



State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Email Contact: oregoncvrp@energycenter.org

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General Information

What is the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program?

The Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program (“the Program”) offers a rebate for Oregon drivers who purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles. It is not a tax credit. The Program is designed to reduce vehicle emissions by encouraging more Oregonians to purchase or lease zero-emission vehicles. The Program offers two rebate options:

- **Standard Rebate** for the purchase or lease of a new battery electric vehicle, a new plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or a new zero-emission electric motorcycle.
- **Charge Ahead Rebate** for the purchase or lease of a new or used battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle. To qualify for the Charge Ahead rebate, the purchaser or lessee must be from a low- or moderate-income household. For purchases or leases prior to Jan 1, 2021, the income requirements vary by where you live in Oregon and are based on household size. For purchases on or after Jan 1, 2021, the income requirement is up to 400% of the federal poverty guideline and are based upon the applicant’s household size. To see if you meet the income requirements for your area, please use the [Income Eligibility Calculator](#).

DEQ has hired [The Center for Sustainable Energy](#), a third-party administrator, to implement the Program on behalf of DEQ.

How much is a rebate?

For the Standard rebate option:

- \$2,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle with a battery capacity of 10 kWh or more.
- \$1,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle with a battery capacity of less than 10 kWh.
- \$750 towards the purchase or lease of a new zero-emission electric motorcycle.

For the Charge Ahead rebate option:

- On or after Jan. 1, 2022: \$5,000 towards the purchase or lease of a new or used battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle.
- Prior to Jan. 1, 2022: \$2,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new or used battery electric or plug-in hybrid electric vehicle.

Standard and Charge Ahead Rebates can be combined for up to \$7,500 toward the purchase or lease of a new, eligible vehicle.

What other vehicle requirements apply for receiving a rebate?

Vehicles must be registered in Oregon for at least two years and have a base manufacturer's suggested retail price of less than \$50,000.

An electric vehicle must be purchased through a licensed vehicle dealer or an original equipment manufacturer. If a vehicle is purchased through an original equipment manufacturer, the manufacturer cannot have any licensed, franchised, new automobile dealers in Oregon. **Additionally, no person-to-person sales will be eligible for the rebate.**

Please see the list of [vehicles eligible for the Standard rebate](#) and the list of [vehicles eligible for the Charge Ahead rebate](#). **DEQ reserves the right to modify vehicle eligibility at any time for any reason.**

When will I receive my rebate?

Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. DEQ has hired The Center for Sustainable Energy, a third-party administrator, to process rebates. Once CSE has received your application, they will send an email from oregoncvrp@energycenter.org with additional steps. If your rebate application is approved, you will receive an email with an expected timeframe to receive your rebate. To ensure you receive rebate communications, consider adding oregoncvrp@energycenter.org to your safe senders list.

Applying for a Rebate

Can I receive the rebate at the time of purchase or lease?

Individuals (Oregon Residents) can apply for the Standard Rebate at the time of purchase or lease, at a Participating Dealership, called "point of sale". Only Participating Dealerships may offer the rebate at point of sale. You can find the locations of Participating Dealers on [this map](#). If you purchased or leased your vehicle through a Participating Dealer, the dealership will complete and submit the application on your behalf; the rebate amount will be deducted from the purchase or lease price.

Charge Ahead Applicants and Organizations (business, nonprofits and government agencies) **cannot** apply at point of sale at this time.

Is there a deadline to apply for a rebate?

Yes, you must submit a rebate application within six months of the date of purchase or lease of your electric vehicle. For vehicles ordered from an original equipment manufacturer, the date of first registration will be considered the date of purchase or lease.

For mailed-in applications, the post-mark date will be used to determine eligibility.

How do I apply for a Standard Rebate for Residents?

Start by [creating a program account](#) on the online portal. After creating your account, you will land on your program dashboard and can begin a standard rebate application. When applying, you will need to upload the following documents to complete your application:

- Proof of Oregon residency (e.g., Oregon driver's license)
- Entire purchase/lease agreement
- Proof of vehicle registration (temporary or permanent registration is acceptable)

As a business, nonprofit, or Charge Ahead applicant, how do I apply?

