

# Texas Clean School Bus Grant Program (TCSB) Webinar



## Webinar Agenda

- Purpose
- Program Highlights
- Program Requirements
- Grant Amounts and Ineligible Costs
- Application Submission Requirements
- Required Attachments
- Contracting, Reimbursement, and Disposition
- Annual Usage Reporting
- SUNSS Online Application Instructions
- Questions



# **Purpose**

The TCSB program provides grants to replace 2006 model year or older school buses or retrofit diesel-fueled school buses to help reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust in and around diesel-fueled school buses.





# **Program Highlights**

- FY26 Funding ~ \$16.3M;
- Funding available statewide for public school bus replacement or retrofit projects;
- Grants awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; and
- Grantees may be reimbursed up to 80% of the cost to replace a school bus (funding is also available for retrofit projects).



# **Eligible Applicants**

Applicants must operate diesel-fueled school buses on a daily route to and from a public school in Texas during the regular school year, and may include:

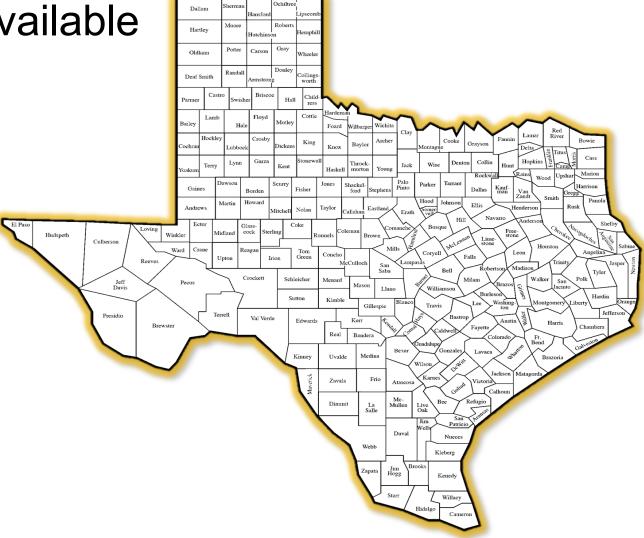
- Public school districts (ISDs);
- Open-enrollment charter schools; and
- Transportation systems provided by countywide school districts.

Private schools are not eligible.



# **Texas Clean School Bus Map**

TCSB projects are available to eligible applicants statewide.





# **Eligible Project Categories**

### Eligible projects include:

- Replacement of a 2006 model year or older diesel-fueled school bus with a bus of the current or previous model year at the time of application signature;
- Purchase and installation of a retrofit system on an eligible school bus.



## Replacement Projects

#### The old bus must:

- Be powered by a diesel engine;
- Currently operate on a regular daily route to and from a school during the regular school year;
- Be in good operating condition; and
- Have been owned, continuously registered, and operated by the applicant in Texas for at least two years immediately preceding the application signature date.



8

# Registration Waiver Requirements

- TCEQ may waive registration requirements upon finding of good cause on a case-by-case basis.
- Applicants must:
  - Provide waiver request for registration gaps greater than 30 days;
  - Submit waiver request(s) at the time of application; and
  - Submit a waiver request for each applicable bus.



# **Eligible Grant Amounts**

Applicants may be eligible for the following amounts:

- Replacement projects: Up to 80% of the eligible incremental cost associated with the purchase, not to exceed the maximum grant amount in the tables on the TCSB website and Appendix B in the Request for Grant Applications (RFGA).
- Funds are also available for retrofit projects.



# Replacement Grant Table Example

## School Bus Type C

Model Year of Old Bus	Fuel Type of New Bus	Maximum Grant Amount
2003 or older	Diesel	\$106,721
2003 or older	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$126,616
2003 or older	Electric	\$333,200
2004 to 2006	Diesel	\$63,366
2004 to 2006	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$79,135
2004 to 2006	Electric	\$208,250



## **Retrofit Projects**

A school bus proposed for retrofit must be used on a regular daily route to and from school during the regular school year and have at least five years of useful life remaining. All sizes of diesel-fueled school buses are eligible for retrofit.

- Closed crankcase filtration systems (CCFS) that are shown to reduce crankcase PM emissions.
- Diesel particulate filters (DPF) for diesel-fueled school buses built from 1994 to 1998. A DPF must be verified by the EPA or the California Air Resources Board (CARB).
- **Diesel oxidation catalysts (DOC)** for diesel-fueled school buses that are verified by the EPA or CARB to reduce PM emissions may be considered for:
  - Buses manufactured before 1994; and
  - Areas where ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel is not available.



# **Ineligible Costs**

- Any costs paid prior to the opening date of the grant round;
- Administrative costs and other internal costs to the grantee, including personnel expenses, internal salaries, indirect costs, and travel costs; and
- Consultant fees for the preparation of a grant application and administration of the grant.



# **Application Submission Requirements**

- Applications for replacement projects will be accepted through SUNSS for consideration only if received by TCEQ no later than 5:00 p.m. Central Time on May 22, 2026, as long as funds are available.
- For retrofit applications, please visit the TCSB webpage for submission instructions.

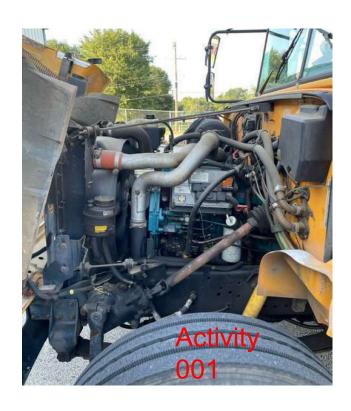


## **List of Required Attachments**

- W-9: Download, fill out entirely, sign and date.
- Proof of ownership: Copy of the current title (or lease agreement for retrofit projects only).
- Registration documentation: 12 months from application signature date. Requests for a waiver must be submitted with the application.
- Photographs of Bus and Engine Being Replaced: Must be in color and labeled with activity number of bus(es).

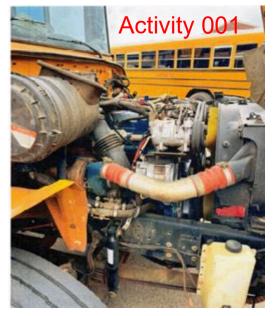


# Photo Guidance (Acceptable)







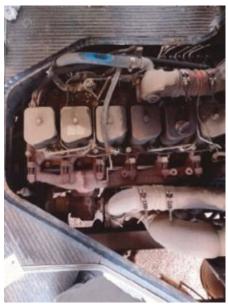






# Photo Guidance (Not Acceptable)















# Contracting

- Applicants selected to receive grant funding will be required to sign a contract with TCEQ;
- The approved activities outlined in the application will be represented in the contract's Scope of Work; and
- Grant recipients commit to taking all actions necessary to ensure the successful completion and subsequent operation of the new school bus or retrofit within the contract's time frames and funding limitations.



