

If you have questions about the Nebraska Clean Diesel Rebate Program, please review the following FAQ. If your questions still have not been answered, please send your questions or concerns by email to [NDEQ.AirQuality@Nebraska.gov](mailto:NDEQ.AirQuality@Nebraska.gov).

Please continue to refer to this document as it will be updated as questions are received.

## **1.0 APPLICATION PROCESS AND APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

### ***1.1 Are we eligible for a rebate if we have already purchased a new vehicle or equipment?***

No, you would not be eligible for a rebate. This rebate program is not retroactive and is for qualifying applicants that have not yet purchased a new vehicle or equipment.

### ***1.2 Will we be required to provide evidence of early replacement to show the vehicle or equipment was not scheduled to be replaced before September 30, 2020?***

Applicants are required to detail their replacement procedures on the application form and attach their written policy (if they have one) to the application. We may, however, ask the applicant to provide additional evidence that the replacement was not planned to occur within the next three years as part of a normal attrition schedule. Proof can be provided in the form of standard procedures, a retirement schedule, an operating plan, or a budget.

### ***1.3 Can I lease a replacement bus?***

No. Leased school buses are not eligible for this funding opportunity.

### ***1.4 Can we apply for more than one school bus rebate?***

No. The program allows for only one application for one bus per school or company.

### ***1.5 Can we apply for more than one refuse truck rebate?***

Yes. The program refuse haulers to apply for rebates to replace up to two refuse trucks.

### ***1.6 We have multiple subsidiaries. If the bus being replaced is owned and operated by one of our wholly-owned subsidiaries, who should submit the application?***

The application must be submitted by the parent company. Please submit a letter of explanation with the application if the name on the bus title is different than the name on the application and include the relationship between the parent company and the subsidiary.

### ***1.7 Can a parent company with several wholly-owned subsidiaries submit applications for more than one of the wholly-owned subsidiaries?***

No. The applicant in this case is the parent company and may submit only one application for one rebate.

### ***1.8 Are we guaranteed to receive a rebate if the application is complete and submitted on-time?***

No. Funding is not guaranteed as there may be more applicants than available funding. For school bus rebates, a drawing will be held of all eligible applicants to choose the applicants who will receive rebates. For other rebates, rebate recipients will be selected based on scoring of applications for public health benefit, emissions reductions, and cost-effectiveness.

**1.9 Can we obtain our purchase order before the grant agreement is signed?**

No. Purchase orders cannot pre-date the grant agreement's signature. However, you may accept bids prior to signing the grant agreement.

**1.10 How will school bus rebate applications be selected to receive funding?**

The School Bus Rebate program is noncompetitive. All eligible and complete applications submitted by the application deadline will be included in a random selection process. NDEQ will reserve rebate funds for applicants in the order in which they are selected. If more applications are received than available rebates, the remaining applicants will be placed on a waiting list in the order in which they were selected.

**1.11 If funding is offered in future years, will awards be made from the current wait list?**

No. If funding is available in future years, NDEQ will issue a new announcement and applicants will need to reapply.

**1.12 How many school bus rebates will be available?**

The NDEQ anticipates awarding two (2) rebates. Each rebate will be for 25% of the total cost of the new bus up to a maximum of \$21,000.

**1.13 How will I get my rebate payment?**

Before a rebate payment will be processed, the *Request for Reimbursement Form* and *Final Report Form* must be completed and payment and scragpage documentation provided. Refer to the rebate announcement page on the NDEQ website for a detailed list of required documentation. All payments will be made electronically via electronic funds transfer (EFT) processing.

**1.14 How long do I have to purchase the new vehicle or equipment?**

All grant requirements must be completed by August 30, 2018. The vehicle or equipment must be purchased and received, the old vehicle or equipment must be scrapped, and the *Final Report* and *Request for Reimbursement Form* with all supporting documentation must be submitted by this date.

**1.15 What is the deadline to submit applications?**

Applications will be accepted until December 15, 2017.

**1.16 What costs are eligible for a school bus rebate?**

The only eligible costs are the base cost of the bus.

