

NEW YORK CITY TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

## **Call for Participants in Electric Taxi Pilot Program**



(Picture is only a representation of Nissan LEAF as NYC Taxi – actual vehicle may vary.)

**Want to be one of the first to drive an electric taxi in New York City?  
Here's how!**

**What it is:**

Nissan North America Inc. and New York City will be piloting six Nissan LEAF all-electric vehicles beginning in spring 2013. These cars will be put into normal taxi service (with an existing taxicab medallion) and will provide passengers with a new and unique experience. Nissan is looking for fleets and owners-drivers to volunteer to be the city's first electric cab operators

Participants will receive a lease for a Nissan LEAF to use for taxi service free-of-charge (no rental payment for lease) for up to one year. Just like today, drivers will pick up passengers and collect fares, but we will also want your feedback. This pilot program is dependent on feedback from all participants – drivers, owners, passengers, and the public.

We hope you want to be a part of this groundbreaking and exciting project. Please read on and submit an application if you would like to be one of New York's cutting-edge cabbies!

**Driving an electric vehicle - charging:**

The Nissan LEAF is an all-electric vehicle, meaning that you won't have to make any trips to the gas station during your shift. However, the battery will

need to be charged. The distance you can drive on a single charge (the range) depends on many different factors, including weather, peripheral accessories and features, and driving habits, and ranges from 62 to 138 miles. This may mean that you will need to stop mid-shift to recharge the battery at a quick charge station, which takes about 25 minutes to charge from completely empty to completely full. There will be 2-3 quick charge stations in the Manhattan Central Business District for your use. New charging stations will be installed at fleet garages and owner-drivers' homes for use between shifts. For more information about the Nissan LEAF vehicle, check out <http://www.nissanusa.com/leaf>

**Driving an electric vehicle as a taxi – a new experience:**

If you participate in this pilot program, you will be one of the first electric-taxi operators in New York. This program is a real test with unknown results. We have worked to plan for the “what ifs,” but there most likely will be bumps in the road. We want this program to be successful and hope that it will help lead to broader electric-vehicle applications in the taxi industry, but we will need your patience and assistance to get there. Nissan will provide a dedicated service team to best deal with any problems during the trial.

The LEAF was not designed as a commercial vehicle for taxi service, which makes it different from the taxi-specific design Nissan is developing for the NV200 (the “Taxi of Tomorrow”). Because of the limited passenger space and overall size of the vehicles, LEAF taxis (whether operated by owner-drivers or fleets) will not have partitions installed. Instead, a camera-recording system will be installed for driver protection.

All vehicles electric taxis will be single-shifted.

This program will help us answer a lot of questions about all-electric taxis, and both Nissan and TLC will need to closely examine your experience throughout the program. While there may be many unknowns heading into this project, we are excited to find results and solutions and hope you are excited to help us!

**Interested in applying? Want more information about the Nissan LEAF pilot program?**

- Contact: Michael DelBene, NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission  
Phone: 212.676.1196  
Send an email to: [delbenem@tlc.nyc.gov](mailto:delbenem@tlc.nyc.gov)

## Eligibility Requirements

Eligible owner-drivers will have:

- A valid New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission (TLC) Medallion Driver License
- A good driving record – both from TLC and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Does not have to be perfect.
- Insurance coverage specified by Nissan
- Internet access – we will need to contact you to get your feedback throughout the program
- Record keeping – share information with Nissan and TLC to measure successes and failures
- A willingness to meet with Nissan and the TLC to talk about your electric-taxi experience
- A willingness to speak publically about your experience with the Nissan LEAF as a taxi
- Experience with or interest in new technologies like hybrid-electric vehicles
- Commitment to participate in program for up to one year from delivery of LEAF
- A completed application
- Credit satisfactory to qualify for a Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation lease
- Proof of citizenship or eligibility to work in the U.S.

Eligible fleet operators will have:

- A valid New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission (TLC) Agent License
- Up to four drivers that meet the requirements above for owner-drivers
- No outstanding summonses with any City agencies
- Documentation of Insurance coverage of \$1 Million Dollars combined single limit coverage naming Nissan North America, Inc. as an additional insured and loss payee OR if self-insured, documentation of method of self-insurance and explanation of how liability claims would be funded
- Ability to confirm financial solvency and guarantees posted in relation to self-insurance program
- Internet access – we will need to contact you to get your feedback throughout the program
- Record keeping – share information with Nissan and TLC to measure successes and failures
- A willingness to meet with Nissan and the TLC to talk about your electric-taxi experience
- A willingness of drivers and fleet operator to speak publically about your experience with the Nissan LEAF as a taxi
- Experience with new technologies like hybrid-electric vehicles
- Commitment to participate in program for up to one year from delivery of LEAF
- A completed application
- Credit satisfactory to qualify for a Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation lease
- Proof of citizenship or eligibility to work in the U.S.