washington state university Energy Program

Resources for School Districts



Photo credit: WRI

Funding opportunities have never been better for school districts to get funding to electrify student transportation and install charging equipment.

To help inform your path forward, the Green Transportation Program has collected the following resources from select trusted sources.

WA Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

The <u>OSPI student transportation website</u> includes resources of interest to school district transportation managers, including details about the bidding process for school buses.

Diesel Reduction and VW Funding Grants

WA Dept. of Ecology provides grants using funds from the <u>Clean Diesel Grants program</u> and <u>Volkswagen Enforcement Action Grants</u>:

- Air Quality Clean School Bus Grant Program: For school bus owners that transport students to Central and Eastern Washington K-12 schools overseen by OSPI.
- Air Quality Clean Diesel Grant Program: For cities, counties, public utility districts/co-ops, ports, transit authorities, school districts, state government, tribes, nonprofit organizations, and local clean air agencies.
- Volkswagen Enforcement Action Grants: Includes grants to help school districts purchase ESBs to help reduce air pollution from vehicles.

See the latest funding opportunities on our **Funding Opportunities page**.

U.S. EPA

<u>EPA</u> regularly updates their grant and rebate opportunities to help school districts purchase electric school buses (ESBs) and charging equipment. We summarize these on our <u>Funding</u> <u>Opportunities page</u>.

World Resources Institute (WRI)

WRI's <u>Electric School Bus Initiative</u> presents a wealth of resources and tools that support ESB adoption, organized under the themes Tools, Engage, Evidence, and Resource Library:

- <u>Tools</u>: Includes deep-dive articles, videos, and publications about charging infrastructure, ESB models, and more. **Don't miss these**:
 - <u>Step-by-Step Guide to Electric School Bus Electrification</u>
 - How to Apply for Clean School Bus Program Funding
 - <u>All About Types of Electric School Buses</u>

- Engage: This resource-rich collection includes:
 - <u>Talk to an Expert</u> offers free one-on-one sessions with the WRI team.
 - <u>Events</u> include webinars, trainings, technical assistance, and other opportunities to learn more about the process of transitioning to ESBs.
 - The Electric School Bus Series where school districts that use ESBs share their experiences, such as this article about ESBs and <u>air quality</u> improvements in Stockton.
- <u>Evidence</u>: Research about environmental and equity issues motivating adoption of ESBs, such as this article, <u>How School Districts Can Include</u> <u>Equity When Choosing Where to Deploy Electric</u> <u>School Buses First</u>.



Healthier Air for Students in Stockton,

California

- <u>Resource Library</u>: Search for resources you need. Don't miss these:
 - Total Cost of Ownership Calculator for Electric School Buses
 - ESB U.S. Buyer's Guide
 - Interactive ESB Data Dashboard updated monthly to provide insights such as current ESB adoption (below).



Electrification Coalition

The <u>Electrification Coalition</u> supports widespread adoption of EVs by providing policy, advocacy, consumer education, and electrification planning. Their <u>Dashboard for Rapid Vehicle</u> <u>Electrification (DRVE) Tool</u> analyzes the total cost of ownership of light-, medium-, and heavyduty EVs to help fleet managers make decisions about EV deployment.

Beneficial Electrification League

BEL's Electric School Bus Initiative supports stakeholders on the road to electrification.

Emphasizing <u>partnerships with utilities</u>, BEL provides insights for communicating with electricity suppliers.

Start your journey through BEL's abundant resources here:

- <u>Electrifying America's School Buses</u>
- Beneficial Electrification Toolkit



CalStart

<u>CALSTART</u> works with bus manufacturers, suppliers, transit operators, and school bus fleets to develop next-generation technologies and accelerate adoption of near-zero and zero-emission buses to make clean transit a reality. CALSTART's Bus Initiative concentrates on:

- Technology development and demonstration
- <u>Assessment and validation</u>
- Market acceleration
- Public policy development

You won't want to miss CALSTART resources such as:

- Zeroing in on Electric School Buses: 2023
- <u>The Electrification of School Buses: Assessing Technology, Market, and Manufacturing</u> <u>Readiness</u>

Additional Resources

- <u>Alliance for Electric School Buses</u> Supports adoption of ESBs using funds from the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust.
- <u>Electric School Bus Coalition</u> Advocates for increased funding and policies that support the transition to ESBs.
- <u>Electric School Bus Network</u> Strives to accelerate school bus fleet electrification nationwide by offering peer-to-peer networking and forum meetings so people can enhance their understanding of market trends, funding opportunities, and real-world experiences of fleets as they electrify.
 - Electric School Bus Newsletter Offers valuable information and case studies supporting the electrification of buses, with a focus on equity.



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