Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – updated 04/18/12

Who is eligible for this program?

- Owner-operators must currently provide drayage truck services to the Port of Baltimore, Port of Philadelphia, Port of Virginia, or Port of Wilmington (DE). Proof of port service is required to participate in this program.
- Independent contractors as well as fleet owners may apply.

How much grant funding is available?

- The program provides up to $20,000 towards a newer truck.

What kind of trucks can be purchased?

- This program requires owner-operators to purchase a truck with a 2007 or newer engine. (Please note that past versions of this program considered 2004-2006 engines with retrofit devices eligible for purchase. As of July 25, 2011, only trucks with a 2007 or newer engine are eligible replacement vehicles.)
- A list of approved truck vendors will be supplied to each owner-operator after acceptance into the program.

What is the purpose of this program?

- The program is intended to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases associated with the transport of goods to and from the participating ports of the Mid-Atlantic.

Can I apply for funding for more than one truck?

- Yes. Each truck must meet the eligibility requirements.
- If you need space for additional trucks on your application, attach additional sheets of paper. Write the owner’s name on each sheet and attach to the application.

What are the eligibility requirements for the trucks?

- The model year of the truck engine must be 2003 or older. Preference will be given to trucks with 1997 and older engines. If funds are still available, trucks with MY 2003 engines and older will be eligible for funding.
- Trucks must be class 8 vehicles.
- Trucks must have been owned for at least one year, verified by date on title.
- The truck must be “street legal.” This means the truck must be drive-able on the date that it is scrapped. This also means the truck must have a current registration and insurance.
- The title must indicate “No Liens” or have a “Lien Release”.

The Green Operator (GO) program provides funds to replace older vehicles with more emission-efficient engines and recognizes partners for achieving goals that reduce air pollution and greenhouse gases associated with the transport of goods.
• Old trucks will be required to be scrapped. Any proceeds from the scrap metal will be applied toward the purchase of the truck.

I just bought an old truck – can I replace it with a newer truck through this program?
• Old trucks must have been owned for at least one year before the truck is eligible for the program.

My truck just broke down – can I replace it with a newer truck through this program?
• Old trucks must be drive-able and street legal on the day of scrappage.

Complete applications must include the following:
• A signed application.
• A copy (front and back) of valid port identification (Virginia applicants only).
• A copy (front and back) of a Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC).
• A copy of the current truck title and registration.
• Proof of insurance.
• A photograph of the current truck with license plates clearly legible.
• After acceptance into the program, a proof of purchase in the form of a paid invoice for a truck with a 2007 or newer engine will be required.

How can I tell if I will qualify for financing for the balance of the truck price?
Approval for financing is solely the decision of the financial institutions and is generally based upon your credit report and credit score. A credit report is a record of your credit history. Other factors may be reviewed by the financial institution before financing is approved. Below you will find a list of questions that are commonly asked by financial institutions when reviewing financing applications. Please consider these questions before you choose to pursue participating in the Regional Dray Truck Program.

• Have you had a bankruptcy within the last 4 years?
• Do you have a foreclosure or lien in your recent financial history?
• Do you have an open federal tax lien?
• Do you have a prior repossession in your past?
• Is your credit score below 600?
• Do you consistently pay bills late?

Answering yes to any or all of these questions may impact your chance of obtaining financing, but ultimately the decision is up to the financing institutions.

When should I buy my new truck?
• Program staff will contact you after you are accepted into the program. At this time, you will receive an acceptance packet with instructions for how to proceed with the purchase of your truck.
• Do NOT purchase a new truck prior to program approval or you risk making your truck ineligible for the program.
When should I scrap my old truck?

- Program staff will contact you after you are accepted into the program to give you more details on how and when to scrap your truck. A checklist for documenting the scrappage process will be provided to you.
- Do NOT scrap your truck without program approval or you risk making your truck ineligible for the program.

How can I get an application?

- Go to http://www.efc.umd.edu/cleandiesel.html
- Call the truck hotline at 301-405-3577 to request an application.

Who do I contact for assistance?

For questions, please call the truck hotline at 301-405-3577

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A special thanks to our funding partners

The Green Operator Program was developed from a Virginia Port Authority pilot program that provided trucking companies with low-cost financing to purchase diesel trucks with more emission-efficient engines or funding assistance to retrofit older models for emission efficiency.

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The Port of Virginia program is also generously supported by contributions from California Cartage Express.

Participating ports include the Port of Baltimore, Port of Philadelphia, Port of Virginia, and Port of Wilmington, DE.