

2015-16 Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement, and Off-Road Technology (CARROT) School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity

Grant Application

Organization Name:			
Applicant Contact Person:			
Applicant Phone Number:	Office:	Cell:	
Applicant Address:	Street:		
	City:	State:	Zip Code:
Applicant Federal ID:			
Applicant Email:			
Requested Grant Amount:	\$		
Date Submitted:			

Eligible Entities: School districts or private entities that operate school buses under a contract with a school district are eligible for project funding.

Eligible Vehicles: School buses powered by a 2006 or older engine model year.

Application Submittal: DAQ must receive all grant applications by **Thursday, December 17, 2015**. Applications must be submitted to Lisa Burr, Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Air Quality, through email at lburr@utah.gov or mail, P.O. Box 144820, Salt Lake City, UT 84116, or in person at 195 N. 1950 W. Salt Lake City, UT 84116 on or before **December 17, 2015**.

Award Selection: Applications will be evaluated and ranked by a selection committee, using the criteria represented in Section 4. Attachment A is a sample of the grant score sheet each committee member will fill out for each proposal received. Awards will be announced by **January 25, 2016**.

INTRODUCTION

The Utah Division of Air Quality (DAQ), a division within the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), is soliciting applications from school districts for school bus replacement projects through the Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement, and Off-Road Technology (CARROT) Grant Program in an effort to reduce emissions from older, heavy-polluting diesel school buses.

BACKGROUND

As the government entity responsible to regulate air quality for the State of Utah, DAQ is interested in providing incentives through the CARROT Grant Program for school districts to replace older diesel school buses so more children can be transported on buses with the cleanest emissions standards.

The CARROT Program was enacted in 2014 by the State Legislature for the DAQ to encourage individuals, businesses, local governments and school districts to reduce emissions from heavy-duty diesel engines and non-road equipment. The program assists the Division in carrying out its mission to protect public health and the environment from the harmful effects of air pollution from mobile sources. The grants, rebates, exchanges and low-cost purchase programs funded through the CARROT Program provide a means to reduce emissions from mobile sources, a source category that contributes over 50% of Utah's total emissions.

The Utah State Office of Education 2014 statewide school bus fleet emits over 42,400 short tons of pollution annually. There are over 1,700 school buses in operation throughout the State that are 2006 or older, not achieving the cleanest emissions standards. State funding for school districts to purchase new buses was cut in 2010 due to the economic conditions that began to emerge in 2008. It has been a challenge for the school districts to rely only on local funding for their transportation needs without assistance from the State. As a result, polluting buses continue to operate in our communities, exposing schoolchildren to elevated concentrations of unhealthy diesel exhaust that enters the passenger area of the bus.

To reduce the impact, this solicitation will weigh heavily the age and usage of the buses proposed for replacement (as covered in Section 1 of the application). Diesel school buses with engine model years 2006 and older that are currently in operation are eligible to apply.

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

For the purpose of the 2015 CARROT School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity, a school bus is defined as a vehicle used for the purpose of transporting 10 or more preprimary, primary, or secondary school students to schools, homes, or special activities.

Current operation is defined having accumulated at least 10,000 or more miles over the most recent 12 months, or having been in use at least three days per week during the current school year.

Public and private applicants with school bus fleets may submit up to three eligible buses for replacement. Applicants must sign applications.

Vehicles for Replacement

Vehicles listed for replacement must be:

- Diesel-powered school buses powered by a 2006 or older engine model year;
- Above Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs;
- Able to start, move in all directions, and have all operational parts; and
- Have accumulated at least 10,000 or more miles over the most recent 12 months, or been in use for at least three days per week during the current school year.

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

Replacement Vehicles

Replacement school buses may not be ordered under this funding opportunity until the applicant has been selected and has received the selection letter from DAQ.

All replacement buses must meet the following criteria:

- Powered by a certified 2015 or newer model year engine, or operate solely on electricity. Eligible replacement school buses may operate on conventional diesel (ULSD), battery or hybrid drive trains, or alternative fuels;
- The same or smaller vehicle class, as determined by GVWR, as the original school bus and operate in the same manner and over similar routes as the original school bus; and
- Meet Federal safety standards and required warranties.

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;
- Not make modifications to the emission control system on the replacement school bus or engine; and
- Be available for follow-up inspection of the school bus and related documents for three years after receipt of the grant, if requested by DAQ or its designee.

Selectees must maintain ownership of the replacement school bus for three years after receipt of the grant, and the bus must be used for the purpose of transporting 10 or more preprimary, primary, or secondary school students to schools, homes, or special activities during that three-year period. 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 grant to DAQ. The amount required to be returned is at the discretion of DAQ, and will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants will have a maximum of two years from the award date to complete each project. Equipment purchased or projects completed before the award date of January 25, 2016, will not be eligible.

SECTION 2: FUNDING AMOUNTS

For the 2015 CARROT School Bus Replacement Funding Opportunity, DAQ anticipates having up to \$300,000 available for grants, subject to the availability of funds. Funding will not be provided for administration expenses.

