

## Volkswagen (VW) Mitigation Trust Funds for Transit, School and Shuttle Bus Frequently Asked Questions

### Who is eligible for the VW Mitigation Trust Funds for Transit, School and Shuttle Buses?

- Anyone in the state of California (that operates primarily within the state) can apply. This includes public entities, private entities and Indian Tribes.

### How many projects can I submitted?

- You can apply for up to \$3,250,000 dollars per Tax ID. Application are processed on a first come, first serve basis and will be considered for funding if eligible and while project funds are available.

### Where do I apply?

- Online portal <http://vwbusmoney.valleyair.org/>
- Click on – **Get Started** and follow the instructions

### What documents are required to apply?

- Required documents list is posted on the website at <http://vwbusmoney.valleyair.org>
  - o Application Packet Documents (required to be submitted with the online application submittal)
    - IRS Form W-9
    - Copy of the current DMV registration
    - CHP form 292 or 343A (School Bus Only)
  - o Application Packet Documents (prior to application approval)
    - Copy of proof of insurance
    - Copy of title
    - New bus quote
    - Authorization of project implementation and signing authority
    - Copy of bus route (Transit and Shuttle Bus Only)
    - CARB Executive Order for the engine in the current bus
    - CARB Executive Order for the engine in the new bus
    - Photographs of the current engine and bus

### What are the eligibility requirements?

- Eligible Applicants are owners of transit buses, school buses and shuttle buses.
- Agencies that are the lessors that lease or rent applicable transit, school and shuttle buses to third parties may apply, however, additional requirements must be met. These requirements are specified in [Vehicle Leasing or Rental Agencies](#)

### What is the engine model year requirement for the current engine?

- Old school bus engine must be 2006 or older
- Old transit and shuttle bus engine must be 2009 or older.

### What does “First-Come, First-Serve” mean?

- Applications received through the online portal will be processed via received date. Please note that applications will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered for funding until all supporting documentation is received.

### Do I need to turn in an old bus to get a new one? Or can I apply for a new electric buss without scrapping anything?

- You must scrap a Gas, diesel, CNG or propane powered 2006 or older school bus with a vehicle weight rating greater than 14,001 lbs. to qualify for the grant.
- You must scrap a Gas, diesel, CNG or propane powered 2009 or older transit or shuttle bus with a vehicle weight rating greater than 14,001 lbs. to qualify for the grant.

### Can I apply for multiple buses on one application?

- Yes, however Applicants must submit a separate application for each individual bus to be replaced.

### What are the maximum funding amounts?

- Government must not exceed 100% of the eligible project costs
- Non-Government must not exceed 75% of the eligible project costs
- School Buses
  - o Replacing a compliant old school bus - **Up to \$400,000** - *Requirements - New, Zero-Emissions, Commercially-Available.*
  - o Replacing a non-compliant old school bus – **Up to \$380,000** -*Requirements – New, Zero-Emissions, Commercially-Available.*
- Transit Buses
  - o **Up to \$180,000.** *Requirements – New, Battery-electric bus, Commercially-Available*

- **Up to \$400,000.** Requirements – New, *Fuel-cell bus*. Commercially-Available
- Shuttle Buses
  - **Up to \$160,000.** Requirements – New, Zero-emission, commercially-available.

#### When can I expect payment after my project is awarded?

- Payment will be disbursed to applicants after SJVAPCD approval of all required complete documentation and the completion of the post inspection, which includes verification that the new bus is operational and current bus has been properly destroyed, in accordance with program.

#### Where can I get up-to-date information on this grant?

- Link to the website <http://vwbusmoney.valleyair.org/>
- Sign up for email list.

#### How do I contact the program administrator?

Volkswagen Mitigation Trust Fund Program Staff  
Phone: (833)-BUS-MONEY (833-287-6663) Fax: (559)-230-6112  
Website: [www.vwbusmoney.valleyair.org](http://www.vwbusmoney.valleyair.org)  
Email: [vwbusmoney@valleyair.org](mailto:vwbusmoney@valleyair.org)

#### What are the steps to participate?

1. Submit application (per bus), via online portal at <http://vwbusmoney.valleyair.org>
2. Staff reviews it to determine if it is complete, incomplete, or ineligible
  - a. If complete, staff will notify the applicant
  - b. If incomplete, staff will notify the applicant and request missing or additional items/information as needed
  - c. If ineligible, staff will notify the applicant with reason(s) for ineligibility
3. Staff will review all submitted documentation and prepare project for contract.
4. A Draft Contract will be sent to the applicant for review and signature.
  - a. The signed contract will be returned to the SJVAPCD for additional SJVAPCD signatures. A contract is not valid until ALL signatures have been obtained.
  - b. Applicant **MUST NOT** purchase or otherwise become financially committed to the new bus, or take delivery until the applicant and the SJVAPCD sign the contract.
5. Once all signatures are obtained, the SJVAPCD will execute the contract and send a completed copy to the applicant.
  - a. Once the applicant receives this copy, the new bus can be purchased or ordered.
  - b. A Payment Procedure packet will also be provided with a step-by-step guide on how to request reimbursement for the grant.

6. Payment will be issued to the applicant the completion of the post inspection, which includes verification that the new bus is operational and current bus has been properly destroyed in accordance with program requirements