



FTA Low-No 2024 Fuel Cell Electric Bus Application Success Kit

Supporting FTA Low-No Program Funding for 2024

FTA's Low or No Emission Program 2024

Continuing the comprehensive financial support of the sector that started in 2021, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is once more providing funding of \$1.7bn this year – assisting state and local governments in their efforts to establish and improve low- and zero-emission transit bus fleets and facilities across the country.

\$1.2bn of the available funding is apportioned to the FTA's Low or No Emission Program (Low-No). This initiative provides fiscal support to state and local government authorities for the purpose of purchasing or leasing zero- and low-emission transit buses – such as fuel cell electric buses (FCEBs) – and covers the acquisition, construction and leasing of supporting facilities and infrastructure.



Who is Eligible?

Eligible applicants include direct or designated recipients of FTA grants, states and local government authorities. Projects deemed applicable can consist of purchasing or leasing low- and zero-emission buses, constructing new public transport facilities, or rehabilitating and improving existing facilities to accommodate decarbonized transport.





Why Ballard?

At Ballard, we have substantial experience across several years working with transit agencies on successful applications for Low-No funding. We understand the FTA's regulations and requirements and are well positioned to support you in developing the plans and system obligations that are key to a competitive grant application.

It has never been easier to engage, plan and request support to make an FCEB fleet a reality for your agency – with more funding than ever now available to help transit agencies and operators in the technology, infrastructure, and training transition.

As an expert in hydrogen fuel cell technology, its application in powering a range of mid- and heavy-duty vehicles, and previous involvement in the FTA's Low-No program, Ballard has the expertise to help prepare for your larger zero-emissions transition plan with pragmatic approaches and proven solutions.



2024 Low-No Program Application Basics

FTA support to decarbonize transit bus fleets

- Low-No and Bus and Bus Facilities (B&BF) awarding \$1.5BN this year!
- Once again, the B&BF program opens **at the same time!**
 - ZEBs and infrastructure qualify under the Clean Air Action Plan
 - In 2021 over **\$100M** of \$414M from B&BF went to **zero-emission buses** - **1/3rd** of that to hydrogen and fuel cell electric buses!
- Applicants **STRONGLY** encouraged to submit the **same application TWICE** - once for Low-No, once for B&BF
- Awards expected in the range of **\$5M-\$30M** ***North County Transit in San Diego was awarded \$29M last year for their FCEB program!**