## Reimbursement of Expenses

- Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis for eligible costs paid in full by the grantee minus the scrappage value and any incentives;
- Grantees will be required to provide documentation in accordance with the contract to show that grant-funded equipment has been received and costs have been paid in full before reimbursement will be provided;
- All costs must be paid in full by the grantee, grant-funded equipment received, and final requests for reimbursement must be submitted to TCEQ by the request for reimbursement deadline.



# Reimbursement of Expenses (Continued)

- If the grantee finances the grant-funded equipment, the reimbursement will be assigned to the company that provided the financing; and
- If the grant-funded vehicle or equipment are leased (retrofit activities only), the lease must extend to the end of the five-year activity life or include a binding commitment to purchase at the end of the term.
- TCEQ may advance funds to grantees who are governmental entities on a case-by-case basis.



## **Disposition**

Within 90 days after the reimbursement payment is issued, the grantee is responsible for completing the disposition of the old school bus(es) and engines being replaced.

#### Standard disposition:

- Old buses and engines must be destroyed and rendered permanently inoperable by:
  - Completely crushing the bus and engine; or
  - Making a 3-inch or larger hole on both sides of the engine block and cutting both frame rails.
- A Texas non-repairable vehicle title and before and after photos of the bus being destroyed are required as proof of destruction.



21

# **Disposition (Continued)**

#### Alternative Disposition:

An alternative method of rendering the equipment and engines permanently inoperable, in lieu of the standard method of disposition, must be requested in the application and must be approved by TCEQ.

#### Permanent Removal:

Proposals for the permanent removal of buses from Texas, in lieu of the standard method of disposition, may be considered for the export of school buses to a destination outside of the United States, Canada, and the United Mexican States. The applicant must submit a detailed plan of the export and transfer of ownership with the application.



# **Annual Usage and Reporting**

- The applicant must agree to an operational commitment period (activity life) of five years. The activity life will start on the date TCEQ approves disposition for replacement projects or on the date of reimbursement for retrofit projects.
- Grant recipients must agree to monitor the use of grantfunded vehicles for the designated five-year activity life. At a minimum, annual usage reports will be required.



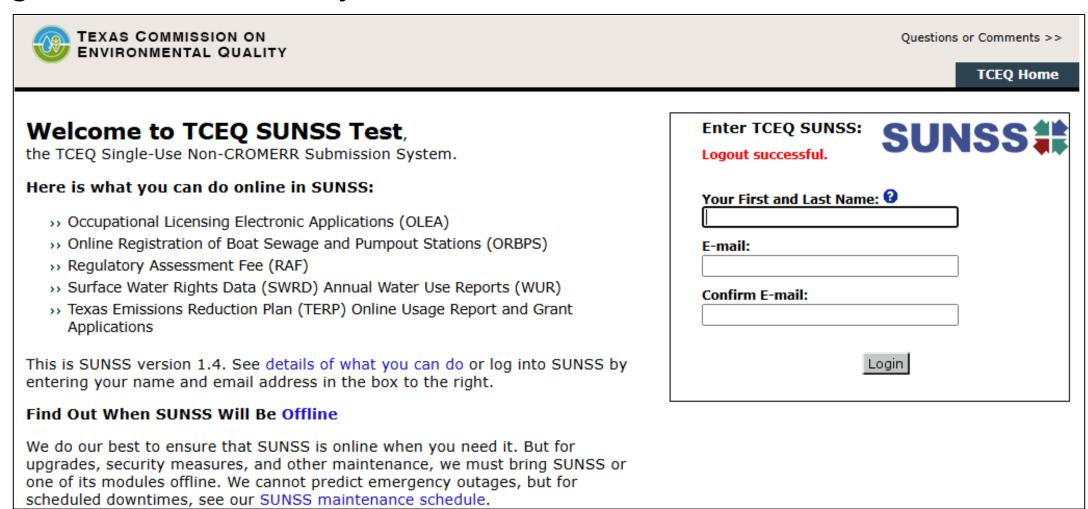


# SUNSS Online Application Instructions for Replacement Projects



## **Logging into SUNSS**

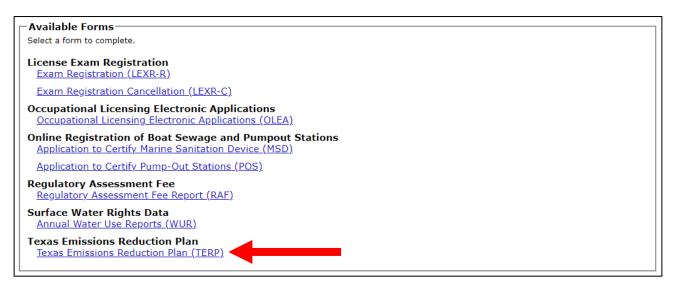
Log in to **SUNSS** with your first name, last name, and email.





## **Creating a New TERP Activity**

To begin the process of creating your TCSB online application, first you must create a new TERP Activity. Click on the link to **Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP)**.



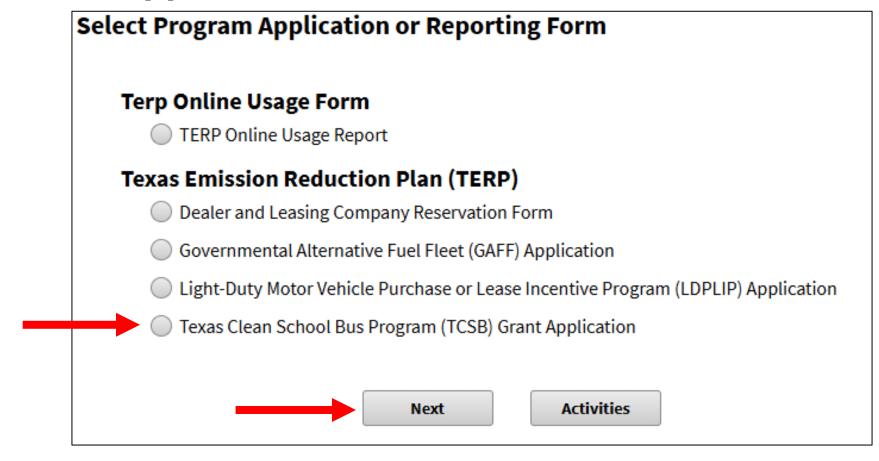
#### Click on **New TERP Activity**.





