



Natural Resources  
Canada

Ressources naturelles  
Canada

# GREEN FREIGHT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Applicant's Guide

April 8, 2019



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1: Introduction.....	2
Section 2: Project Objectives and Priorities .....	3
Section 3: Funding Details .....	3
Section 4: Submission Details and Deadlines .....	3
Section 5: Project Assessment Process .....	4
Section 6: Eligibility .....	5
Section 7: Contact Us .....	7

## Section 1: Introduction

---

### 1.1 Background

In Canada, transportation contributes nearly one quarter of total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. A significant amount of these transportation-related GHG emissions is related to medium and heavy-duty vehicles (MHDV). Demand for freight is highly correlated with economic growth and will continue to grow due to increasingly globalized supply chains, 'just-in-time' delivery and the exportation of natural resources. While current and proposed heavy-duty vehicle GHG emission regulations aim to reduce emissions from this sector, these regulations only apply to new vehicles and engines and not to the current fleet of in-use vehicles, many of which will remain in use for many years with an average service life of more than

It is recognized that there is a significant emission reductions potential from improving freight efficiency and Canada is identifying pathways for reducing emissions while ensuring competitiveness of the sector. A key part of these reductions will be obtained from MHDV fleets implementing energy efficient operational practices, adopting newer technologies and purchasing alternatively fuelled vehicles. However, barriers persist to the wide-spread integration of energy-efficient measures in Canada's MHDV fleet, in part due to a lack of awareness of measures well-suited for Canadian companies.

### 1.2 Natural Resources Canada – Green Freight Programs

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has been promoting freight efficiency within Canada's on-road medium and heavy-duty commercial fleets for years, by providing tools and information through the [SmartDriver Training Curriculum](#) and the [SmartWay Transport Partnership Programs](#).

NRCan's SmartDriver program offers free driver training resulting in the reduction of fuel use and related GHG emissions. Building on the success of SmartDriver, NRCan further engaged Canada's freight industry through the SmartWay Transport Partnership. Delivered in collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency since 2012, the SmartWay program not only helps companies' measure, report and benchmark emissions from their freight activities but also provide a comparison of performance against companies with similar operations. To date more than 3,500 North American companies have signed on to the Partnership, and are invested in reducing fuel costs, improving efficiency, and encouraging best practices in their freight supply chains.

### 1.3 Introduction to the Program

In 2018, NRCan's Office of Energy Efficiency launched the Green Freight Assessment Program (GFAP) in an effort to expand the suite of tools and information offered to the commercial vehicle sector.

GFAP provides contributions of up to \$10,000 to help commercial fleet owners and operators obtain a third party analysis on their operations. The information obtained through a freight energy assessment

will provide the opportunity for companies to make data-driven decisions when exploring energy efficient retrofits or fuel switching options.

## Section 2: Project Objectives and Priorities

---

### 2.1 Key Objectives and Outcomes

The objective of this initiative is to build the capacity of organizations to improve energy efficiency of medium and heavy-duty vehicles (MHDV) and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Through this initiative, NRCan expects to increase the knowledge and capacity of the on-road freight sector to adopt energy efficiency measures tailored to operational needs by providing cost-sharing support.

GFAP provides increased access to freight efficiency tools and information to all MHDV fleets across Canada. The project aims to achieve a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the on-road freight sector as well as a reduction in operational costs and increased competitiveness due to more energy-efficient MHDV fleets in Canada.

## Section 3: Funding Details

---

### 3.1 Funding Amount and Duration

Successful applicants (proponents) will be eligible to receive up to 50% cost-sharing contributions to complete a Fleet Energy Assessment. Proponents will be eligible for funding from the date of the signature of the contribution agreement (CA) until the project completion date deadline, as determined in the CA.

The value of NRCan's contribution towards the assessment will not exceed \$10,000.

### 3.2 Basis for Payment

Payment to the proponent will be made as a reimbursement of up to 50% of the costs incurred by the proponent. One payment is made following the receipt of proper documentation as defined in the CA.

