

## Zero Emission Busing - Extension Waiver #1 - 2026

### Extension Waiver Application

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#### Extension Waiver Details

In an effort to assure adequate time to inform budget decisions, the application will be accepted on a rolling basis, until March 1, of each year. No new applications for the coming school year will be reviewed after the March 1st deadline, save for an emergency purchase need. If such an emergency condition arises, please contact the Office of Pupil Transportation by emailing [Transportation@nysed.gov](mailto:Transportation@nysed.gov) or by calling (518) 474-6541.

NYSED will notify districts of its Extension Waiver Application determination no later than April 1 of the of the preceding school year. An approved Extension Waiver will permit State Transportation Aid to flow for all otherwise approved transportation expenses for the following 2 school years. Expenses related to noncompliant vehicles or service contracts made after June 30, 2027 will result in forfeiture of transportation aid unless the district was granted a waiver extension.

School districts are strongly cautioned not to apply for an Extension Waiver unless it is absolutely necessary to meet the district's transportation service needs for the coming school year. Applying and receiving an extension too soon may negatively impact the district in the future. Similarly, school districts are strongly encouraged to continue making positive progress toward fleet transition regardless of whether an extension is needed at any time. Continued effort and/or sustained progress toward fleet conversion shall be necessary to demonstrate if a district wishes to be granted a second 2-year Extension Waiver.

If you have any questions, or need additional technical assistance, please contact NYSED's Pupil Transportation Unit by emailing [Transportation@nysed.gov](mailto:Transportation@nysed.gov) or by calling (518) 474-6541.

1. **District Contact Person**
2. **Title/Role**
3. **Email Address**
4. **Phone Number**

#### Factors for Consideration

New York State Education Law §3638:

"The commissioner shall consider a school district's effort to meet the requirements of subdivision two of this section and any other factors outside of the control of the district when granting an extension, including but not limited to, procurement efforts made by the school district, applications for state or federal funds, changes needed to school district operations to meet the requirements of this section, employee training, receipt of technical assistance, market availability of zero-emission school buses or supporting infrastructure, and availability of state or federal funds."

#### 5. **Recent Voter Proposition Defeated**

**The district presented a voter proposition to borrow funds or expend reserves to support the purchase of zero-emission buses or related infrastructure within the past year that did not receive voter support.**

Yes

No

#### 5B. **If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.**

**Example of Supporting Document - Certified voting records showing the proposition language and final ballot count for the zero-emission busing proposition.**

## Zero Emission Busing - Extension Waiver #1 - 2026

### Extension Waiver Application

---

#### 6. Funding Denial

The district applied for and was denied state or federal grant funds for Zero-Emission busing.

Yes

No

6B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.

Example of Supporting Documents: Formal notice of funding denial from federal or state granting authority.

#### 7. Fleet Electrification Plan

The District is waiting for its formal NYSEDA Fleet Electrification Plan (FEP) to be completed, *OR* a completed formal (FEP) indicates that no bus or route electrification is currently possible at the district. The district must show that they are working with NYSEDA towards transition in an effort to justify the extension.

Yes

No

7B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.

#### 8. Utility Upgrades Required

The District has obtained formal, written confirmation from its electric utility that overall needs cannot be met without major upgrades that require capital project development and approval.

Yes

No

8B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.

Examples of Supporting Documents - Electric Utility Needs Assessment, Load Letter, NYSED project permit approval letter.

#### 9. Electric Bus or Equipment Supply Chain Delay

The district is willing and able to purchase zero-emission buses and related equipment but will not receive necessary items in a timely manner due to supply chain delays.

Yes

No

9B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.

Examples of Supporting Documents - formal documents showing expected order delivery date(s).

#### 10. Bus Garage Lease Restrictions

The districts current bus garage lease does not allow for necessary electrical upgrades to support EV bus storage and charging needs.

Yes

No

10B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.

Examples of Supporting Documents -The district must provide a copy of the Lease agreement noting

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---

that the owner will not support any electrification upgrades for ZEB to support the need for the extension, or a formal letter from owner stating they are not willing to allow upgrades.

**11. New Bus Garage Required**

The district requires a new bus garage and is in planning, application, or approval stage with NYSED.

Yes

No

**11B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.**

Examples of Supporting Documents -The district must provide clear documentation from NYSED or an engineering firm showing the planning stages of the new Bus Garage to support the need for the extension. Signed letters from engineers on requirements for new garage, applications, approval letters from NYSED.

**12. Bus Contractor Limitations**

The districts current bus contractor cannot meet the mandate, and no other regional contractor can provide services.

Yes

No

**12B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.**

Examples of Supporting Documents -The district must show lack of available contractors based on Bids received in response to a formal solicitation. The district must substantiate how the current contractor cannot meet the mandate, and what efforts have been done to support the transition to ZEB. Letters from current contractors, Bids showing lack of other contractors.

**13. Operational Changes Needed**

The district's current operations require significant changes to meet mandate (e.g., employee training, technical assistance). The district must describe in detail how it will not be able to support the Operational Changes in an effort to justify the need for the extension.

Yes

No

**13B. If Yes, please upload your supporting documents.**

Example of Supporting Document - present clear documentation that demonstrates what operational changes are needed and when those changes will be fully implemented.

**14. Other Factors**

Please describe in detail any and all other factors outside of the districts control that will require the district to seek an extension for the coming year's procurement needs.

**14B. Please upload any documents to support the factor(s) detailed above.**