## **Select Program Application**

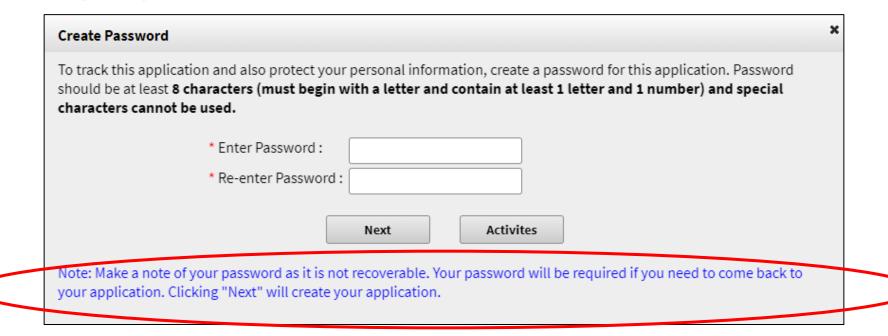
Select TCSB Application, then click Next.





## **Creating an Application Password**

Create a unique password and then click Next.



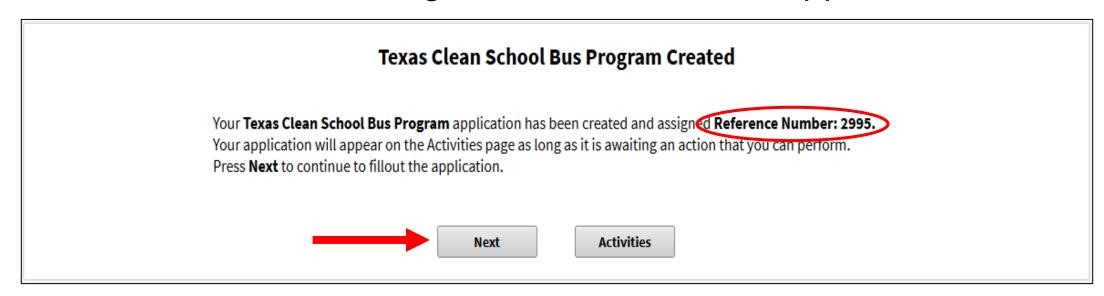
#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- Don't forget your password!
- You are unable to recover or reset it. If you forget your password, you will need to start over and create an entirely new application.



## **Creating an Application**

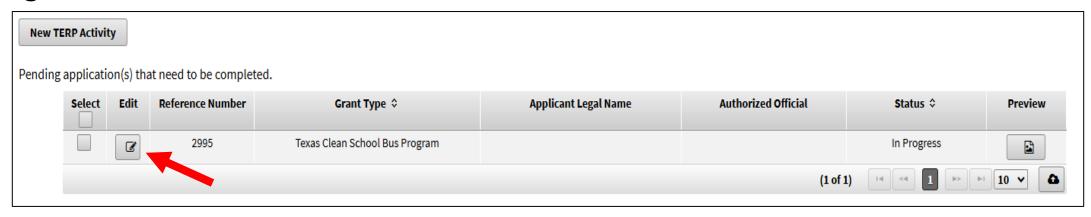
- Once you have created a password to a new TCSB application, a reference number will be assigned.
- Make note of this reference number along with your unique password.
- Click Next to start entering information into the application.





## **Editing an Application**

Click **Edit** and then enter the password to edit an application in progress.





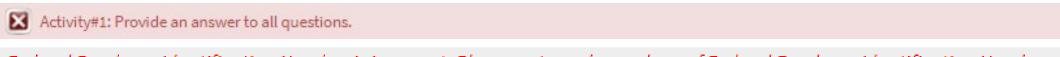


## **Potential Warning or Error Messages**

• Yellow warning messages: Warns that something could be wrong in the application. Check the entry, if nothing is wrong, proceed with application.

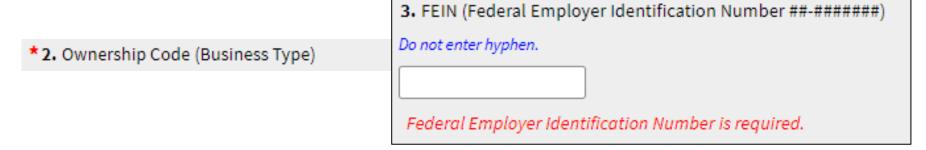
12100 PARK 35 CIR, AUSTIN, TX, 78753 address provided is not recognized by the US Postal Service. Please review the address with USPS.com and correct if necessary.

 Red error messages: Indicates an error in the application. The entry must be corrected to continue.



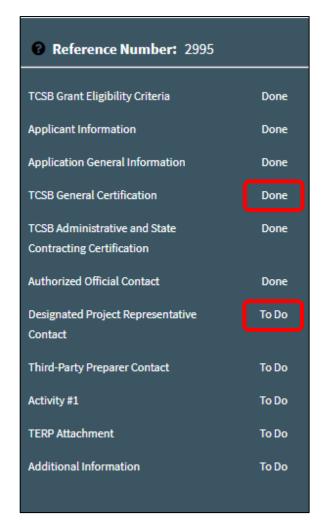
Federal Employer Identification Number is incorrect. Please enter only numbers of Federal Employer Identification Number

• Red asterisks: Indicates a mandatory question. Some questions will not be marked with asterisks but become mandatory depending on how the other question(s) are answered.





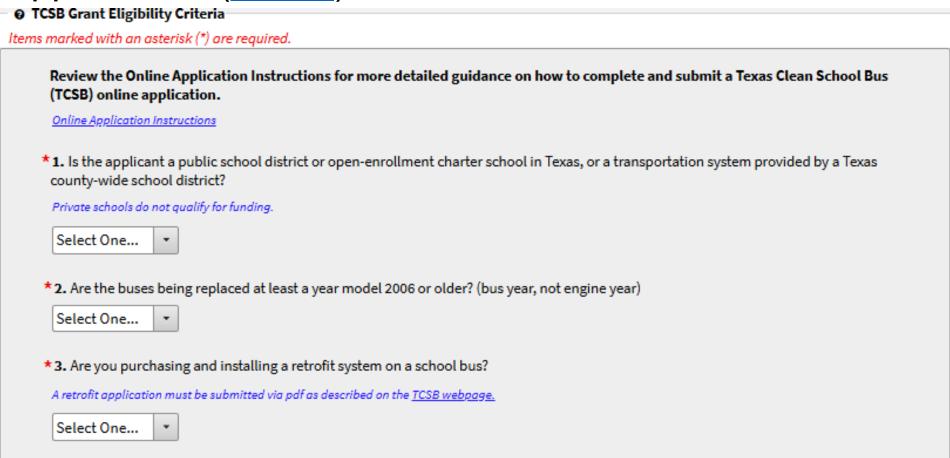
## **Navigating an Application**



- The menu bar on the left of the screen, shows you the different sections of the application.
- You are unable to jump forward in the application or skip sections. The application will automatically move to the next section once the current one is saved.
- The application is dynamic depending on the answers you provide; additional required sections may appear.
- A "Done" message indicates the section is completed.
- A "To Do" message indicates that this section needs to be completed.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

