



Fact Sheet

Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grant Criterion: Vulnerable Population

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is providing approximately \$8 million in grant funding every year for five years, starting in 2021. This program recognizes the air contaminants and effects on climate produced by diesel engines. Used as grants to upgrade diesel equipment, the program will address health and environmental impacts from diesel emissions. Targeted use of the funds will help Oregon meet the following goals and address some of the challenges to improving air quality for vulnerable populations.

For the purposes of this program, vulnerable population means:

- People under the age of 14 and over the age of 64;
- Black, Indigenous, and people of color;
- People with a household income that is less than or equal to twice the federal poverty level;
- People who are linguistically isolated; and
- People age 25 or older who have not earned a high school diploma or passed a General Educational Equivalent test.

DEQ will request that grant applicants identify the primary address where their diesel equipment is based. Using this address, and other location information as needed, DEQ will apply a score of 1-5 for the emissions reduction benefits of a proposed project among vulnerable populations based on the ability to reduce diesel emissions in areas with the highest diesel emissions, vulnerable populations, and population density.

DEQ created a map to display the Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grant Program criterion to address the impact of diesel emissions on vulnerable populations. Red and orange areas on the map (scores 4 - 5) are those with the highest proportion of people included in this definition of vulnerable and also exposed to high levels of diesel. Yellow and green areas on the map (scores 1 – 3) are those with a lower proportion of people included in this definition of vulnerable or are exposed to relatively lower levels of diesel emissions.

Applicants can use this map to estimate the impact of proposed diesel emissions mitigation grant projects among vulnerable populations in Oregon. Based on the primary address included in grant applications DEQ will assign up to 5 points out of 55 total points available for this criterion. This map is being provided as an informational resource only. Applicants from all areas of the state are encouraged to apply and will be considered for funding, regardless of their project's score against this vulnerable population criterion. Please feel free to direct questions to dieselgrants@deq.oregon.gov.

Non-discrimination statement

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Oregon DEQ Vulnerable Populations and Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grant Criterion

