Guidelines and Eligibility

Delaware Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rebate Program: *Public Access, Fleet and Workplace*

Purpose

The Delaware Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rebate Program offers rebates to Delaware businesses, non-profit organizations, and state and local governments for the purchase and installation of new AC Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations. This program is aligned with Delaware's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving Delaware's air quality, and increasing electric vehicle adoption across the State of Delaware.

Additional rebate programs are available for the purchase and installation of charging stations for multi-family dwellings and for the purchase of battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. For more information on these programs, please visit de.gov/cleantransportation. For those interested in single-family residential EV charging rebates, please visit https://energizedelaware.org/residential/residential-electric-vehicles-charging/.

Available Funding

A maximum of $2,000,000 is available beginning May 1, 2026, for the purchase and installation of electric vehicle charging stations for public access, fleet and workplace use within Delaware. This is a reimbursement program, and rebate recipients must fund their own expenses as they are incurred. **To be eligible for funding, applicants must apply for and receive a pre-approval letter before purchasing and installing electric vehicle charging stations.**

Rebates may be applied for up to 10 charging ports per location, and applicants may be reimbursed for chargers at more than one site; however, no applicant may receive more than $150,000 per funding round. DNREC reserves the right to modify the funding limits based on program uptake and market demands.

Table 1: Rebate Amounts and Limits Per Location

Rebate Amounts and Limits (Max: $5,000 per port; up to 10 charging ports per location)					
	Commercial		Government and Nonprofit		Limit Per Location
	Charging Station Rebate	Installation Reimbursement	Charging Station Rebate	Installation Reimbursement	
Public Access	75% of the cost	75% of eligible costs	90% of the cost	85% of eligible costs	10 charging ports (or 5 dual-port stations) per location.
Workplace	75% of the cost	75% of eligible costs	90% of the cost	85% of eligible costs	
Fleet	75% of the cost	75% of eligible costs	90% of the cost	85% of eligible costs	

Program Description

Rebates of up to $5,000 per charging station port are available to eligible applicants for the purchase of AC Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations, covering a portion of the physical charging station costs. Rebates for a portion of installation expenses are also available. Only AC Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations are eligible for rebates under this program (Level 1 and DC Fast charging stations are not eligible).

Public Access

Rebates are available to purchasers of AC Level 2 charging stations in the Public Access category for stations accessible to any public user. These stations can be free to the user or charge a fee. Public access locations include, but are not limited to, shopping centers, hospitals, public or private parking lots and garages, parks, rest stops, and downtown areas.

Delaware commercial-entity purchasers of public-access charging stations are eligible for rebates of up to 75% of charging-station and installation costs. Delaware nonprofit organizations and government-entity purchasers of public-access charging stations are eligible for rebates of up to 90% of charging-station costs and up to 85% of installation costs.

Workplace

Rebates for AC Level 2 charging stations are available under the Workplace category for stations installed and operated specifically to provide employees with free or low-cost charging as an additional employment incentive and/or as part of a sustainable workplace campaign. These charging stations are typically available only to employees and may be in private parking lots or garages. To qualify under this category, charging stations do not need to be open to the public at large.

Delaware commercial-entity purchasers of workplace charging stations are eligible for rebates of up to 75% of charging station and installation costs. Delaware nonprofit organizations and government-entity purchasers of workplace charging stations are eligible for rebates of up to 90% of charging-station costs and up to 85% of installation costs.

Fleet Charging

Rebates for AC Level 2 charging stations are available under the Fleet Charging category for charging stations that are dedicated to charging workplace fleet vehicles owned by a commercial, non-profit, or government entity.

Delaware commercial-entity purchasers of fleet charging stations are eligible for rebates of up to 75% of charging-station and installation costs. Delaware nonprofit organizations and government-entity purchasers of fleet charging stations are eligible for rebates of up to 90% of charging-station costs and up to 85% of installation costs.

Eligible Costs

Eligible costs under this program include those directly attributable to site design, charger equipment, installation, labor, permitting, site preparation, upgrades for utility connections, signage, and equipment necessary to implement and operate the EVSE. The tables below describe the eligible and ineligible costs available for reimbursement.

Eligible costs not included in the original application submission may be considered, but under no circumstances will a project receive more than the maximum funding amount in the pre-approval letter. Submitted costs will be adjusted downward if ineligible costs are included in the application.

