

# It's Electric! ⚡



## How to get electric school buses in your district

Electric school buses (ESB) are closer than you think! Thanks to the new bipartisan infrastructure law, a new federally-funded rebate program could cover up to 100% of the cost of electric school buses to replace aging diesel school buses. The *It's Electric* coalition wants Michigan school districts to be prepared and in the front of the line. The funding program is expected to open in April, but until then, here are critical resources to help you with the application process.



### Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

[www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus](http://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus)

- SIGN UP for Clean School Bus Program news so you get updates from EPA on the funding program; rollout is expected in April 2022.
- REVIEW the program requirements.
- REGISTER with [Login.gov](https://www.login.gov) and [Sam.gov](https://www.sam.gov) to be ready to apply.



### U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Initiative

[www.cleancities.energy.gov](http://www.cleancities.energy.gov)

- Your local Clean Cities coordinator is your 1-stop-shop for fleet modernization support. Reach out to Michigan Clean Cities for 1-on-1 planning and funding assistance.



### CALSTART

[www.Calstart.org](http://www.Calstart.org)

- Checklist for school districts to transition to electric school buses: [www.bit.ly/34fdDXg](http://www.bit.ly/34fdDXg)
- CALSTART recently started a National Electric School Bus Working Group for peer-to-peer networking among schools/districts.
- US EPA will present on the upcoming Clean School Bus Funding Program at CALSTART's March 24th meeting. Register here: [www.bit.ly/3vFRjku](http://www.bit.ly/3vFRjku)



### World Resources Institute

[www.WRI.org/initiatives/Electric-School-Bus-Initiative](http://www.WRI.org/initiatives/Electric-School-Bus-Initiative)

- WRI provides several valuable resources and is supporting technical assistance for schools.



### Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC)

[www.veic.org/clients-results/reports/electric-school-bus-resources](http://www.veic.org/clients-results/reports/electric-school-bus-resources)

- Non-profit with experience implementing electric school bus programs; with WRI support, VEIC will provide technical assistance to a limited number of high-need districts.

# To prepare your district or fleet for this opportunity, take inventory of your current bus stock and gather the following information:

## Number of buses in your fleet

## Age of buses

- Average age of bus fleet
- Age of the 5 oldest daily route buses - list in oldest to newest order

## Bus VIN/Serial Numbers

## Number of Routes: urban or rural (some districts may have both)

- Urban-type routes: few miles, heavy traffic volume, stop and go traffic, many student pick-ups and drop-offs
- Rural-type routes: long miles, minimal traffic volume, few stop and go situations, few student pick-ups and drop-offs

## Fuel

- Annual fuel use per vehicle? (gallons per year)
- How do you currently fuel? (public station or private station)
- Identify creative fueling strategies  
(e.g., share EV charging stations with other fleets? Partner with a filling station to add EV charging “pumps”? Solar on depot roof?)

## Miles traveled

- Per day total miles traveled by all route buses
- Bus fleet average daily route miles (Total daily route miles ÷ # of route buses)
  - Daily distance of longest and shortest route
- Total route miles traveled by all route buses annually
  - Average annual route miles (Total annual route miles ÷ All route buses)
  - Annual miles traveled by a bus on the longest route

## Reach out to your electric utility to discuss charging infrastructure

- Inform them of your interest in applying for this funding.
- Ask for their help with planning and preparing.
- Based on the number of electric school buses you purchase (a few or whole fleet), your utility can advise on type/speed of charger, any necessary upgrades, applicable rates and incentives
  - Consumers Energy
    - Bethany.Tabor@cmsenergy.com; 517-374-2158
    - Steven.Harris@cmsenergy.com; 517-262-1666
  - DTE Energy
    - lynn.felcyn@dteenergy.com; 313.549.2112

**Utility not listed? Let us know and we can help!**

# Who we are

The *It's Electric* coalition is a group of Michigan advocates helping speed up the transition to electric school buses in Michigan. We are offering assistance to make it easier to plan for and incorporate electric buses into your school fleet. For more information and support, please contact these members of the *It's Electric* coalition:

- **Maggie Striz Calnin**, Michigan Clean Cities  
maggie@michigancleancities.org or 313-241-6211
- **Katrina Morris**, Executive Director for MAPT,  
morrisk@mapt.org, 616-204-2155
- **Mac Dashney**, Senior Advisor and Legislation Committee  
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- **Frank Acevedo**, EPA - acevedo.francisco@epa.gov
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