

Clean Energy Tax Incentives for ESBs

Good news for recipients of Clean School Bus funding!

New rules will help school districts and other qualifying entities claim tax credits when they invest in commercial clean vehicles (including electric school buses) and charging equipment. Those who qualify can get tax credits as direct payments from the IRS.

These benefits are specifically for entities that don't pay taxes or receive tax credits, such as schools; state, local, and Tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; U.S. territories; hospitals; and places of worship.

Recipients of Clean School Bus funding may be especially interested in these tax credits:

- 30C: Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling <u>Property Credit</u>: Up to \$100,000 for charging and refueling infrastructure
- 45W: Commercial Clean Vehicle Credit: Up to \$40,000 for qualified clean vehicles

Additional credits

Projects that meet additional criteria may be eligible for additional tax credits. See "Bonus incentive credits" on the <u>IRS website</u> for details. These include:

- Low-income communities
- Entities that pay <u>prevailing wages and</u> <u>meet apprenticeship requirements</u>

Credits are stackable

Entities that use tax-exempt grants and forgivable loans to fund clean energy projects can still receive the full value of tax credits. The World Resources Institute addresses this in <u>5</u>
<u>Tips for Leveraging Direct Pay Provision to</u>
Maximize Clean Energy Investment Benefits.

WA Dept. of Commerce will help

Commerce launched a first-in-the-nation program to provide support to help demystify this process. The goal of the <u>Federal Clean</u> <u>Energy Tax Assistance Program</u> (CETCAP) is



to help entities across Washington leverage federal clean energy tax credits made available by the Inflation Reduction Act. CETCAP has contracted with Lawyers for Good Government to provide free one-on-one legal assistance to claim these tax incentives.

Resources

Internal Revenue Service

- New: <u>Tax-Exempt Entities and the Alternative</u>
 <u>Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit</u>
- Treasury, IRS release guidance on prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements for increased credit and deduction amounts
- Clean vehicle & energy credits
- Overview: Elective pay & transferability
- FAQs: Elective pay & transferability
- Users guide: Pre-filing registration tool
- Credits & deductions for 30C and 45W
- IRS email for issues with the pre-filing portal

U.S Environmental Protection Agency

- Tax credits
- Clean School Bus funding opportunities
- Listserv for funding opportunity notification

U.S. Dept. of Energy

- Low-income communities bonus credit
- Community mapping tool-tax credit bonus

U.S. Dept. of Treasury

- Building out clean vehicle charging infrastructure
- IRA's tax incentives ensure all Americans benefit from the clean energy economy
- Expanding reach of clean energy tax credits
- IRA tax credits can fund school facilities upgrades, reduce energy bills

Lawyers for Good Government

- FAQ: Elective pay
- Elective pay & IRA tax incentives resources

World Resources Institute – ESB Initiative

- All about electric school bus tax credits
- Free one-on-one office hours

Process to claim elective pay



Pre-register projects

School district registers each project for tax credit to be claimed on IRS portal

IRS reviews, approves, and provides unique registration number for each project (e.g., ESB, EV charging)



File tax return

School district files tax return (Form 990-T) & Form 3800 with preregistration numbers and supporting documentation by tax deadline

Due 4.5 months after end of taxable year (+6-month extension for first time filers)

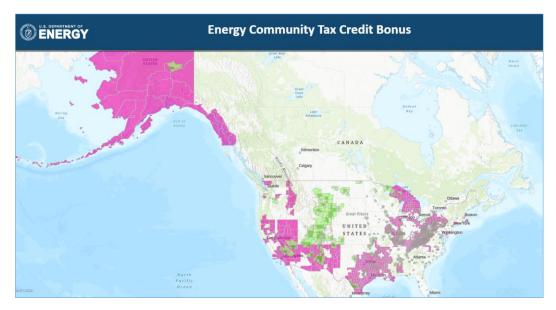


Receive payment

IRS makes payment after review of tax filing

Could be more than one year after project is placed into service/money is spent

From WRI's All about electric school bus tax credits



From U.S. DOE's community mapping tool - tax credit bonus



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