



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 (“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 plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or a zero-emission electric motorcycle.
- Charge Ahead rebate for the purchase or lease of a new or used battery electric vehicle. Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles are also eligible for the Charge Ahead rebate, if it is purchased on or after September 29, 2019. To qualify for the Charge Ahead rebate, the purchaser or lessee must be from a low- or moderate-income household. The income requirements vary by where you live in Oregon. 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 (CSE), a third-party, 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 plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or battery electric vehicle with a battery capacity of 10 kWh or more.
- \$1,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or battery electric vehicle with a battery capacity of less than 10 kWh.
- \$750 towards the purchase or lease of a zero-emission electric motorcycle.

For the Charge Ahead rebate option:

- \$2,500 towards the purchase or lease of a new or used plug-in hybrid electric vehicle or battery electric vehicle.

What other vehicle requirements apply for receiving a rebate?

Vehicles must be registered in Oregon for at least two (2) 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.

Is rebate funding still available?

Yes. DEQ receives \$12 million a year through funding generated from a tax imposed on car dealers until Jan. 2, 2024. DEQ has been receiving this funding since 2018, and as of January 2020 has issued \$9 million in rebates.

Are you issuing Charge Ahead rebates?

Yes. DEQ has hired The Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE), a third-party administrator, to issue Charge Ahead rebates. CSE has the appropriate security measures in place to collect the household income information required to qualify for this rebate. CSE will contact all Charge Ahead applicants requesting proof of household income. Charge Ahead rebates will be processed in the order they were received, starting with those submitted in 2018.

If you are interested in applying for the Charge Ahead rebate, please visit the [Income Eligibility Calculator](#) to determine if you meet the qualifying income level for your area.

When will I receive my rebate?

We are currently processing applications on a first-come, first-served basis. There is currently a backlog of rebate applications due to a lawsuit over the funding mechanism that delayed implementation. We are working through applications as quickly as possible. We appreciate your patience.

Applying for a Rebate

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

Yes. Authorized dealerships can provide Standard rebates at the time of purchase or lease, called the Point of Sale. Only Authorized Dealerships that have signed agreements with DEQ may offer the rebate at Point of Sale. You can find the location of Authorized Dealers on this [map](#).

If you purchased or leased your vehicle through an Authorized Dealer, work with the dealership to fill out the information in the application. The Authorized Dealer will submit the application on your behalf; you will receive the rebate amount off the purchase or lease price.

We are not able to offer Charge Ahead rebates at the time of purchase or lease, but plan to have this feature available by summer 2020. If you are applying for a Charge Ahead rebate and a Standard rebate, please indicate that information on your application you submit with the dealer. If you are just applying for Charge Ahead, please download the application [here](#), print it out, and submit it via mail.

Is there a deadline to apply for a rebate?

Yes, you must submit a rebate application within six (6) months of the date of purchase or lease of your electric vehicle.

I didn't know about the rebate program when I purchased my vehicle and it is now six months past the purchase date. Can I still apply for a rebate?

Under the current Program rules, only applicants who have applied for a rebate within six (6) months of their purchase or lease date are eligible for the Program.

However, if you purchased or leased your vehicle between Jan. 1, 2018 and Aug. 2, 2018, you can still submit your application, but you must do so before Mar. 30, 2020. DEQ is providing an additional six (6)-month window for applicants who purchased or leased during this timeframe due to the uncertainty surrounding the lawsuit. The lawsuit over this funding mechanism was settled by the Oregon Supreme Court on Aug. 2, 2018.

How do I apply for a rebate?

The rebate application packet has four parts:

- A completed [rebate application form](#)
- Proof of temporary or permanent vehicle registration
- Copy of the sales or lease contract
- Proof of Oregon residency (e.g., Oregon driver's license)

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

Can I email my application?

No, we are unable to accept emailed applications due to security and privacy concerns. If we need additional information from you after you've submitted your paper application packet, CSE will send a link to a secure database that will allow you to upload and submit any additional documentation.

We expect to have a feature that will allow you to apply online and upload documents in summer 2020. We are working with our contractor to ensure this online platform will have the appropriate security and privacy controls in place.

How will I know if I qualify for a rebate or not?

After reviewing your application, we will notify you of your eligibility by email. The notification will state either (a) you are approved to receive a rebate check, (b) you will need to send us additional information or (c) you do not qualify for a rebate. If you qualify for a rebate, you become an Approved applicant. Approved applicants will receive their rebate checks via US Postal Service mail at the address listed on their application.

How can I find out more information about the Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program?

For more information and to download an application, please visit our website.

Charge Ahead Rebate

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

CSE will email a link with information on how to upload your income information. You will need to submit a completed and signed IRS Form 4506-T and a household summary form. If you do not have an email address, CSE will provide instructions for how to mail in your documentation.

If you participated in an income-qualified program at the time you purchased or leased your vehicle, an IRS Form 4506-T form is not required. Documentation from the qualified social service provider indicating program participation for the year in which you applied for the rebate would provide proof of income eligibility.

For applicants who are not pre-qualified by a social service provider, 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?

DEQ considers an applicant's most recent federal tax return that would have been available at the time the vehicle was purchased or leased. For example:

- If the vehicle was purchased or leased prior to April 15, 2018, utilize your 2018 tax return.
- If the vehicle was purchased or leased in 2019 or 2020, your 2018 tax return will be utilized until 2019 becomes available. In May of 2020, DEQ will begin requesting your 2019 tax returns as they are required to have been filed by the IRS in April.

I submitted a Standard rebate but didn't indicate I wanted to apply for a Charge Ahead rebate. Do I need to apply again?

No. Center for Sustainable Energy, will contact all rebate applicants to provide an opportunity to determine if you meet the income requirements and submit supporting income documentation.

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.

Portland Area Income Limits

- 1 ≤ \$ 80,164
- 2 ≤ \$ 88,603
- 3 ≤ \$ 97,041
- 4 ≤ \$ 105,480
- 5 ≤ \$ 113,918