

Focus on: Electric School Bus Grants 2022



General Information

Ecology is currently developing grant guidelines for the next electric school bus grant opportunity. Approximately \$10 million in grant funds will be available to scrap and replace diesel school buses with all-electric school buses.

Grant funds are intended to help cover the cost difference between a new diesel school bus and an all-electric school bus. Some funding will be available for charging infrastructure.

Application period will open in January 2022 – keep an eye on Ecology’s Clean Diesel Grants website and notifications will also go out to the school district listserv.

Awards expected to be made by April 2022, with an emphasis on distributing buses to disproportionately impacted communities and as evenly as possible across the state.

The goals of the grant program will be to:

- Remove the most polluting diesel engines.
- Reduce diesel and greenhouse gas pollution in disproportionately impacted communities.
- Reduce diesel and greenhouse gas pollution for economically disadvantaged children.
- Accelerate the transition from diesel school buses to electric school buses.

Approximate cost of installing charging infrastructure

Level 2 chargers (overnight charging) cost about \$10,000-\$30,000 per 1-3 charger(s).

DC fast chargers (between route charging) cost about \$50,000 per charger.

Information on electric bus distributors and costs

Refer to [2021-22 OSPI Bid List¹](#) for most up-to-date information.

- 4 distributors
- 6 bus manufacturers
- 3 bus types

Distributor	Manufacturer	Bus Type
Bryson	Micro Bird	A34
	Blue Bird	C77, D84 RE
Lion	Lion	C77, D84 RE
RWC Group	Collins	A34
	IC	C77
Schetky NW	Collins	A34
	Thomas	A34, C77

Bus Type	Electric Price Range	Diesel/Gas & Electric Price Difference ²
A34	\$220,000 to \$275,000	\$160,000 to \$200,000
C77	\$350,000 to \$375,000	\$240,000 to \$260,000
D84 RE	\$375,000 to \$380,000	\$240,000

Tips on planning and grant applications

It’s never too early to start planning ahead on infrastructure.

- Talk to your utility.
- Survey grounds – if groundbreaking will occur, more information will be required for cultural resource review.
- Research available options for charging stations.
- Get SAW and EAGL accounts set up early – information about that and more can be found on Ecology’s [Clean diesel grants page³](#).

Ecology staff are here to support you, don’t hesitate to reach out.



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To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6800 or email at melanie.forster@ecy.wa.gov, or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

¹ <https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/student-transportation/student-transportation-allocation-reporting-system-stars/2021-22-state-quote-specifications>

² Difference between the purchase price of a Diesel/Gas school bus and all-electric

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Payments-contracts-grants/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Clean-diesel-grants>