

# News Release

For immediate release

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**Attn: Local news, education and assignment editors**



**San Joaquin Valley**  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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## **Air District offers \$3 million for school bus replacement**

*March 14 deadline for up to 50 percent funding for new buses*

There's still time for Valley school districts to apply for up to 50 percent of the cost of new school buses through a Valley Air District program.

The School Bus Incentives Program has \$3 million available to replace the oldest and most-polluting school buses with newer, cleaner, more efficient buses. The application period closes March 14.

"This is an important grant program for a critical part of the Valley's population," said Samir Sheikh, the Air District's director of incentive programs. "Protecting the health of our most vulnerable residents – our children – is paramount."

Eligibility criteria are:

- Applicant must be a public school district or Joint Powers Authority located within the Valley air basin that own eligible school buses for replacement
- Buses must:
  - Have 75 percent or more of vehicle miles traveled within the air district's boundaries
  - Have a 1993 model engine year or older
  - Have a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) greater than 14,000 pounds
  - Have a current California Highway Patrol (CHP) safety certification (CHP Form 292) and have been continuously certified for the past two years
  - Be currently registered with the state DMV

Buses that are replaced through the program will be required to be destroyed. Buses will be ranked on a combination of the model year of the engine and annual usage with oldest model-year engines with the highest usage given priority.

Applications are accepted by fax, email, mail or hand delivery to the District's central region office in Fresno at 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., 93726.

For more information and application information, visit [www.valleyair.org/grants](http://www.valleyair.org/grants) or call 559-230-5800.