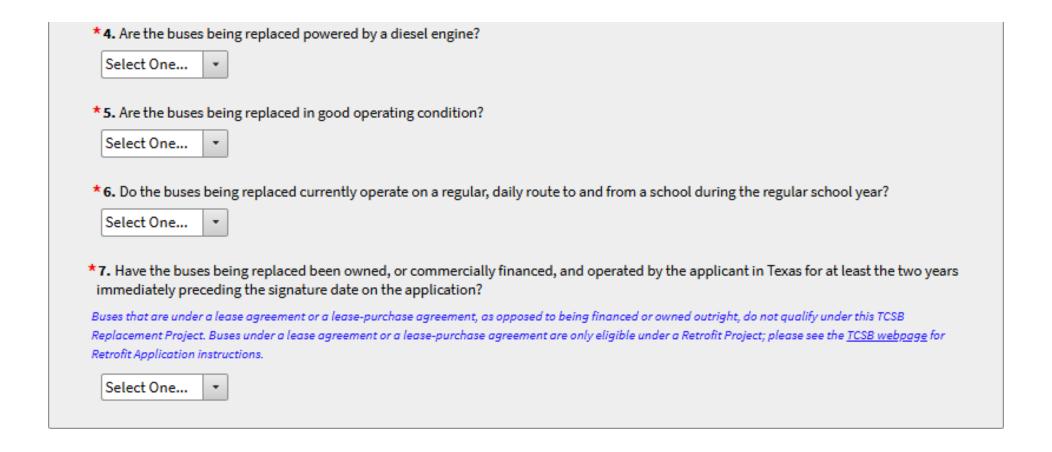
To determine if you are eligible, please reference the Request for Grant Applications (RFGA).





## **Eligibility Criteria (Continued)**

#### Requirements for current bus(es).





## **Applicant Information**

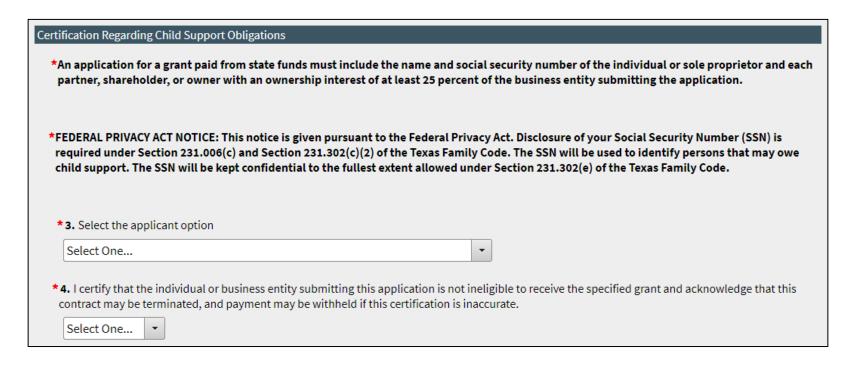
- Applicant Legal Name: Legal name of the grant applicant. This must match the name shown on IRS Form W-9.
- Ownership Code: Select from the drop-down list.
- Employer Identification Number (EIN): This nine-digit number, also referred to as a Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN), must match the W-9 submitted with the application.





### Certification of Eligibility to Receive a State-Funded Grant

- Applicant option: Select the applicable option from the drop-down menu.
- Certification statement: Select either Agree or Do Not Agree to the certification statement.





### **Use of a Third-Party Preparer (TPP)**

**Third-Party Preparer:** Select **Yes** or **No** to indicate if the online application is being filled out by a third-party preparer.

 If Yes is selected, please note that a required Third-Party Preparer Contact section will appear in the application menu.



#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

If **Yes** is selected:

- The Third-Party Preparer (TPP) and Authorized Official (AO) must electronically sign the application.
- The TPP must share the SUNSS password they used to create the application with the AO.
- The AO will login with the name and email address listed in the application, using the password the TPP provided to complete their signature page.



### **Project & Fuel Type Selection**

- Project Fuel Type: This is the fuel type for the new bus.
- Percent of Annual Operations: If applying for multiple buses and they all operate in the same area, the answer should be yes.





### Primary Area & Usage Percentage

- Primary Area: Select the area(s) where the grant-funded equipment will be used.
  - Highlight the Area in the Available column, then click the "Add arrow" button to move it to the Selected column.
- Enter % in Area: Enter the usage percentage in the selected area.
  - Be sure to confirm that your intended county selection is listed in blue text.





### **Selection of Other for Primary Area**

If **Other** is selected for the Primary Area, enter the **Primary County of Operation**.





### **TCSB General Certifications**

**General Certifications:** By selecting **Agree** to these certifications, you are certifying that you understand and certify compliance with the listed statements.

#### O TCSB General Certification

Items marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

This section includes specific requirements and statements for funding under TCSB. These terms apply to any contract awarded by TCEQ from this application. The TCSB RFGA and the draft contract, located on the TCSB webpage, contain additional terms and conditions that the applicant should review before submitting an application.

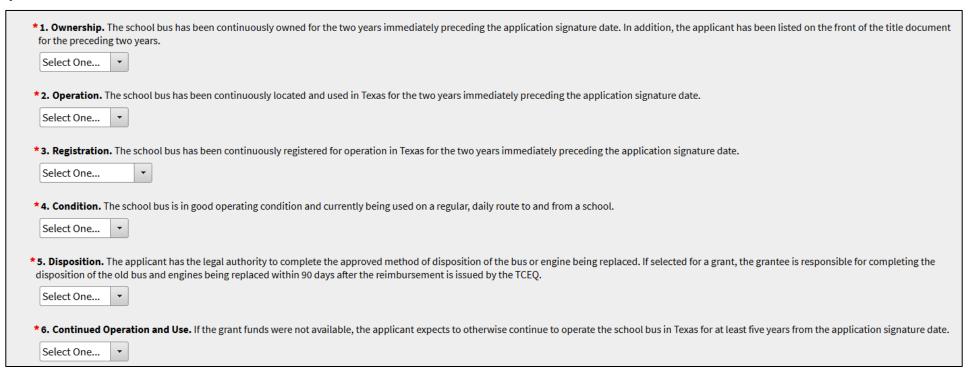
Click here for TCSB webpage

By signing this application, you understand and certify compliance with all the statements below, as well as with any state statutes, regulations, policies, guidelines, and requirements as they relate to the application, acceptance, and use of funds for this project. If any of these certifications materially change after submittal of the application, you will provide prompt notification to TCEQ within three business days of becoming aware of the change. Failure to notify TCEQ and/or any changes to your certifications may make the application ineligible and may make any resulting contracts voidable.



