mailto:NDEE.AirGrants@nebraska.gov)

Questions? Email us at [NDEE.AirGrants@nebraska.gov](mailto:NDEE.AirGrants@nebraska.gov)