2019 Green School Bus Fleet Certification

The NSTA Green School Bus Fleet Certification program was developed in 2010 to recognize school bus operators for their efforts in creating a cleaner environment through the use of available technologies. The certification is amended each year with guidance from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reflect changing industry standards. The EPA has endorsed the 2019 Green School Bus Fleet Certification process.

While buses have always been and continue to be the safest mode of school transportation, buses have also been the focus of efforts to reduce the soot and smog previously caused by older diesel engines. Newer engine and emission reduction technologies help reduce emissions by over 90 percent. The NSTA Green School Bus Fleet Certification program highlights your organization’s efforts to accelerate the reduction of emissions from the school transportation industry.

The NSTA Green School Bus Fleet Certification program offers 4 levels of recognition to those who actively pursue a greener fleet: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum.

**Goals**

The goals of the NSTA Green School Bus Fleet Certification are:

1. Provide recognition for steps taken to reduce diesel exhaust emissions.
2. Provide incentives for companies seeking to reduce emissions voluntarily.
3. Use EPA/CARB verified emission control devices to create a challenging, yet achievable goal for school bus operators and managers to attain.

**Certification Level Requirements**

The certification level requirements are reviewed and adjusted annually in accordance with industry advancements and EPA standards. For the 2019 year, NSTA has approved the following Green School Bus Fleet Certification Levels. Each applicant will be required to have an approved written anti-idling policy that conforms generally with the example policy provided by the EPA. Each applicant is required to submit their anti-idling policy for review with their application.

**2019 Bronze Status:** The operator must demonstrate having an approved written anti-idling policy and a Green School Bus Fleet score between 40 and 49 points overall.

**2019 Silver Status:** The operator must demonstrate having an approved written anti-idling policy and a Green School Bus Fleet score between 50 and 59 points overall.

**2019 Gold Status:** The operator must demonstrate having an approved written anti-idling policy and a Green School Bus Fleet score between 60 and 69 points overall.
2019 Platinum Status: The operator must demonstrate having an approved written anti-idling policy and a Green School Bus Fleet score of 70 or more points overall.

**Green School Bus Fleet Point Distribution**

**Diesel Engine Model Year (EMY) Points:**

EMY Pre-2007 diesel engines retrofitted with a EPA/CARB verified DOC or DOC & CCV combination = 25 points per vehicle

EMY Pre-2007 diesel engines retrofitted with a EPA/CARB verified DPF = 45 points per vehicle\(^1\)

EMY 2007 – 2009 diesel engine = 50 points per vehicle

EMY 2010 – 2014 diesel engine = 60 points per vehicle

EMY 2015 – Newer diesel engine = 65 points per vehicle

**Alternative Fuel Points:**

CNG, Propane, and Gasoline Engine Points = 70 points per vehicle

Hybrid Electric = 80 points per vehicle

Complete Electric and Fuel Cell = 100 points per vehicle

**Application Process**

To apply, complete the NSTA Green School Bus Fleet spreadsheet application available on the NSTA website. The application must include the completed spreadsheet application, and a copy of the company wide idling policy. For consideration, email complete applications to info@yellowbuses.org.

The completed application must be submitted to the NSTA office via email no later than May 15, 2019.

**Cost**

There is no cost to apply for an NSTA member in good standing. Non-NSTA members must be in the private school transportation industry and are required to submit $500 per site application fee to receive consideration.

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\(^1\) For pre-2007 MY vehicles which do not have DOC or DPF technology as OEM, adding an EPA or CARB verified DPF or DOC will result in adding points based on the average level of emission reduction achieved by the verified technology installed based on the higher of either the EPA or CARB approved list.