### **TCSB General Certifications (Continued)**

- Read through and agree to all the certifications.
- Continuous registration means no gaps in registration of more than 30 days.
  - Select No if there is a gap over 30 days in the previous two years and submit a waiver request for each bus.





### **TCSB General Certifications (Continued)**

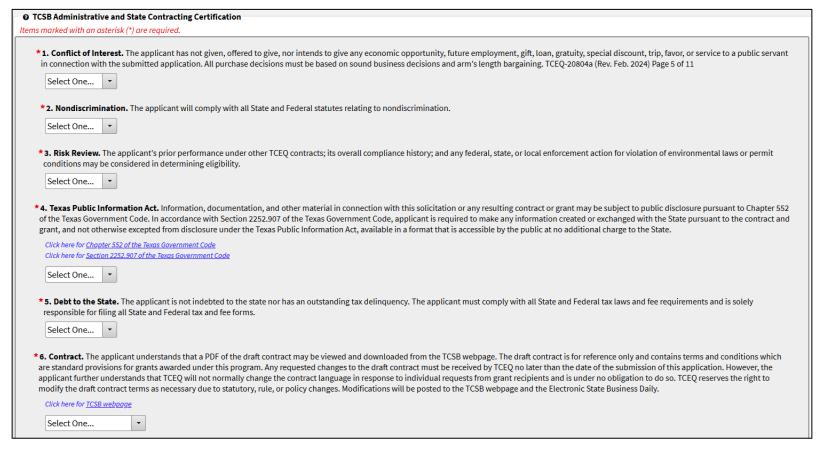
### Please read through and agree to the certifications.

*7. Not Otherwise Required. To the best of the applicant's knowledge, the proposed activities are not required by any state or federal law, rule or regulation, memorandum of agreement, or other legally binding contract.
Select One    The select of
*8. No Emissions Reductions Credits. Activities funded under this program are not eligible to generate marketable credits under state or federal emissions reduction credit averaging, banking, or trading programs. If the project is funded, the applicant waives, for all time, its right to claim or apply for any emissions reduction credits from the use of the bus or low-emission technology funded under TCSB.  Select One
*9. Not to Exceed 100% of Bus Cost. The amount of the TCSB grant award plus any other public financial assistance, tax credits or deductions, or other grants may not exceed the total eligible costs of the bus.  Select One
*10. Requirement to Monitor. The applicant will monitor the use of the grant-funded bus over the designated Activity Life. The applicant agrees to provide information on the use of the bus or equipment upon request of TCEQ.  Select One
*11. Insurance Coverage. The applicant will maintain, for the term of the Activity Life, property loss insurance or self-insurance coverage on any bus or equipment acquired, leased, repowered, retrofitted, or constructed using these funds, in an amount enough to reimburse the grant.  Select One  Select One
*12. Legal Authority. The applicant has legal authority in the State of Texas to apply for the grant. The applicant's governing body has authorized the filing of the application, understands these requirements and certifications, and has authorized the person identified as the Authorized Official to act in connection with the application and to provide such additional information as may be required.  Select One  Select One



# TCSB Administrative and State Contracting Certifications

**Certifications:** By selecting **Agree** to these certifications, you are certifying that you understand and certify compliance with the listed statements.





### **Authorized Official (AO) Contact**

- AO has signing authority for changes to the contract.
- Enter all required fields with the AO information.
  - First & Last Name
  - Title
  - Email Address

- Primary Phone Number
- Mailing Address, including City, State,
   Zip Code, and County

#### Authorized Official Contact

Items marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

\*The applicant or an employee who has legal authority to sign for or speak on behalf of the applicant.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THIRD-PARTY PREPARERS:**

Once you complete and electronically sign the application, the authorized official must log into SUNSS using the first name, last name, and email address that you entered on this screen.

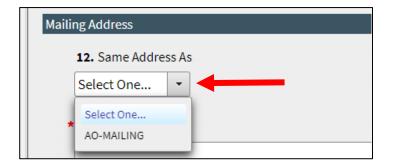


# Designated Project Representative (DPR) Contact

- The DPR will be the first point of contact for application questions.
- Enter all required fields with the DPR information.
  - First & Last Name
  - Title
  - Email Address



- Primary Phone Number
- Mailing Address, including City, State,
   Zip Code, and County



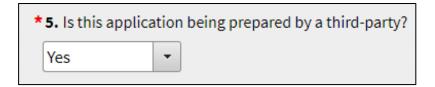
#### Please note:

If the DPR and AO are the same individual, select **AO-CONTACT** in the drop-down menu to copy the AO's contact information into the DPR fields. Under the Mailing Address section, select **AO-MAILING** to copy the AO's mailing address into the DPR fields.

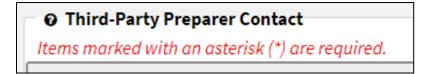


### **Third-Party Preparer (TPP) Contact**

- The TPP can assist with the application process.
- Enter all required fields with the TPP information.
  - Company Name
  - First & Last Name
  - Title



- Email Address
- Primary Phone Number
- Mailing Address, including City, State,
   Zip Code, and County



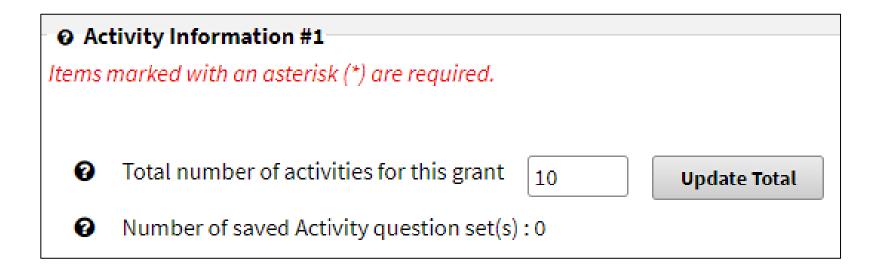
#### Please note:

This type of contact section will only appear and be required in your application if **Yes** was selected for question #5 listed under the Applicant Information section.



### **Activity Information**

Enter the total number of activities for this grant, then click **Update Total**.

