



PROPANE SCHOOL BUSES

Benefits and Opportunities for States

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National Overview

- Leading national alternative fuel for school transportation.
- Scalable, affordable infrastructure for on-site refueling.
- Buses from all major O.E.Ms.



National Overview

- Nearly 11,000 propane autogas school buses operating in the U.S.
- 436% increase in the amount of Type C propane school buses since 2012
- Texas, California and Oregon lead the nation in number of propane school buses on the road.

Number of propane school buses per state.



Why School Districts Choose Propane



- **Financial**
 - Many districts are facing budget challenges.

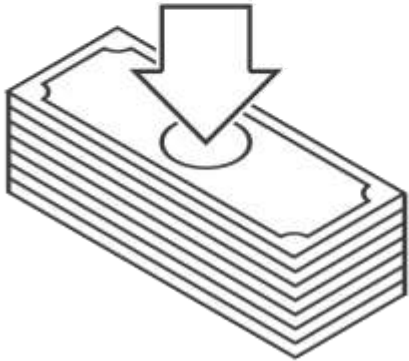


- **Environmental**
 - States and municipalities are seeking ways to reduce emissions. Diesel-powered fleets are a prime target for replacement with alternative fuels.



- **Health & Safety**
 - Technologies that improves the health and safety of passengers.

LOWER - COST OF - OWNERSHIP



- Bus Cost
- Infrastructure Cost
- Maintenance
 - Fluid
 - Out of service cost
 - Parts
- Garage Facilities

Environmental Benefits

- The WHO and EPA have identified diesel engine exhaust as a carcinogen, which can cause short- and long-term health effects.
- Harmful particulate matter found in diesel exhaust is also known to escalate breathing-related issues and aggravate asthma.



Health & Safety

- Compared with diesel buses, propane autogas buses are **noticeably quieter** when operating.
- Crash tested for impact in the side and rear areas, meeting rigorous U.S. and Canadian FMVSS and motor vehicle safety standards.
- Visit [BetterOurBuses.com](https://www.betterourbuses.com)

QUIETER SCHOOL BUSES

Every morning, millions of kids start their day on the school bus. Once it pulls away from the curb, students' safety is in the hands of their bus driver. But on a noisy diesel school bus, a driver may be unable to hear critically important situations happening in their rearview mirror or outside.

AUDIO QUIZ: SIT IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Put yourself in the driver's seat by taking the quiz below. Can you hear what's happening in or around the diesel bus?

[START THE QUIZ »](#)

Resources

- Training via the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC)
 - Service technicians and mechanics
- Engine Research
- Case studies and results
 - Available at BetterOurBuses.com



DOLLARS AND SENSE.

Investments in propane savings are paying off in savings for school districts and general contractors alike as school transportation budgets continue to strain. Educational and other information from our team is key to achieving the same results.

NEW-VALUE FUEL

The use of propane can help with propane savings in fleet operations or fleets. And, when you take advantage of propane government tax incentives, the annual distribution process can help to even things out.

LOWER MAINTENANCE COSTS

Thanks to the dependability, clean-burning performance of propane, propane-fueled fleets, school districts and general contractors will enjoy lower maintenance costs. Propane-fueled engines require less oil by volume than diesel, no additional filters, and no costly emissions-tube, making them ideal for the repair shop, and less on-the-way time and back.

AFFORDABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Propane-fueled vehicles are a great option for school districts, which may already be involved in alternative fuel delivery infrastructure plans. Other options allow propane-fueled fleets to enjoy a lower refueling cost.

FEDERAL AND STATE INCENTIVES

For more information about incentives, tax, regulations, and programs related to propane use, visit propane.com/naftc.



2016 School Bus Campaign

- **Partnering with Adopt a Classroom.**
 - \$30,000 in total donations to schools.
 - Help teachers purchase school supplies for their classrooms.
- **Spokesperson Jena Bush Hager.**
 - Visit a school that has adopted propane school buses.
 - Give magazine and TV interviews about the technology.
- **Events - Last week of September**
 - Five events at five districts that have adopted propane buses.



Get More Information

Case Studies & Resources

BetterOurBuses.com

Contact

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Indiana Propane School Bus (PSB) Grant

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Grant Program Background and Goal

- ▶ This is the first time the Office of Energy Development (OED) has offered grants specifically for propane school buses
- ▶ The funds come from SEP funds
- ▶ OED seeks to increase IN school's access to affordable and reliable energy
 - Propane tends to be cheaper than diesel or gasoline
 - Fuel diversification protects schools long-term from fuel price shocks
 - Propane burns more cleanly than diesel, which lowers maintenance costs and reduces children's exposure to harmful emissions



Program Results


- ▶ 49 School Buses in 7 School Districts
- ▶ \$275,430 in grants
 - \$5,621 per bus
- ▶ 595,363 miles per year
- ▶ 96,488 gallons of fuel offset
- ▶ 4.5 million digital impressions from media outlets
 - State and National Coverage, including the Associated Press and Washington Times



Funding Parameters

- ▶ \$300,000 available for the PSB program
- ▶ Max amount per school: \$50,000
- ▶ Will fund the *incremental* cost between buying a new propane bus instead of buying a new diesel or gasoline bus
 - Max amount per bus is \$10,000
 - If your incremental is \$9k, OED will fund up to \$9k
 - If your incremental is \$11k, OED will fund \$10k
- ▶ Minimum of two buses being purchased is needed to submit application

Scoring Criteria

- ▶ Vehicle miles driven annually per bus
 - ▶ Diesel gallons or gasoline gallons displaced annually
 - ▶ Level of cost-share (match) provided by the grantee. OED will fund between 50% and 100% of the incremental costs
 - ▶ Demonstrated need for this project and how this project will impact the applicant's school corporation
 - ▶ Applicant's plan to educate its community and peers on its experience with the propane buses
 - ▶ Quality and clarity of application
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Matching Funds

- ▶ Applicants are eligible for 100% of the incremental costs, but match is encouraged. Extra points are given to grants that provide some level of match.
- ▶ (Cake is also encouraged, but not required)



Benefits to School

- ▶ Clean Cities Coalitions were available to help schools plan infrastructure and fleet planning questions.
- ▶ Schools repeatedly showed interest in reducing fuel cost; longer bus life, cleaner emissions.
- ▶ Propane buses heat up much more quickly in the winter than traditional busses.



Education/Promotion

- ▶ School corporations were asked how they would promote the project to its community and other school corporations.
- ▶ Examples included:
 - Community
 - Website page highlighting bus project
 - Local new media outreach
 - Other school corporations
 - Regional transportation summit on propane
 - Work with Clean Cities and OED to do a case study
 - Motorweek segments

Propane Access

- ▶ Proof that the applicant will have access to propane fueling infrastructure
 - letter from propane dealer providing infrastructure, or
 - letter from school stating they own propane infrastructure,
 - or copy of a bid for purchase or lease of infrastructure, with a date indicating installation date
- ▶ Important to have schools establish a line of communication with local propane dealers early in the process