DAQ reserves the right to partially fund applications, reject all applications and make no selections under the program, or to make fewer selections than anticipated.

Table 1: Bus Size and Grant Amount for Replacements

Class	Gross Vehicle Weight Rating	Grant Amount
Class 3	10,001-14,000 lbs.	\$15,000
Class 4	14,001-16,000 lbs.	\$15,000
Class 5	16,001-19,500 lbs.	\$15,000
Class 6	19,501-26,000 lbs.	\$20,000
Class 7	26,001-33,000 lbs.	\$20,000
Class 8	33,001+ lbs.	\$25,000

SECTION 3: ORIGINAL VEHICLE INFORMATION

Please provide the following information for the vehicle(s)/equipment proposed for replacement.

	Vehicle Identification Number	Engine Model Year	Gross Vehicle Weight	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Family Name	Annual Miles	Number of Days in Operation (Weekly)	Annual Fuel Use	Annual Idling Hours	Grant Amount
1										
2										
3										

SECTION 4. SCORING CRITERIA

Please provide an answer for the following questions:

Feasibility and Practicality:

1) Please describe what the bus(es) are currently used for, how often the bus(es) are used, the location (including city and county, and any other pertinent information regarding the specific routes of the bus(es) for the next three years.

2) How long has the applicant owned the bus(es) represented in this application?

3) How long does the applicant plan to keep the bus(es) represented in this application if funding is not provided for their replacement (please list mileage and/or time)?

4) What is the timeline of the proposed project? Please include the month and year for when the new bus would be ordered and placed into operation and when the old bus would be disabled (please indicate dates for each bus represented in the application).

Financial Need:

1) Can your project proceed without funds from the CARROT Grant Program? If not, why?

2) What is the minimum amount of funding needed to complete the project?

\$

Availability of Additional Funds:

1) Are there other monies you will be using to complete your project? If so, please list the sources and amounts.

Sources:

Amounts: \$

Air Quality Benefit to State and Local Community:

1) Useful Life: Please indicate the number of years of service remaining for each bus represented in the application and explain the method used to determine this.

2) Please indicate the city(ies) and county(ies) in which the bus(es) represented in this application operate.

Cost Effectiveness:

Total cost effectiveness is found by dividing the sum of material, installation and administrative costs by the lifetime tonnage reduced.

1) Cost: Please provide the cost of a new school bus the same or smaller vehicle class, as determined by GVWR, as the original school bus that will operate in the same manner and over similar routes as the original school bus.

I will:

- 1) Comply with all aspects of the Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement, and Off-Road Technology Program rule detailed in R307-125.
- 2) Provide information to the Division about vehicles, equipment, or technology acquired with the grant proceeds.
- 3) Allow inspections by the Division to ensure compliance with the terms of the grant as required by 307-125-4(4)(b).
- 4) Permanently disable replaced vehicles, engines, and equipment from use as required by 307-125-4(4)(c).
- 5) For any grant that is not given on a reimbursement basis, commit to complete the project as proposed and required by 307-124-4(4)(d).
- 6) Not change the location or use of the vehicle, engine or equipment from the location or use proposed in the application without approval of the director as required by 307-124-4(e).
- 7) Comply with any additional terms as determined by the director as authorized by 307-124-4(f).

I/we certify under penalty of law that the information I/we have provided in this application is true and correct, to the best of my/our knowledge. I/we understand that the Department will retain this application whether or not it is true and correct. Any and all costs to complete any of the required information are my/our responsibility.

I/we understand that approved projects must meet all the eligibility requirements listed in Board Rules and that pre-approved projects are not guaranteed funding by the Department. Funding will only be provided for projects completed according to the applicant's submitted work plan. I/we have read and understand that approved projects must be completed within two years of award notification in order to receive funds. I/we have read and understand that upon notification of award, the awardee must sign and return the grant agreement within 30 calendar days of notification of the award. If the grant agreement is not signed and returned within 30 calendar days of notification, the Department reserves the right to terminate the award.

I/we certify that the vehicle(s) listed for replacement are operational and meet the eligibility requirements defined in this application.

DAQ may contact an applicant to clarify any information provided by the applicant.

Applicant (print)

Applicant Signature

Date

Attachment A

**Grant Proposal Review Score Sheet
CARROT GRANT PROGRAM**

Applicant Name: _____

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

	Weight	*Rating		Weighted Rating
Feasibility and Practicality	8	X	_____ =	_____
Financial Need	3	X	_____ =	_____
Availability of Additional Funds	1	X	_____ =	_____
Air Quality Benefits to the State and Local Community Benefit	6	X	_____ =	_____
Cost Effectiveness	2	X	_____ =	_____
	TOTAL	20	GRAND TOTAL	_____

Maximum score possible is 100

<p>*Rating</p> <p>5 Excellent</p> <p>4 Good</p> <p>3 Acceptable</p> <p>1-2 Poor</p> <p>0 Unacceptable</p>
--

Committee Member

Date

This score sheet is a confidential protected record.