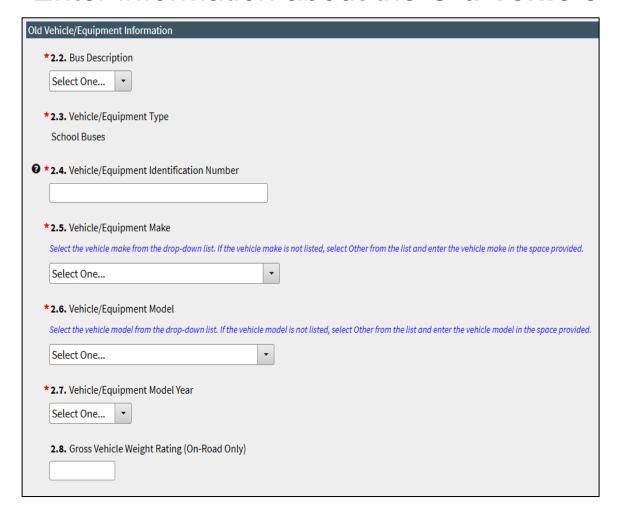


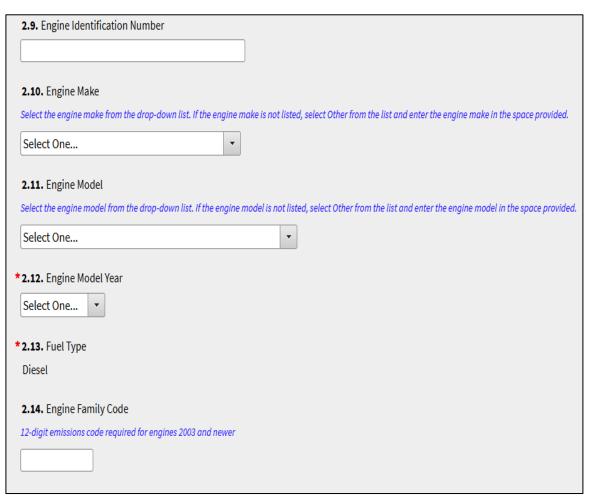
#### Please note:

10 activities is the max number of activities per application. If you have more than 10 activities, an additional application(s) will be required.

### **Activity Entry**

#### Enter information about the Old Vehicle.







### **Activity Entry (Continued)**

- Daily route: Explain the route the bus takes to transport students to and from the school, including the city and county.
- Continuous Registration: For any bus(es) with a registration gap of more than 30 days, an applicant must submit a waiver request. These are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

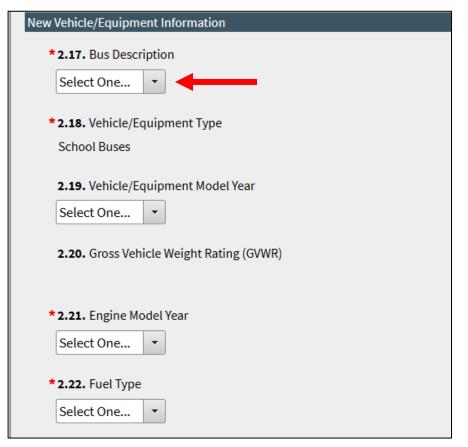
*2.15. Describe the current, daily route that the old school bus (i.e., the school bus being replaced) takes to and from school, including the cities and counties travelled between.
★2.16. Was the vehicle being replaced continuously registered in Texas for the past two years?
If not, waiver form must be filled out and uploaded for the registration requirement.
Select One 🔻

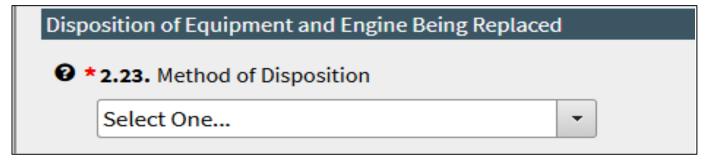


# **Activity Entry (Continued)**

#### Enter information about the **New Vehicle**:

The most common type of bus replacement project has the same old and new bus type. Refer to the Maximum Grant Amount Tables for allowable exceptions.





#### **Disposition Types:**

- Standard Disposition involves destroying the equipment as outlined in the <a href="RFGA">RFGA</a>.
- Alternative Disposition allows for the applicant to propose a different destruction method.
- Permanent Removal from Texas cannot include the United States, Mexico or Canada.



### **Grant Amounts by Vehicle Class**

#### TCEQ has established pre-determined grant amounts for Bus Types A through D:

#### School Bus Type A

A van conversion or body constructed utilizing a cutaway front-section vehicle with a left side driver's door. The Type A bus shall be **no less than 10,000 lbs. and may not exceed 19,500 Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)**. The entrance door is behind the front wheels. No single rear wheel vehicles will be allowed.

#### School Bus Type B

A school bus constructed utilizing a stripped chassis. The entrance door is behind the front wheels and has a GVWR of greater than 10,000 lbs.

#### School Bus Type C

A body installed upon a flat back cowl chassis or an integrated conventional chassis/body combination, with a hood and front fender assembly and a GVWR of **more than 10,000 lbs**. The engine is in front of the windshield and the entrance door is behind the front wheels. This type is also known as a "conventional school bus."

#### School Bus Type D

A body installed upon a chassis, with the engine mounted in the front, mid-bus, or rear with a GVWR of **more than 10,000 lbs**. The engine may be behind the windshield and beside the driver's seat; at the rear of the bus, behind the rear wheels; or between the front and rear axles. The entrance door is ahead of the front wheels. This type is also known as "transit-style school bus".



# **Grant Amounts by Vehicle Class (Continued)**

The Maximum Grant Amount Tables can be found on the program webpage and in the RFGA.

#### **School Bus Type A**

Model Year of Old Bus	Fuel Type of New Bus	Maximum Grant Amount
2003 or older	Diesel	N/A
2003 or older	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$104,720
2003 or older	Electric	\$238,000
2004 to 2006	Diesel	N/A
2004 to 2006	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$65,450
2004 to 2006	Electric	\$148,750

#### **School Bus Type B**

Model Year of Old Bus	Fuel Type of New Bus	Maximum Grant Amount
2003 or older	Diesel	\$101,620
2003 or older	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$103,768
2003 or older	Electric	N/A
2004 to 2006	Diesel	\$62,734
2004 to 2006	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$64,855
2004 to 2006	Electric	N/A

