

Wisconsin Diesel Exhaust Retrofit Grant

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through its Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative. The program is designed to assist common, contract and private motor carriers in the purchase and installation of EPA and/or California Air Resources Board (CARB) verified retrofit technologies (a.k.a. diesel exhaust aftertreatment control devices). Motor carriers are eligible for reimbursement up to the full cost for the purchase and installation of diesel exhaust retrofit equipment. The primary project goal is to maximize the reductions achieved on trucks being retrofitted with idle reduction technologies, with further consideration for trucks that do not have these idle reduction units or that were not eligible for the state idle reduction program funds.

Eligible Applicants:

An eligible applicant must meet all of the following:

1. Is a common, contract or private motor carrier that transports freight.
2. Is headquartered in the state of Wisconsin or has their trucking routes mainly in Wisconsin and the Midwest.
3. Agrees to collect and report information relating to the operation and performance of each diesel exhaust retrofit unit covered under this grant.
4. Owns and/or operates a heavy-duty diesel truck engine.

Eligible Costs:

- Purchase of EPA/CARB verified diesel exhaust retrofit unit.
- Installation of the diesel exhaust retrofit unit.

Ineligible Costs:

- The cost of operating a diesel exhaust retrofit unit.
- The cost of maintaining a diesel exhaust retrofit unit.
- Self installation of idling reduction equipment unless approved by Commerce.
- Accessories that are in addition to the basic diesel exhaust retrofit unit.

Funding Availability

There is a total of \$50,000 available. Commerce anticipates awarding two to ten grants to motor fleets, resulting in five to twenty-five trucks being retrofitted. At least 50% or \$25,000 of the funds will be directed to truck owners who were awarded funding under the state Diesel Truck Idling Reduction Grant Program or truck owners who currently have idling reduction technology installed on their trucks.

The remaining funds, up to 50% or \$25,000, may be used to target those truck owners ineligible under the state Diesel Truck Idling Reduction Grant Program. This may include heavy duty diesel trucks with no sleeper berths, motor carriers operating often in Wisconsin, but not headquartered in the state of Wisconsin.

Reporting Requirement

Grant awardees are required to report quarterly.

Eligible Diesel Exhaust Retrofit Technologies:

Examples of technologies include, but are not limited to:

- Diesel Oxidation Catalysts
- Diesel Particulate Filter

For a complete list of EPA verified technologies, please visit: <http://www.epa.gov/oms/retrofit/retroverifiedlist.htm>
CARB verified technologies are identified at the following site: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/vt/cvt.htm>

Commerce will review applications and fund those that provide the greatest reductions of emissions in the most cost effective manner.

Evaluating Diesel Exhaust Retrofit Technologies

Truck owners will have the opportunity to research, evaluate and purchase the emission control technology (retrofit equipment) that makes the most sense for their fleet. Fleets will be required to use the EPA's FLEET Model (http://www.epa.gov/smartway/smartway_fleets_software.htm), the Diesel Emission Quantifier (<http://cfpub.epa.gov/quantifier/>) and/or the National Mobile Inventory Model (<http://www.epa.gov/otag/nmim.htm>).

What Truck Tractor Model Years Are Eligible Under This Program?

At least 50% of the funds will be directed towards 1999 and newer engines. Pre-1999 engines are eligible, as long as it makes economic and environmental sense to grant coverage.

Are Truck Tractors Without Sleeper Cabs Eligible?

Yes.

When and Where Can I Apply?

Applications will be accepted until all available funds are exhausted.

The Application Process

The Diesel Exhaust Retrofit Grant involves the following steps:

Step 1: Determine eligibility.

Step 2: Research diesel exhaust retrofit technology options.

Step 3: Get an itemized (base vs options) price quote from vendor (form attached to the application).

Step 4: Submit application (available March 19, 2007 at the web page shown below), including the itemized price quote to Commerce for review (accepting applications starting March 23, 2007).

Step 5: If application meets all eligibility criteria and is fundable, Commerce will send the applicant an award letter and a contract. Unfunded applications will receive written notification as to exhausted funds, ineligibility and/or incomplete applications.

Step 6: Review, complete and sign contract. Return to Commerce.

Step 7: Purchase and install approved diesel exhaust retrofit unit(s).

Step 8: Submit a request for disbursement and a copy of paid invoice to Commerce.

Step 9: Receive 80% reimbursement for eligible amount.

Step 10: After submitting all the required reports, applicant receives remaining 20% of funds.

Where Do I Submit My Application?

Wisconsin Department of Commerce
Attn: Diesel Exhaust Retrofit Grant
201 W. Washington Ave, P.O. Box 7970
Madison, WI 53707-7970

For more information about the program, you can contact Jean Beckwith at (608) 261-2517 or Jean.Beckwith@wisconsin.gov or Tom Coogan at (608) 267-9214 or Thomas.Coogan@wisconsin.gov

Additional Resources:

• Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative (EPA):

The Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative is a collaboration of federal, state and local agencies, along with communities, non-profit organizations and private companies working together to reduce emissions from diesel engines in the Midwest. <http://www.epa.gov/midwestcleandiesel/>

• EPA Smartway Program:

The SmartWay Transport Partnership is a voluntary collaboration between U.S. EPA and the freight industry designed to increase energy efficiency while significantly reducing greenhouse gases and air pollution. SmartWay Transport Partners lead the way towards a cleaner, more efficient transportation future by adopting fuel-saving strategies that increase profits and reduce emissions -- a "win-win" opportunity for all. <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/index.htm>

• U.S. EPA:

EPA maintains a Technology Verification program so that manufacturers can introduce verified technologies to the market as cost-effectively as possible, while providing customers with confidence that verified technologies will provide emission reductions as advertised. This verification process evaluates the emission reduction performance of retrofit technologies, including their durability, and identifies engine operating criteria and conditions that must exist for these technologies to achieve those reductions.

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/retrofit/retroverifiedlist.htm>

• California Air Resources Board:

CARB administers a verification system for diesel exhaust retrofit technologies. The website below provides information on the applicability of technology with various truck engine years and the the emissions that will be reduced through the installation of the technology.

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/vt/cvt.htm>