



May 18, 2020

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## Registration Opens Today for Two Virtual Fuels Tax Seminars June 2 and 4

Registration is open for fuels tax seminars sponsored jointly by VPCMA and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. The tax changes that will become law July 1, now just six weeks away, represent the most significant changes in fuels tax law since Virginia moved the point of collection to the rack in 2001. These seminars will be led by Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Director of Tax Services Tammy West, Gabriel Boisvert, Deputy Director, and Mike O'Connor, VPCMA President.

Among the topics to be addressed will be:

- New Statewide tax rates for gasoline effective July 1, 2020.
- The Statewide tax rate for diesel on July 1, 2020
- Areas of the commonwealth where additional regional taxes of 7.6 gallon per gallon of gasoline and 7.7 cents per gallon for diesel will be assessed on July 1. On that date every jurisdiction not presently charging a local fuels tax of 7.6/7.7 will begin assessing this tax, while concurrently tracking those jurisdictions where the fuel is sold.
- How will fuel held in inventory at midnight June 30, be treated?
- Statewide gasoline and diesel taxes to be assessed July 1, 2022
- How gasoline taxes will be assessed after July 1, 2022 and the role of the consumer price index
- How the regional taxes will be reported by location to the DMV, and how gallons lost to bad debt, dead storage, gasoline drive offs and evaporation will be accounted for

Please note that the content will be the same for both seminars so it is only necessary to register for one. By May 28th DMV will send you a calendar reservation form for Google Meet. You will be able to join either the video connection or only the audio version. The same seminar will be held on June 2 from 2-3:30 pm and June 4 from 10-11-30 am. We are working to have at least one of the sessions recorded for future use. In the unlikely event that

we reach our maximum participants, additional sessions will be added and we hope to make this available as a download.

To register for the seminars, [click here](#).

## **USDA is Now Accepting Applications for Matching Grants Under the Higher Blend Infrastructure Incentive Program**

*From PMAA*

U.S. Deputy of Agriculture (USDA) has launched an online portal to begin accepting applications for [Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program](#) (HBIIP) grants. The program is designed to expand the availability of higher blends of both ethanol and biodiesel to retail consumers. The USDA is offering up to \$100 million in grants to help transportation fueling and biodiesel distribution facilities convert to higher ethanol and biodiesel blends by sharing the costs for installation of compatible fuel dispensers and related underground storage tank equipment and infrastructure. USDA is making grants available for up to 50 percent of total eligible project costs, but not more than \$5 million per project. According to the USDA, approximately \$86 million is available for implementation activities related to higher blends of fuel ethanol, and approximately \$14 million for higher blends of biodiesel. Higher biofuel blends are fuels containing ethanol greater than 10 percent ethanol and greater than 5 percent biodiesel. Eligible recipients include, but are not limited to, vehicle fueling facilities, local fueling stations/locations, convenience stores, hypermarket fueling stations, fleet facilities (cardlocks), fuel terminal operations, midstream partners and/or distribution facilities.

All applications must be filed electronically. The USDA will not accept paper applications. The deadline for submitting electronic applications is August 13, 2020 by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. Electronic applications and detail about upcoming webinars being held tomorrow and on May 26 are found at <https://www.rd.usda.gov/hbiip>.

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