#### **School Bus Type C**

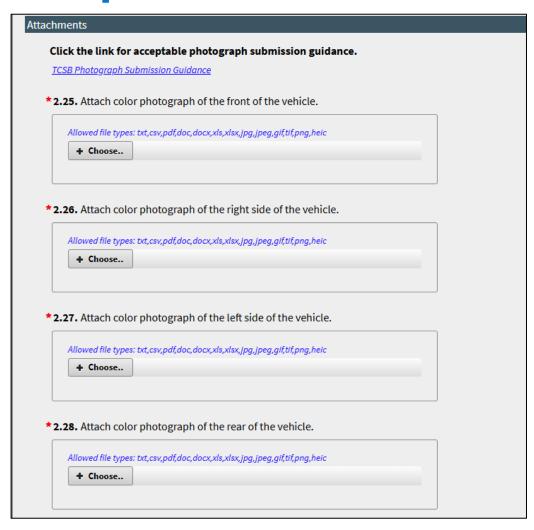
Model Year of Old Bus	Fuel Type of New Bus	Maximum Grant Amount
2003 or older	Diesel	\$106,721
2003 or older	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$126,616
2003 or older	Electric	\$333,200
2004 to 2006	Diesel	\$63,366
2004 to 2006	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$79,135
2004 to 2006	Electric	\$208,250

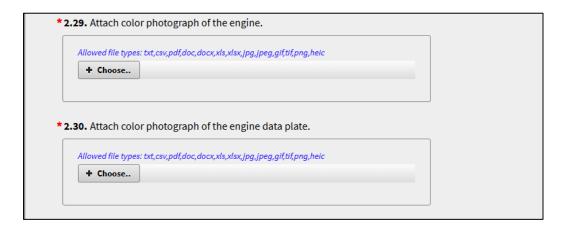
#### **School Bus Type D**

Model Year of Old Bus	Fuel Type of New Bus	Maximum Grant Amount
2003 or older	Diesel	\$116,676
2003 or older	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$153,510
2003 or older	Electric	\$380,800
2004 to 2006	Diesel	\$70,508
2004 to 2006	LNG, LPG, CNG, Gasoline	\$95,944
2004 to 2006	Electric	\$238,000



### **Required Attachments**





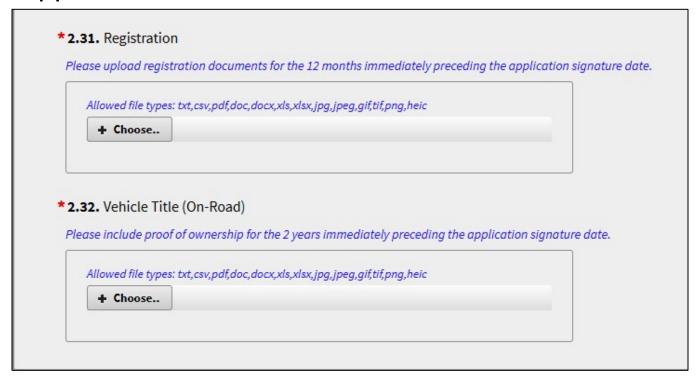
#### **Please Note:**

Refer to our <u>School Bus Photo Guidance</u> for examples of acceptable photos.



### Required Attachments (Continued)

- The applicant must provide documentation of 12 months of continuous registration prior to the application submission date. Most will need to upload two years of registration to meet this requirement.
- Applicant must upload a copy of the bus title to show ownership for at least the two years prior to the application submission date.

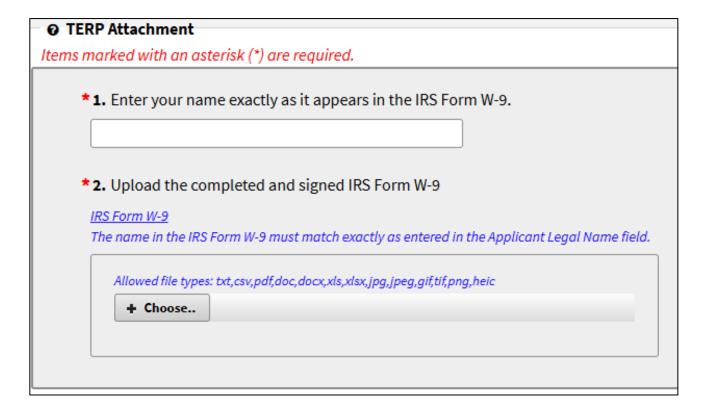




### Required Attachments (Continued)

Upload a completed and signed IRS Form W-9.

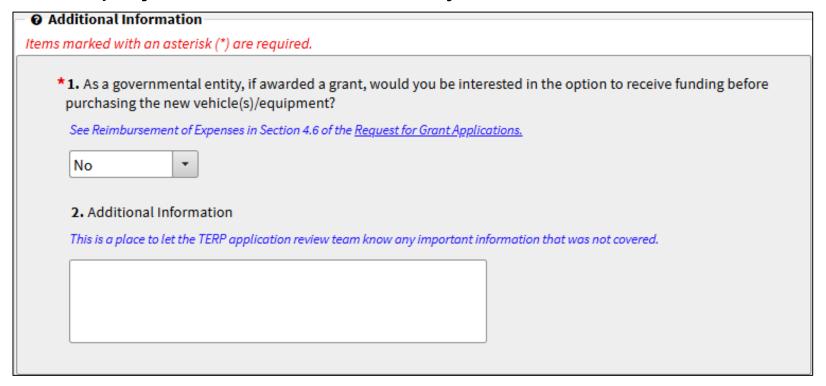
This form is required and must be submitted with the application.





### **Additional Information**

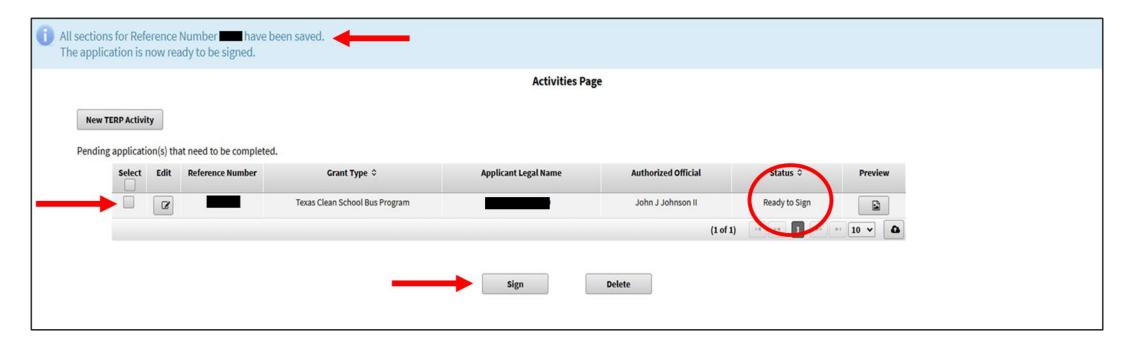
- If Yes is selected for Question 1 signifying an interest in advanced funding, TERP staff
  will evaluate the request on a case-by-case basis and contact the applicant with next
  steps.
- Question 2 is an opportunity for the applicant to add any additional relevant information for the project that was not already covered.





