

# Natural Gas Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebate Program



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Office of Energy



# About Us

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- The Office of Energy was moved to the Florida Department of Agriculture of and Consumer Services (FDACS) on July 1, 2011
- We've combined our programs with existing FDACS programs such as the Farm to Fuel initiative



# HB 579

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- **Passed in the 2013 Legislative Session**
  - Addresses taxation natural gas fuels
  - Licensing of natural gas fuels
  - Reporting of natural gas fuels
- **Section 17 – Natural Gas Fuel Fleet Vehicle Rebate**
  - (1) CREATION AND PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM – There is created within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services a natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program. The purpose of this program is to help reduce transportation costs in this state and encourage freight mobility investments that contribute to the economic growth of the state.



# Program Information

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- \$6 million per year, for 5 years
  - Funding is based on legislative allocation
- The allocation is split into two pots
  - 60% (\$3.6M) of the funds are reserved for commercial applicants
  - 40% (\$2.4M) are reserved for governmental applicants
- Rebates distributed on a first come, first served basis
  - Applications will begin being accepted January 7, 2014
- Economic data collected with each application
  - Data will be included in a report due to the Governor and Legislature on October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year of the program



# Program Specifics

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## What is eligible for a rebate?

- The purchase or lease of a natural gas fleet vehicle
  - Up to \$25,000 (but not more than 50%) of the incremental costs
    - *“Incremental costs” mean the excess costs associated with the purchase or lease of a natural gas fuel motor vehicle as compared to an equivalent diesel or gasoline-powered motor vehicle.*
- Conversion to a natural gas fleet vehicle
  - Up to \$25,000 (but not more than 50%) of the conversion costs
- Eligible vehicles must have been placed in service on or after July 1, 2013



# Review Process

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- By rule, our office has 60 days to review each application
  - Within those 60 days, a letter will be sent to each applicant notifying them of the status of their application
- Each application will be reviewed by at least two staff members
  - The Office of Energy is developing a check-list to aid in review and to ensure that the review process is consistent and replicable
- If an application is incomplete:
  - The applicant will be sent a list of their application's deficiencies and be given a chance to re-submit, though they lose their original place in the first-come, first-served line
- After our office's review, eligible applications are sent to FDACS Financing and Accounting for their approval
  - Pending Finance and Accounting's approval, applications are then sent to Department of Financial Services for a final review and the issue of payment



# Where Are We?

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- Three workshops have been held
  - Tallahassee, July 17
  - Orlando, July 23
  - Tallahassee, September 12
- Currently in the rulemaking process
  - Published Notice of Proposed Rule on October 21, 2013
    - Comment period ended November 11, 2013
  - The next step will be to file the rule with the Department of State

The latest rule and application drafts are available on our website:

<http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com/Energy/Natural-Gas-Fuel-Fleet-Vehicle-Rebate>

# Contact Us

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Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Office of Energy



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