**1.17 What costs are ineligible for a school bus rebate?**

Ineligible costs are any costs not relating to the base cost of the bus. Ineligible costs include, but are not limited to:

- a. Shipping costs
- b. The cost of operating the new bus
- c. The cost of maintaining the new bus
- d. Accessories that are in addition to the basic cost of the bus

**1.18 Are applicants allowed to accept grant program money from other state or local programs to pay for vehicles in this program?**

Yes. The applicant portion of funding (mandatory cost-share) may consist of funds from state and local grant programs, or other third-party funding and financing. However, other federal funds grant funds may **not** be used to cover any portion of the mandatory cost-share. Therefore, if you are receiving state or local funds for the purchases, you should ensure that the state or local program is not federally funded (e.g. EPA's State Clean Diesel Grant Program, EPA's National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program, DOT's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, etc.).

**1.19 If we are selected for a rebate, can I purchase the vehicle/equipment prior to signing the grant agreement?**

No. Grant recipients cannot order/purchase their vehicle or equipment until the grant agreement has been signed and returned to NDEQ.

**1.20 We have several schools within our district. As the district is the owner of the school buses, can the district apply for one school bus rebate for each school?**

No. Since the district is the owner of the school buses and the applicant must be the owner of the school bus, the district is eligible for one rebate only.

**1.21 Can the capacity size of the new school bus increase or decrease?**

Yes. The passenger capacity does not have to remain the same as the old bus.

**2.0 VEHICLE ELIGIBILITY**

**2.1 My school bus is registered in another state, not in the state of Nebraska. Am I still eligible?**

Yes, as long as your company has an operational base in Nebraska and the replacement bus will remain in Nebraska. Applicants must certify this on the application form. NDEQ reserves the right to conduct a compliance audit to ensure the grant requirements have been met before and after reimbursement.

**2.2 Would we qualify for this program if we did a lease-purchase for a bus instead of purchasing one outright?**

No. Lease-purchases are not eligible for this funding opportunity.

**2.3 Is the conversion of a school bus from diesel to CNG eligible for this rebate?**

No. The School Bus Replacement Rebate Program is for replacements only and not conversions.

**2.4 Can I purchase a new gasoline-fueled bus as a replacement vehicle?**

No. New gasoline-powered buses are not eligible for this program.

**2.5 Do school buses that operate on alternate fuels such as propane qualify as an eligible replacement vehicle?**

Yes. Eligible replacement school buses may operate using conventional diesel (ULSD), alternative fuels, or electric or hybrid drive trains. Propane is considered an alternative fuel.

**2.6 What are the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) classes?**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Gross Vehicle Weight Rating</b>
Class 5	16,001 – 19,500 lbs.
Class 6	19,501 – 26,000 lbs.
Class 7	26,001 – 33,000 lbs.
Class 8a	33,001 – 60,000 lbs.
Class 8b	60,001+ lbs.

**2.7 Is a used bus eligible for the replacement bus?**

Yes, as long as the used bus has a certified 2017 or newer engine model year.