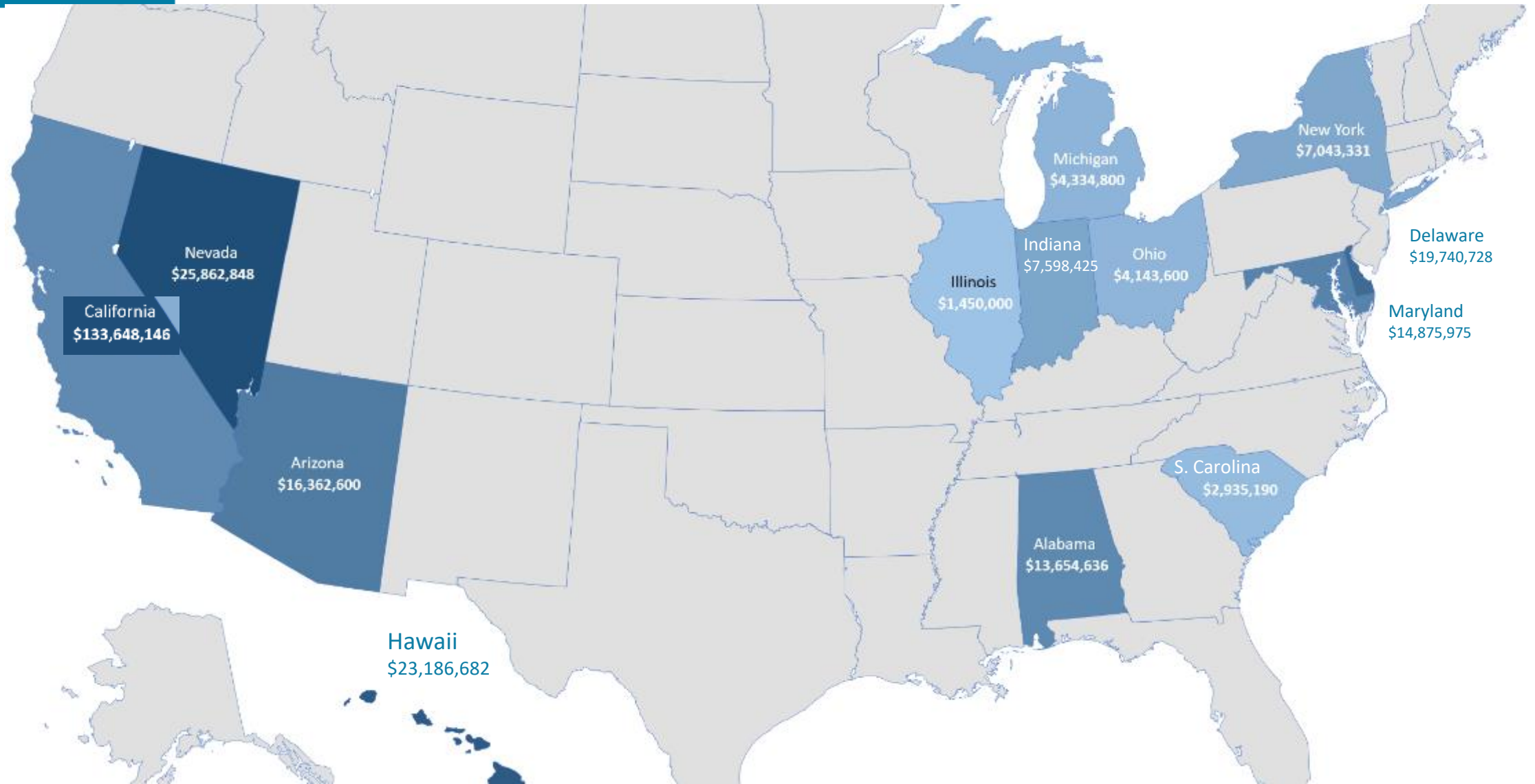
Applications are due by 11:59pm EST on **April 25, 2024!**

Award announcement no later than July 9, 2024

Awards available for obligation for three years, until September 30, 2027

Instructions for applying can be found [here](#)

FTA Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Bus Awards



Administration Priority: Reduction of Vehicle Customization

Vehicle Projects

UPDATED ***FTA intends to weigh this priority consideration greater than others***

FTA will give priority consideration to applications that identify their intent to...

1. Use a joint procurement with at least 3 total transit agencies for a common specification; **OR**
2. *For low- and no-emission projects where the applicant proposes a vehicle original equipment manufacturer (OEM) as a project partner:* Commit to using a standard vehicle model without customization
 - Applicants must attach a letter from the vehicle OEM that certifies the applicant will use the OEM's standard model
 - See NOFO Section E.1.e and Section C.1 for information on the partnership provision

FTA will evaluate each project on its own merits but may select a participant that indicates its intent to pursue a joint procurement based on the selection of other potential participants in the procurement.

Streamlined Tribal Application Requirements (Section E.1)

NEW in FY 2024

Applications from tribes requesting less than \$1 million have streamlined application requirements:

Administration Priority: Contract Terms

Vehicle Projects

NEW IN FY 2024 ***FTA intends to weigh this priority consideration greater than others***

FTA will give priority consideration to applications that identify their intent to...

1. Use advance payments; **OR**
2. Use progress payments

For applicants that identify their intent to use advance payments, FTA will not require securitization beyond the advance payment amount.

