



Vehicle Purchasing Guidelines

University of Pittsburgh
Department of Parking, Transportation, & Services
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INTRODUCTION

The University of Pittsburgh Department of Parking, Transportation & Services (PT&S) is committed to practicing efficient fleet purchasing as a means to:

- Reduce fossil fuel dependence of our operations
- Reduce lifecycle environmental and fleet costs
- Increase the availability of alternative fuel vehicles
- Promote the advancement of innovative technologies
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions, helping to mitigate climate change and improve air quality
- Support emissions reductions goals outlined in the University Sustainability Plan

FUEL EFFICIENCY GUIDELINES FOR NEWLY-PURCHASED VEHICLES

In line with Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards (CAFE) for 2021, all new vehicles purchased should meet a minimum fuel efficiency of 41 MPG, with the exception of:

- Heavy-Duty Trucks
- Delivery Vehicles
- Service Equipment
- Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEV) with regenerative braking systems

LOW ROLLING RESISTANCE (LRR) TIRES

PT&S will purchase low rolling resistance (LRR) tires whenever possible. LRR tires help achieve fuel savings by reducing the energy absorbed while offering the same level of traction and performance.

INCORPORATING EFFICIENCY AND ALTERNATIVE FUELS INTO BID SPECIFICATIONS

PT&S incorporates the following practices into the bid and request processes to encourage the purchasing of efficient, right-sized vehicles:

- All bids should include at least one vehicle option that can run on alternative fuels or be converted at a later time, with a preference for reduced lifecycle fuel costs. (Ex: E85, EV)
- All newly-purchased vehicles should meet the stated fuel efficiency requirements.
- All PT&S vehicle purchases are evaluated against anticipated overall lifecycle costs, including long-term savings on fuel, maintenance, and repair.
- Preference will be given to Flex-Fuel (E85) vehicles whenever possible, with consideration for operational needs and lifecycle costs.

Vehicle requests are evaluated by the PT&S Fleet Services Manager to ensure purchases meet this criteria.

GUIDANCE FOR REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS

PT&S encourages departments to make vehicle requests that are right-sized using the following general guidelines:

- Whenever possible, select the smallest possible vehicle for the task.
- Use cars or minivans - not SUVs or Pick-Ups - for moving people.
- Consider if a trip can be taken without a fleet vehicle - such as on foot, on Port Authority Transit, or by University Shuttle.