



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Kansas Clean Diesel Program for Diesel School Bus Fleet Improvement Projects

Section 1. Summary- Grant Opportunity for School Districts

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is seeking applications from school districts for projects that will reduce emissions from diesel buses and improve air quality. Due to funding limitations, KDHE is focusing the grant in areas where air quality is of higher concern. Therefore the school districts that may participate in this funding opportunity must be located within either the Kansas City or the Wichita metropolitan areas. Please see Section 2 below "Eligible School Districts" for a list of the counties that are in each of the two metropolitan areas.

The starting date for schools to submit a Request for Proposal (application) to KDHE will be January 6, 2014. Applications must be submitted by regular U.S. mail and must be postmarked by 5:00 PM Central Daylight Time on February 24, 2014. KDHE altered the end dates due to recent weather related school closings.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded funds in 2013 to Kansas and other states as part of the ongoing National Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) State Grant Program. KDHE will provide grants of up to \$50,000 to selected school districts. A school may request up to that amount. Districts must use the award money for one of the following projects:

Districts must use the award money for one of the following projects:

- **School bus replacement:** KDHE will pay up to 25 percent of the total cost of a new school bus that will be purchased to replace an older bus still in active use by the school.
- **Idling reduction technology installation on older buses in the school's fleet combined with a replacement school bus:** KDHE will pay 100 percent of the cost of the purchase and installation of idling reduction technologies on the school's existing buses, if the project also includes a replacement school bus as stated above.
- **Idling reduction technology installation on older buses in the school's fleet:** KDHE will pay up to 50 percent of the purchase and installation cost if the project includes idling control technologies only (if the project does not include a replacement school bus).

This is a reimbursement program: A school that receives an award under this RFP must initially pay the vendor for the entire project. After all requirements are met, KDHE will reimburse the school for the amount agreed upon and stated in the contract.

Section 2. Eligible School Districts

School districts must be located within any of the following counties in the Kansas City metropolitan area: Atchison, Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami and Wyandotte, or the following counties in the Wichita metropolitan area: Butler, Cowley, Harvey, Kingman, Sedgwick and Sumner.

This opportunity is available to districts owning their own fleets. Privately owned bus companies are not eligible.

Entities or individuals who have been debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from participation in federal assistance programs under Federal Register [Executive Order 12549](#) “Debarment and Suspension,” are not eligible to receive an award from the Kansas Clean Diesel Program. The applicant is required to certify by signature that the applicant’s school district is eligible to participate in this grant competition.

Matching funds from school districts: A financial match from the school is required for all projects. The difference between the total cost of the project and the amount the school is to be reimbursed will be considered the school’s matching fund amount. Please refer to the following examples to calculate a school’s match.

- **Example 1: Replacement school bus**

Total cost of bus = \$95,000

Award maximum from KDHE = 25%: $(.25) \times (\$95,000) = \$23,750.00$

Match required from district = 75%: $(.75) \times (\$95,000) = \$71,250.00$

- **Example 2: Replacement school bus and idling reduction technology**

Total cost of bus = \$95,000

Cost of seven idling control technologies at \$2,400 per bus = \$16,800.00

Award maximum from KDHE for the new bus = 25%: $(.25) \times (\$95,000) = \$23,750.00$

Award maximum from KDHE for the idling technologies = \$16,800.00

Award total from KDHE = $\$23,750.00 + \$16,800.00 = \$40,550.00$

Match required from district for the new bus = 75%: $(.75) \times (\$95,000) = \$71,250.00$

In this case no match is required for the fuel operated heaters.