For vehicle applications that request at least twenty 40-foot zero-emission buses: Identify greater emission reductions

- Applicants must use the FTA Bus and Low-No Emission Reduction Calculator which can be found [here](#), attach the file, and include the amount of annual reductions per vehicle in the supplemental form



FCEB Webinar Series 2024

FCEB Webinar Series

BALLARD™ FCEB WEBINAR SERIES 2024

Webinar 1: Fundamentals of Fuel Cell Electric Bus Deployment

March 14, 2024 10:00 – 11:00 AM P.S.T







Timothy Sasseen
Market Development
Director, Ballard

Kim Leach
Market Development
Manager, Ballard

Mike McDonald
Operations Manager,
New Flyer

Webinar #1

Fundamentals of Fuel Cell
Electric Bus Deployment

BALLARD™ FCEB WEBINAR SERIES 2024

Webinar 2: Fuel Cell Electric Bus Training & Support

March 28, 2024 10:00 – 11:00 AM P.S.T









Timothy Sasseen
Market Development
Director, Ballard

Kim Leach
Market Development
Manager, Ballard

Kurt Nelson
Lead, Fuel Cell Service &
Maintenance, Ballard

Rich Carroll
FCEB Training Director,
SAFT

Richard Chen
Site Planning, Cummins
Genialis

Webinar #2

Fuel Cell Electric Bus
Training & Support

BALLARD™ FCEB WEBINAR SERIES 2024

Webinar 3: Steps to Secure Low or No Emissions Grants & Funding

April 11, 2024 10:00 – 11:00 AM P.S.T








Timothy Sasseen
Market Development
Director, Ballard

Kim Leach
Market Development
Manager, Ballard

Stephine Nguyen
Financial Analyst &
Consulting

James Cox
Director, Public Transit &
Operations, FCEB Hub

Webinar #3

Steps to Secure Low or No
Emissions Grants & Funding

FCEB Presentations

FCEB Webinar Presentations

FCEB Webinar Series 2024: The Fundamentals of Fuel Cell Electric Bus Deployment

March 14, 2024

[The Fundamentals of Fuel Cell
Electric Bus Deployment](#)

FCEB Webinar Series: Fuel Cell Electric Bus Training & Support

March 28, 2024

[Fuel Cell Electric Bus
Training & Support](#)

FCEB Webinar Series: Steps to Secure Low or No Emissions Grants & Funding

April 11, 2024

[Steps to Secure Low or No
Emissions Grants & Funding](#)

Additional Resources

Important FTA Links

- FTA funding opportunities: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/notices>
- FY24 Bus/Low-No Notice of Funding Opportunity: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-and-grants-buses-and-bus-facilities-competitive-programs-fy2024>
- Application Information: <https://www.grants.gov/> (search for “Low-No” or “Buses and Bus Facilities”)
- Low-No Program Webpage: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/lowno>
- Buses and Bus Facilities Program Webpage: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/bus-program>
- FAQs: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/low-no-and-buses-and-bus-facilities-faqs>
- FTA Bus and Low-No Emissions Reduction Calculator: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/ftabus-and-low-no-emission-reduction-calculator>

Bus/Low-No NOFO Email: FTALowNoBusNOFO@dot.gov

GRANTS.GOV Applicant Support 1-800-518-4726 support@grants.gov

FCEB Resources & Funding Beyond Low-No

U.S. Funding Resources

- [DSIRE](#)
- [CMAQ](#)
- [H2 Matchmaker](#)

California Funding Resources

- [HVIP](#)
- [EnergIIZE](#)
- [CalSTART Funding Finder](#) (California Only)

Fuel Cell Electric Bus Info

- [California Hydrogen Business Council – FCEB info page](#)
- [NREL FCEB Evaluations](#)
- [USHA H2NET](#)
- [H2tools.org](#)
- [Ballard web resources](#)
- [Sandia Labs – Codes and Standards Tools](#)

 **DSIRE®**

Advanced Vehicle Technology and Infrastructure
Funding Finder Tool



Hydrogen Means Business in California!

BALLARD™

Thank you

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