### **Electronically Signing the Application**

- The Activities Page indicates when all sections of the application have been completed and saved.
- The status of the application will show when the application is ready to be signed.
- Select the application, click the Sign button, and enter the password that was created for the application.





### **Third-Party Preparer (TPP) Signature**

This section will only appear and be required if the application was completed by a TPP.

• The TPP will need to apply checkmarks to the certification statements, type their name exactly as it appears in the application, and click **Electronically Sign your Application**.

The TPP must share the unique password they used to create the application with the AO.

It is recommended that the TPP click **View/Print Application** to save a copy of the application

for their records.





# **Authorized Official (AO) Signature**

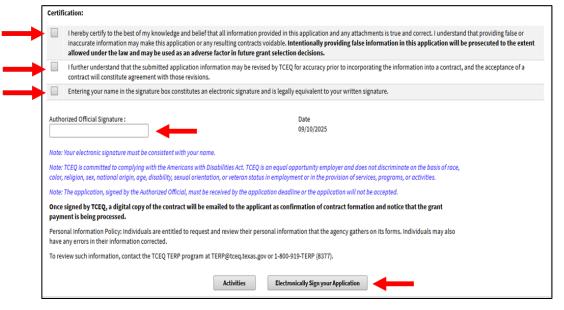
If the application was **not** completed by a TPP, the only signature required will be from the AO.

 The AO will login with the name and email address listed in the application if a TPP was used, using the password the TPP provided to complete their signature page.

• The AO will need to apply checkmarks to the certification statements, type their name exactly as it appears in the application, and click **Electronically Sign your Application** to submit it.

• It is recommended that the AO click View/Print Application to print a copy of the application for

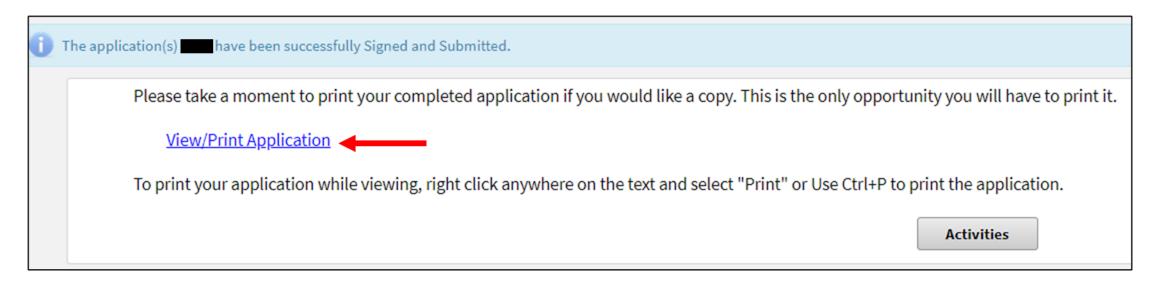
their records.





### **Application Signed & Submitted**

Once electronically signed, the system will indicate that the application has been successfully submitted to the TCEQ.



#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Click View/Print Application to download a copy of the submitted application for your records.



### **Email Confirmation of Submission**

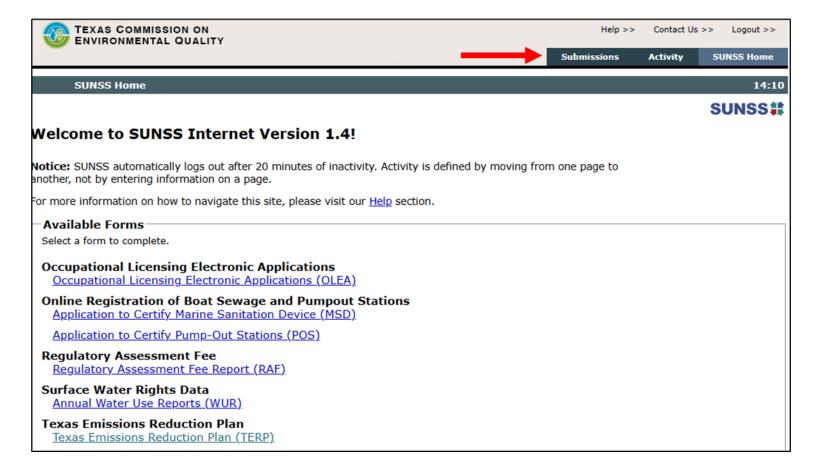
An automated email will be sent to confirm the application was submitted.

From: noReply@tceq.texas.gov <noReply@tceq.texas.gov> Sent: Wednesday, September 10, 2025 10:01 AM To: JaneDoe@noreply.com Subject: UAT:TCSB Application Submitted CC: BCC: This confirms the submittal of your Texas Clean School Bus Program (TCSB) Grant Application to the TCEQ. Your application was successfully submitted at 09/10/2025 10:01:12 AM. The confirmation number for this submittal is: 2189 The hash code for this submittal is D600AE3F5B0A802F978AC362D94E49E52510F7B942B435B72997D3A7879836B9 You may access the copy of record (submitted report) from the submit log which is available by selecting Submissions from the Home page of SUNSS https://www3.tceq.texas.gov/sunss/. If you have any questions, please contact the STEERS Help Line at 512-239-6925 or by e-mail at steersts@tceq.texas.gov.



### Retrieving a Submission

Using the Confirmation Number provided in the submission email, log into SUNSS with your password and select the **Submissions** button.





### Retrieving a Submission (Continued)

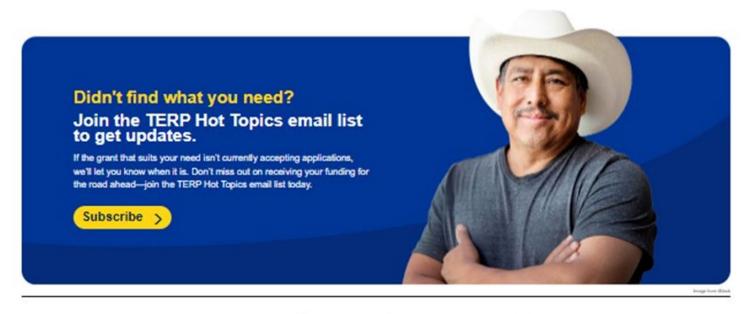
In the drop-down menu, select **View COR** (copy of record) to access a downloadable version of the application that was submitted.





64

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### Questions

- If you have any questions, please see the Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) online at: <a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp/tcsb">www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp/tcsb</a>.
- Applicants with questions regarding eligibility to apply for a grant should contact TERP staff at 1-800-919-TERP (8377) or <u>TERP@tceq.texas.gov</u>.





### Ryan Delzell, Michelle Huckabee & Erica Lozano

Grant Specialists, Air Grants Division 800-919-TERP (8377)

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