

Frequently Asked Questions

Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program

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DEQ is a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water.

General Information

1) What is the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program?

The Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program offers a cash rebate for Oregon drivers who purchase or lease electric vehicles (EV). It is not a tax credit. The program is designed to reduce vehicle emissions by encouraging more Oregonians to purchase or lease electric vehicles rather than gas vehicles. The program contains two rebate options:

- **Standard Rebate** for the purchase or lease of a **new** plug in hybrid or battery EV
- **Charge Ahead Rebate** for the purchase or lease of a **new or used battery electric vehicle only**. Hybrids are not eligible under the Charge Ahead Rebate. To qualify for the Charge Ahead rebate, the purchaser or lessee must be from a low- or moderate-income household. [Sign up here to receive govdelivery notification when the income requirements are ready.](#)

2) Which electric vehicles are eligible for the rebate?

Two types of electric vehicles will be eligible for the rebate: battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. 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. Additionally, no person-to-person sales will be eligible for the rebate, an electric vehicle must be purchased through a certified car dealer or an original equipment manufacturer that does not have licensed franchised new automobile dealers in Oregon. [To receive the list of eligible vehicles when it is available, sign up for govdelivery here.](#)

3) How much is the rebate?

For the Standard Rebate:

- \$2,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new plug in hybrid or battery EV with a battery capacity of 10 kWh or more.
- \$1,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new plug in hybrid or battery EV with a battery capacity of less than 10 kWh.

For the Charge Ahead Rebate:

- \$2,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new or used battery electric vehicle only.
- If purchasing or leasing a new battery electric vehicle and qualifications are met for both programs, eligible purchases can combine the Charge Ahead Rebate with a Standard Rebate for a total rebate of up to \$5,000.

4) How is the rebate program funded?

Funding for program is generated from a tax imposed on car dealers for "the privilege of engaging in the business of selling taxable motor vehicles at retail in this state." A lawsuit over this funding mechanism was just recently settled by the Oregon Supreme Court on August 2, 2018 which now allows DEQ to begin implementation of the program.

Application Process

1) How do I apply for a rebate?

Starting January 1, 2018, if you have subsequently purchased or leased an eligible electric vehicle, you can complete the Phase 1 application online at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/programs/Pages/Electric-Vehicle-Rebate.aspx>. To maintain eligibility for a rebate, you must submit a Phase 1 application within six months of the date of purchase or lease of your qualifying vehicle.

2) What documentation do I need to submit for my application?

The Oregon Environmental Quality Commission, DEQ's policy and rulemaking board, recently adopted [rules](#) establishing program requirements. DEQ will notify Phase 1 applicants and make clear what documentation they will need to submit as part of the future Phase 2 application when it becomes available.

3) Why is a Phase 2 application required?

The law requires applications to be filed within six months of the purchase or lease of an eligible vehicle. Completion of a Phase 1 application will satisfy the requirement that an application be submitted within six months of the date of purchase or lease. DEQ will not be able to start issuing rebates until later this year due to the time needed to develop the program after the Oregon Supreme Court's August 2018 decision approving the funding mechanism. The Phase 2 application is needed to finalize the application approval process after the rebate program has been developed.

4) How will I know if I receive the rebate or not?

All Phase 1 applicants will be required to submit a Phase 2 application to be eligible for the rebate. At this time, only the Phase 1 application is available.

5) How can I find out when the Phase 2 application is available?

If you have submitted a Phase 1 application, DEQ will notify you via email when the Phase 2 application is available. DEQ will also post a notice to all Phase 1 applicants on its website: <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/programs/Pages/ZEV-Rebate.aspx>

6) When will I receive my rebate?

DEQ could not implement the program until the Oregon Supreme Court had issued its decision regarding funding mechanism. DEQ will now begin the process of hiring a contractor to administer the rebate program. DEQ will move as quickly as possible through that process and will provide updates on the timing to those who have submitted a Phase 1 Application. [To ensure you receive updates on the program please sign up for govdelivery here.](#)

7) Is there a deadline to apply?

You must apply for the Phase 1 application within six months of the date of purchase or lease of your electric vehicle.

8) What if I purchased or leased my car before January 1, 2018?

Under the rules adopted by the Commission, purchases or leases made before Jan. 1, 2018 are not eligible for rebates.

9) How can I verify that DEQ has received my Phase 1 application?

Once you have completed the Phase 1 application, DEQ will send an email to you confirming your submission. That email will serve as proof of the date on which you submitted your Phase 1 application. It will satisfy the requirement that you apply within six months of your purchase or lease of your vehicle(s) and are eligible to submit the Phase 2 application and potentially receive a rebate, if you meet all applicable eligibility requirements at that time. (Please note, some people are finding the confirmation email in their Spam or Junk email boxes.)

10) Are you prioritizing applications in any certain way? If I'm one of the first people to sign up, does that mean I get my rebate first?

Once the Phase 2 applications are available, DEQ will process applications on a first-come, first-served basis.

11) How can I find out more information about the program?

Go to <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/programs/Pages/ZEV-Rebate.aspx> to learn more about the program.

Accessibility

Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.