Mail your application packet. Please submit the following required documents:

- Rebate Application form
- Proof of Oregon residency (e.g., Oregon driver's license)

- Entire purchase/lease agreement
- Proof of vehicle registration (temporary or permanent registration is acceptable)

Mail the completed application packet to:
Center for Sustainable Energy
ATTN: Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Project
3980 Sherman Street, Suite 170
San Diego, CA 92110

For Charge Ahead Applicants, after your application is received, you will be sent an email from oregoncvrp@energycenter.org with the below forms attached. Complete and upload them to the secure document portal.:

- Household Summary Form
- Proof of Income: 4506-C for each household resident OR proof of enrollment in a public assistance program

Can I email my application?

No, we are unable to accept emailed applications due to security and privacy concerns. Please mail your application to:

Center for Sustainable Energy
ATTN: Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Project
3980 Sherman Street, Suite 170
San Diego, CA 92110

How will I know if I will receive a rebate or not?

Once we have received your application, we will send an email from oregoncvrp@energycenter.org with additional steps. After reviewing your application, CSE will notify you of your eligibility by email. The notification will state your application (a) is approved, (b) is incomplete and you will need to send additional information or (c) is ineligible and you do not qualify for a rebate.

Charge Ahead Rebate Eligibility

Who qualifies for the Charge Ahead Rebate?

To be eligible for Charge Ahead, you must either:

- Reside in a household that would qualify as low- to moderate-income, as defined below, at the time you purchased or leased your vehicle
- OR
- Qualify as, and attest, to being a low-income service provider that provides health, dental, social, financial, energy conservation or other assistive services to low- or moderate-income households in Oregon and registered as a 501(c)(3)

As an individual, how can I determine if my income is eligible?

If applying for a Charge Ahead rebate, household income must be:

- Prior to Jan. 1, 2022: At or below 120% of the median income for your area at the time your vehicle is purchased or leased
- On or after Jan. 1, 2022: Below 400% of the federal poverty guideline

For the purposes of the Charge Ahead rebate, a household is defined as an individual living alone, a family with or without children, or a group of individuals who are living together as one economic unit.

To calculate whether you meet the Charge Ahead income requirements, click on the [Income Eligibility Calculator](#) and enter your location and household size.

For Charge Ahead income calculations, household income is **gross annual household** income, which includes both taxable and non-taxable income sources. Gross annual income includes, but is not limited to the following: Wages, unemployment, workers' compensation, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, public assistance, veterans' payments, survivor benefits, pension or retirement income, interest, dividends, rents, royalties, income from estates, trusts, educational assistance, alimony, child support, assistance from outside the household and any other sources of income.

As a nonprofit organization, how can I determine if we are eligible?

Eligible nonprofits must be:

- A low-income service provider that provides health, dental, social, financial, energy conservation or other assistive services to low- or moderate-income households in Oregon
- Registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- Able to provide proof of the above
- Able to provide a 501(c)(3) designation letter upon request

What documentation do I need to provide to verify my income?

You will need to submit a completed and signed IRS Form 4506-C and a Household Summary Form OR proof of enrollment in an eligible public assistance program at the time your vehicle was purchased or leased. If you participated in a public assistance program at the time you purchased or leased your vehicle, an IRS Form 4506-T or 4506-C form is not required. Income-qualified programs include:

- Oregon Health Plan/Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Free and Reduced-Price Lunch
- HUD Housing Choice Voucher
- LIHEAP (home energy assistance)
- Employment-related daycare
- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
- TriMet reduced-fare program for low-income rider
- Individual Development Account (IDA) holder

For Applicants who are not qualified through an income-qualified program and have not filed the tax year requested, CSE will request income and asset documentation. Examples of additional documentation may include W-2s, bank statements, etc.

What tax year does OCVRP verify during the income verification process?

CSE will verify income by requesting a tax transcript from the IRS for the Applicant from the year the vehicle was purchased or leased. If the tax transcript for that year is not available at the time the application is processed, the tax transcript from the previous year as required will be requested. For example, for any application submitted before May 15, 2022, CSE will refer to 2020 tax transcripts if the 2021 tax year has not been filed.

What lines does CSE verify from the IRS Form 1040?

Our third-part administrator, The Center for Sustainable Energy verifies the total gross income from the sum of Lines 1–7 on the 2020 IRS Form 1040; Line 9 is not used to calculate total gross income.

If applicable, CSE also verifies the total gross income from the sum of Lines 1-8 on 2020 IRS Schedule 1 (Form 1040 or 1040-SR). If Line 8 on “Other Income” is negative, then Line 8 will not be included as part of total gross income.

Alternative formats

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.