

Electric school bus technology is expanding in Minnesota

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) will invest up to \$3 million in all-electric school buses to combat climate change, improve air quality, and build a cleaner transportation future.

Minnesota is the first in the Midwest to launch a pilot project that will expand access to electric school buses and offer a unique opportunity to learn more about this clean vehicle technology. This pilot will provide a financial incentive for owners of diesel-powered school buses to take an older, more polluting school bus off the road and replace it with a new electric model, and MPCA will gather data from grant awardees about the buses' performance in our climate. Funding for the pilot project comes from Minnesota's share of the national Volkswagen settlement.

Electric school bus pilot project: the numbers

\$3M

Up to \$3 million in grant funding available

6+ buses

At least six electric school buses will be funded in regions across Minnesota

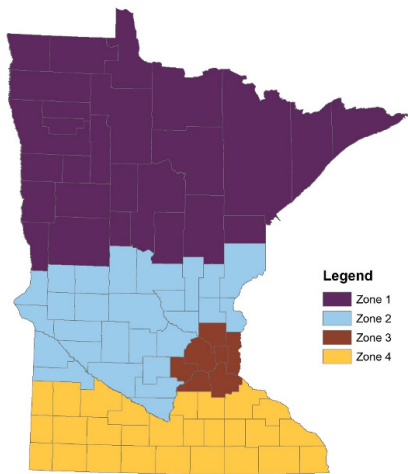
\$275K

Maximum award of \$275,000 or 75% of total project cost (bus + charging), whichever is less

2022

Buses expected on the roads in fall 2022

Here comes the bus!

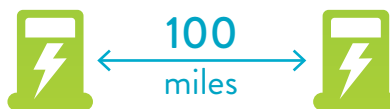


MPCA intends to distribute funds throughout the state, including 1-2 projects each in northern Minnesota, central Minnesota, the Twin Cities metro area, and southern Minnesota.

Did you know?



Replacing one diesel school bus with an electric school bus can reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by nearly 29 tons. That's like taking six passenger cars off the roads.



The range of an electric school bus is approximately 100 miles between full charges. There are many bus routes in Minnesota where electric school buses would work.

Climate action and environmental justice

Minnesota has a goal of reducing GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 (from 2005 levels), but we're not on track to meet our goal. Investing in electric vehicles (EVs), including school buses, helps drive Minnesota in the right direction.

Switching to EVs can help shrink our carbon footprint and reduce other harmful air pollution that negatively affects our communities. Because communities of color are disproportionately exposed to air pollution from vehicles, those communities can benefit the most from the transition to a cleaner, lower carbon transportation system.

Data to learn from

Grantees will report data for one full school year, including days in use, vehicle miles traveled, kWh/mile, energy costs, mechanical issues, and performance. The data and lessons learned will inform future electric school bus grants.



Applications due by:
Oct 13, 2020

Learn more: pca.state.mn.us/air/electric-school-bus-pilot
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