- **Example 3: Idling reduction technology only, no new school bus**

Total cost of 25 idling control technologies at \$2,400 per bus = \$60,000.00

Award maximum from KDHE for the technologies = 50%: $(.50) \times (\$60,000) = \$30,000.00$

Match required from the district for the technologies = 50%: $(.50) \times (\$60,000) = \$30,000.00$

Section 3. Requirements for Bus Replacement and Idling Reduction Technologies

School bus early replacements must meet the following criteria:

- The old bus to be replaced must be expected to be in active use for at least three more years. The purpose of the project is to remove an older bus still in use and replace it with a new, less-polluting one.
- The bus to be replaced must currently be in use as part of normal fleet operations to carry students on daily routes to and from school, or regularly transport students to extra-curricular activities such as music performances, field trips and sporting events. The new bus must be used for the same purpose as the old bus it will replace.
- School buses with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of at least 16,001 pounds are eligible for replacement under this RFP. The new vehicle must be similar in size and horsepower as the vehicle that it is replacing. For the purposes of this RFP, “similar in size” is defined to mean that the GVWR of the new vehicle is no more than 125 percent of the old vehicle’s GVWR.
- The new bus must be equipped with:
 - An EPA-certified engine configuration that meets the 2011 EPA emission standards.
 - An EPA-verified fuel operated heater. A list of verified fuel operated heaters can be found by visiting the EPA website: <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/forpartners/technology.htm>
- The goal of this project is to reduce diesel emissions from diesel fleets. Destruction of the old bus is required. Please see the following section for details.

Destruction of the old bus engine and chassis.

- This program requires that the bus being replaced be destroyed at the end of the project. A large hole, at least 4" across, that leaves no room for doubt that the engine is indeed destroyed, must be cut through the engine block and manifold.
- The chassis of the vehicle being replaced must be cut in half to ensure that it will not be resold to another consumer.
- The destroyed engine or chassis can be sold as scrap. Any payment received for scrap can be applied toward the school's match amount. The amount of the payment must be reported to KDHE, but will not affect the amount of the award to the school.
- Prior to destruction of the old bus, items such as mirrors, windows, seats and wheels can be removed and kept by the school for use on other buses.

Idling reduction technology projects must meet the following criteria:

- Fuel operated heaters (FOH) are auxiliary technologies that help reduce the amount of time the main engine idles. Any FOH added to a bus must be on the EPA list of approved technologies on this website: <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/forpartners/technology.htm> Open the Idle Reduction tab, click on Fuel Operated Heaters and scroll down to the section FOH verified for school buses.

Section 4. Application and Project Information

Application and Project Due Dates

START AND END DATES: Schools may apply to KDHE beginning January 6, 2014. Applications must be submitted by regular U.S. mail and must be postmarked by 5:00 PM Central Daylight Time on February 24. Receipt of applications by KDHE will be confirmed via e-mail from Joyce Barrett. Schools will be notified by March 11, 2014 whether or not they have been selected to receive an award. **KDHE altered the end dates due to recent weather related school closings.**

No school may submit multiple applications. KDHE reserves the right to fund only a portion of the amount a school requests if deemed necessary to maximize the number of grants KDHE can issue while still giving the districts significant awards.

Application Details

The application must be submitted to KDHE by regular U.S. mail. It is in the form of an Excel document. **All information must be included for the application to be considered eligible.**

There are four tabs on the Excel document.

Tab 1 – Introduction: Instructions for the applicant to use in filling out the other sheets.

Tab 2 – Applicant Information: Enter district contact and proposed project information here.

Tab 3 – Fleet Information: Enter proposed project fleet information here.

Tab 4 – Certification Statement: Enter certification statement information here.

The information requested will enable the KDHE grant committee to evaluate each application and determine project environmental impacts and eligibility. **Please provide all requested information.**

Questions regarding this RFP or the application form may be directed to KDHE by sending an e-mail to the following e-mail address: jbarrett@kdheks.gov. Questions and answers will be posted on the [KDHE Clean Diesel website](#).

Section 5. Programmatic and Administrative Conditions

Schools that are selected for an award will receive a sub grant agreement from KDHE. The sub grant agreement will outline all of EPA's Programmatic and Administrative Conditions associated with the acceptance of funds. Subjects included in the Programmatic and Administrative Conditions include, but are not limited to, competitive bidding, invoice and payment documentation, vehicle and equipment scrappage, reporting, coordination responsibilities, onsite inspections, photographic requirements, and equipment use. To see the EPA Assistance Agreement that contains all Programmatic and Administrative Conditions pertaining to this grant please visit the following webpage: [Current Coop Agreement](#).