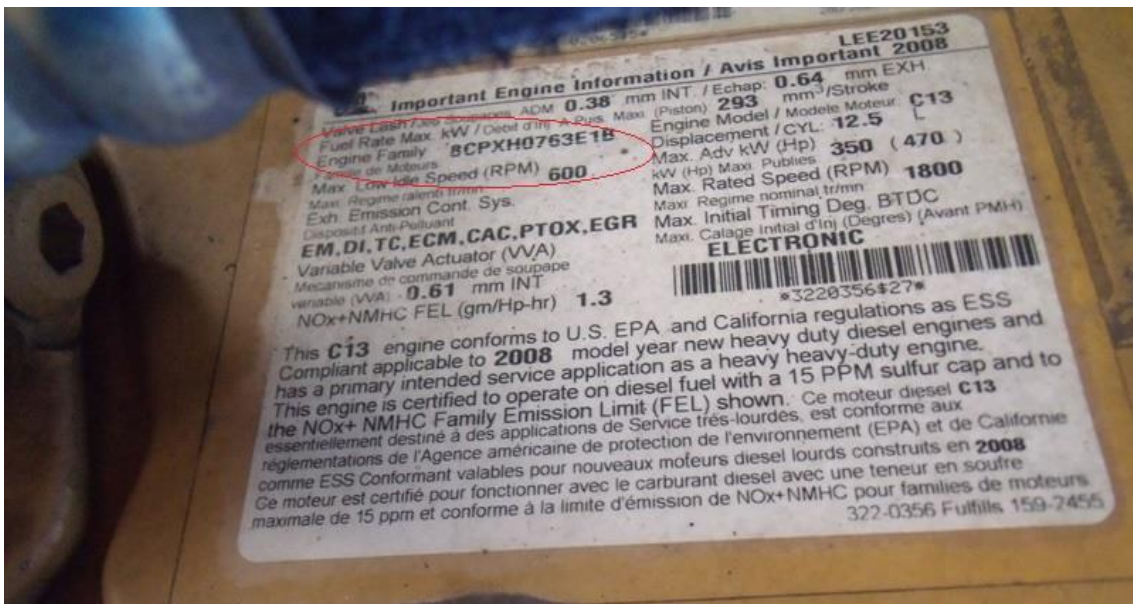
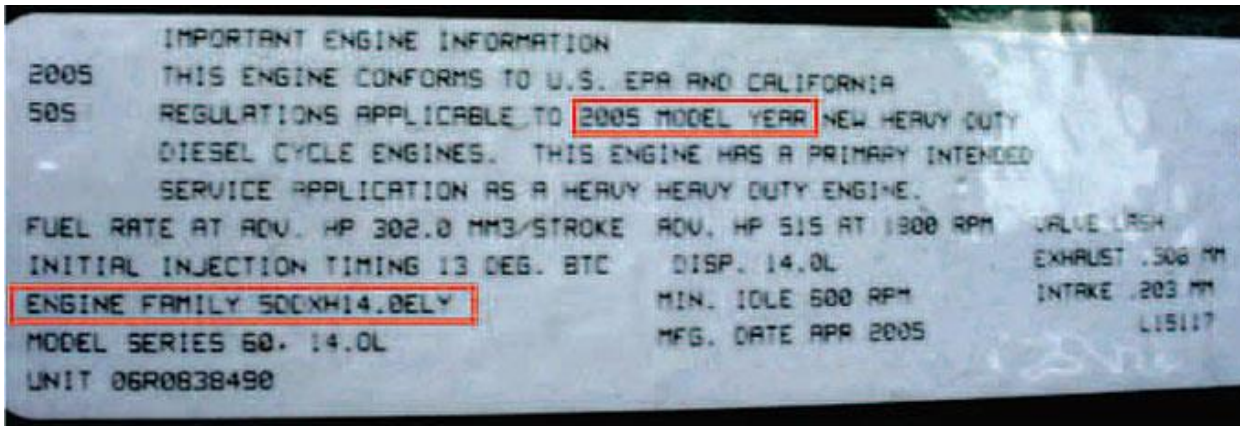
**2.8 What is the EPA Engine Family Name and how do I find it?**

The EPA engine family name is an 11 or 12 character number/letter designation included on the engine nameplate for all heavy-duty truck engines sold in the United States. In general, both the family name and model year can be found on

the nameplate that is permanently affixed to the engine. The exact location and appearance of the nameplate varies by engine manufacturer.

If the engine label does not list the EPA-issued engine family name or it is difficult to read, the manufacturer of your engine may be able to assist you in determining the engine family name if you are able to supply information on the model year and make of the engine, or the engine serial number. Some manufacturers also have online tools to enter engine serial numbers and determine the engine family name.

Examples of engine labels with the engine family name:



**NAVISTAR**

EMISSION CONTROL  
INFORMATION

DTA-360 ENGINE FAMILY

Engine Manufactured By:  
**NAVISTAR INTERNATIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION CORP.**



**INTERNATIONAL**

MODEL

IF ( )

079075 ( )

ADV. BHP @ RPM

190 @ 2700

FUEL RATE @ ADV. BHP  
MM<sup>3</sup> / STROKE

82.0

INITIAL INJECTION  
TIMING DEG. BTDC

16

VALVE LASH-COLD: .025 in.  
INTAKE & EXHAUST

DISPLACEMENT :  
359.9 IN<sup>3</sup>

CURB IDLE RPM:  
650±50