Natural Resources Canada is under no obligation to enter into a funding agreement as a result of the online application. In addition, any work prior to entering into a CA will be ineligible for reimbursement.

## Section 4: Submission Details and Deadlines

---

### 4.1 Submission Process

**Project proposal review and selection will be a four-step process:**

(1) Obtain a quote for your Green Freight Assessment (**Applicant**)

- (2) Submit an online application for review (**Applicant**)
- (3) Proposal review, assessment, selection, and applicant notification (**NRCan**)
- (4) Enter into a contribution agreement acceptable to NRCan (**Applicant and NRCan**)

#### 4.2 Submission of the Application form

Applications submitted by email will not be accepted. You must apply on-line through the web application form. Based on the outcome of an internal proposal review process, NRCan will aim to inform the qualified applicants within 30 calendar days of the submission deadline date. Applicants with ineligible will also be notified.

#### 4.3 Deadlines for Application

The program will operate with an ongoing intake of applications which will be considered on a first-come first-serve basis until the available funding is depleted or until the request for proposal (RFP) deadline date, as specified by the NRCan Green Freight Assessment Program. Proposals received after a set RFP deadline will be deemed ineligible.

## Section 5: Project Assessment Process

---

### 5.1 Assessment Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and assessed against a pass/fail scoring grid. All applications meeting the minimum criteria will be retained, pending funding availability.

The application form consists of four sections:

#### **Company information**

This section of the form is will include the applicant's standard company information. Only applicants with business operations in Canada will be considered.

#### **Business operation**

The description of your business operations will include information on your business as a whole. This section will be used to obtain an accurate scope of your business. This section is a high level overview of your business fleet(s), not the specific fleet(s) being assessed.

#### **Fleet portrait**

The fleet portrait is a description of the specific fleet being considered for the assessment. In this section, it is required to provide extensive description of the fleet(s) you have selected to be assessed within this program. In order to be eligible for assessment, the targeted fleet must be well identified within the questions of the Fleet Portrait section.

## **Previous Assessment Experience and Readiness**

This section relates to previous freight energy assessment projects your company has previously completed. Outline the scope freight energy assessment you have previously completed.

### **5.1 Eligibility Requirements**

Applications will be reviewed against the following eligible criteria:

#### **Company information**

- An eligible company's head office must be located in Canada and it must operate in Canada.
- Number of employees
- Ownership and employment composition

#### **Business operation**

- Fleet size
- Average tractor age
- Participation in sustainability initiatives
  - SmartWay Transportation Partnership
  - SmartDriver
  - Green Freight Assessment Program
  - Other

#### **Fleet portrait**

- Implementation readiness
  - Time
  - Corporate support
  - Financial
  - Data readiness

#### **Previous assessment experience and readiness**

- Previous fleet assessment and outcome
- Goal of the freight energy assessment

## **Section 6: Eligibility**

---

### **6.1 Eligible Recipients**

Only companies/organizations operating in Canada are eligible to apply. Eligible recipients include individuals and legal entities validly incorporated or registered in Canada including not-for-profit and for-profit organizations such as:

- Companies;
- Industry associations;
- Research associations;
- Standards organizations;
- Indigenous and community groups ;
- Canadian academic institutions;
- Provincial, territorial, regional or municipal governments or their departments or agencies where applicable.

## 6.2 Eligible Expenses

Eligible costs include:

- professional and technical services;
- GST, PST and HST net of any tax rebate to which the proponent is entitled.

## Section 7: Contact Us

---

To obtain additional information about this invitation, please contact:

[nrcan.freightassessment-evaluationdeflotte.nrcan@canada.ca](mailto:nrcan.freightassessment-evaluationdeflotte.nrcan@canada.ca)

**IMPORTANT:**

Any funding under this entire proposal submission, review and assessment process will be contingent upon the successful execution of a contribution agreement. Until a written contribution agreement is signed by both parties, no commitment or obligation exists on the part of NRCan to make financial contributions to any project, including any expenditure incurred or paid prior to the signing of such contribution agreement.