

# School Bus Refurbishment Program

## Program Description Overview

Update: 11/14/12

This program is collaboration between the Maine Department of Education (MDOE) and the Maine Military Authority (MMA) initiated by gubernatorial executive order #24 FY11/12.

### Program Goals

The goals of the School Bus Refurbishment Program are to:

1. supplement school bus maintenance by refurbishing mid-life school buses
2. extend the safe and useful life of school buses

### Eligibility Criteria

- The program is open to all public schools in Maine
- Bus shall have a current Maine vehicle inspection sticker
- Bus meets mid-life condition as determined by MMA
- Program application is filed during the fiscal year cycle as determined by MDOE

### Step 1: Application

- The application process opens November 16
- The application process closes when the pool of approvals commitments equals the program budget
- We recommend early application as approvals are based on the order that the signed contract for service is received by the state (see Step 3: Approval)

### Step 2: Qualification Inspection

- Bus is in mid-life condition
  - Mid-life condition shall be determined by a field joint visual inspection (F-JVI) conducted by the MMA in the presence of a SAU transportation employee or owner representative
  - The field joint visual inspection (F-JVI), conducted by the MMA, shall be based on parameters in the MMA scope of work (SOW)
- Bus age (body is repairable)
- Bus mileage (engine has an estimated 7-10 years of life remaining)
- Bus life cycle limits (vehicle is in mid-life cycle)
- Bus qualification inspection shall be determined by the Maine Military Authority

### Step 3: Approval

- Program application has been completed and submitted
- Bus shall pass the qualification inspection field joint visual inspection (F-JVI) conducted by the Maine Military Authority
- Application priority is determined by the order requests are received (first come first served philosophy) and availability of State funds
- School district agrees to enter and track bus maintenance data in Transfinder software maintenance module for the life of the refurbished bus
- Refurbishment program approval shall be determined by the Maine Department of Education

### Step 4: Contract

- Bus passes the application, qualification inspection and approval steps

# School Bus Refurbishment Program

## Program Description Overview

Update: 11/14/12

- School district and Maine Military Authority develop a summary of work to be performed
- Superintendent signs the contract
- The basic contract fee is \$30,000
- NOTE: the cost of additional work, beyond the basic contract fee, is *not* included in the state subsidy calculation

### Step 5: Subsidy

- Schools with qualified and approved buses may receive a subsidy dependent on availability of State funds
  - Title 20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§12, Sec. C-10
  - Title 20-A MRSA §15689, sub-§12, Sec. F-1
- A sliding scale reimbursement is used
  - potential minimum subsidy is 30% of the base refurbishment cost
    - Example:  $(.30) \times (\$30,000) = \$9,000$
  - potential maximum subsidy is 70% of the base refurbishment cost
    - Example:  $(.70) \times (\$30,000) = \$21,000$
  - NOTE: the cost of additional work, beyond the basic contract fee, is the responsibility of the school district and is *not* included in the subsidy calculation
- Subsidy reimbursement will occur during the year following the purchase
  - Example: FY12/13 refurbishment contract with a FY13/14 subsidy adjustment
  - Note: there is an exception for August 2012 contracts which will receive FY12/13 subsidy adjustment

### Step 6: Warranty

- Warranty for the refurbished school buses shall be provided by the Maine Military Authority
- Corrosion warranty will be a minimum of two (2) years
- Paint warranty will be a minimum of one (1) year

### Quality Control

- Quality control shall be governed by ISO 9001:2008 which shows that the organization follows the most internationally recognized quality management principles
- Repairs shall meet or exceed Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) for school buses
- Quality control shall be the responsibility of the Maine Military Authority

### Scope of Work

- School bus basic refurbishment work covers:
  - Body exterior restored to like new condition
  - Frame/undercarriage restored to like new condition
- School bus basic refurbishment cost will be \$30,000
- Optional work is available (price to be determined based on selection)
- Additional work is available (price to be determined based on selection)

### Vendor

- Maine Military Authority, a State agency
  - Office located in Augusta, Maine
  - Production facility located in Limestone, Maine