Table 2: Eligible Costs for Public Access, Fleets and Workplace

Eligible Charging Station Costs Include:	Eligible Installation Costs Include:	Ineligible Costs Include:
• Charging station equipment purchases • Cable management strategy (e.g., coil, retractable, etc.) • Mounting and associated equipment for pedestal or wall • Separate payment module • Warranty* • Networking/Software subscription* • Activation Fees • Shipping/Freight	• Planning and Design • Labor and materials** • Power Connection • Permitting • Upgrading electrical supply** • Trenching and Repaving** • Ancillary renewable (i.e., solar) or energy storage equipment • EVSE Parking Space Striping • On-site signage • Protective devices (e.g., bollards and/or curb stops)	• Taxes • Lighting and landscaping • Real estate costs • Any capital costs not directly related to charging station installation • Electricity consumption and demand charges • General post-installation operation and maintenance costs • Internet connection or cell signal
*Limited to 5 years and must be included as a one-time, upfront project cost **As necessary for safe EVSE installation and operation only		

Program Procedures

To be eligible for funding, applicants must submit an application and receive a pre-approval letter prior to purchasing and installing electric vehicle charging stations. Rebates will be issued after the stations have been installed.

The application form and detailed instructions can be found online: de.gov/cleantransportation. Applications must include a copy of the Delaware Business License or Non-Profit Status and an itemized sales quote for the charging stations. Applicants are encouraged to get more than one quote though this is not a requirement of the program.

Upon submission, the Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy will review the application for completion and eligibility within 10 business days.

If the application is approved and adequate funding is available, the applicant will receive a letter of pre-approval. The pre-approval letter will include the maximum rebate amount based upon the eligible project costs. Rebates issued to applicants will not exceed the maximum listed in the pre-approval letter.

Applicants have one (1) year from the date of the pre-approval letter to purchase and install the charging stations. Once the electric vehicle charging stations have been installed, applicants will submit the final project cost documentation for reimbursement.

Program Limitations

- $2,000,000 in total funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Remaining funds will be posted monthly at de.gov/cleantransportation.
- No single entity may receive more than $150,000 in total rebates for public, fleet and workplace charging per funding round.
- Applicants must receive a pre-approval letter from DNREC prior to purchase or installation. Funding may not be used for any purchases or work completed prior to receiving the letter of pre-approval from DNREC.
- All projects must be completed within one (1) year of the pre-approval letter date. Pre-approval may be rescinded, and the funds reallocated if not completed within one (1) year.
- Rebates shall not be awarded for charging stations that are required under federal, state, or local ordinances or building code requirements.

Applicant Eligibility

- Eligible applicants include Delaware-based commercial entities, non-profit organizations, state agencies, municipal and county governments, public schools, colleges, and universities.
- Applicants must have evident ownership of the location identified in the application or evidence that the installation is allowed on the property (i.e., written permission of the owner and/or pertinent language in lease, license agreement, easement, etc.) and provide such evidence upon request.
- Applicants must be the intended owner of the station(s). Applications from third-party vendors and/or installers will not be accepted.
- Commercial entities applying for rebates must have:
    - a physical location in Delaware,
    - an address in Delaware, and
    - a Delaware business license (must provide a copy of the business license if applying for the rebate as a business. Temporary business licenses are not accepted).

        - Commercial entities include, without limitation, property management companies and maintenance corporations with legal authority to manage common space.
- Non-profit organizations applying for rebates must have:
    - a physical location in Delaware,
    - an address in Delaware, and
    - documentation that the organization qualifies as federally tax-exempt (501(c)(3) or similar).
- Applicants must comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, regulations and standards, and with all federal, state, and local electrical and building codes for electric vehicle charging station installation and operation.
- Applicants must be in good standing with the Delaware Division of Revenue.

EV Charging Station Requirements:

Eligible EV charging stations must meet the following standards:

Physical Specifications

- Equipment must be a hard-wired Level 2 EV charging station and either mounted on a pedestal or wall.
- Must have a charging amperage of 16-80 amps.
- Must use a J1772 connector or a NACS connector, provided it includes an integrated J1772 adapter, ensuring compatibility with EVs produced by multiple manufacturers.
- Must include all cables, connectors, interfaces, documentation for all components, and any other necessary items for full operation.
- Must be qualified to withstand extreme weather conditions, including temperature extremes, flooding, heavy rains, and high winds, and must be protected from malfunctions due to condensation.

Safety & Certification Standards

- Must be certified by the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL) or equivalent safety standard.
- Must be Energy Star Certified.
- Stations that require users to pay a fee for electricity usage must be NTEP certified. https://www.ncwm.com/ntep-certificates

Operational Requirements

- For charging stations that are equipped to accept payment, the station must enable the payment option for all EV drivers without

restrictions based on network membership or subscription (e.g. allow credit card without login).

- All charging stations that require users to pay a fee for electricity usage must comply with Delaware Title 6, Chapter 51, and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Handbooks and must display NTEP certification. Only individuals registered under Delaware's Voluntary Serviceperson Program may place a commercial charging device into service. For more information, visit: https://agriculture.delaware.gov/weights-measures/.
- Must be registered with the Department of Energy's Alternative Fuel Data Center. https://afdc.energy.gov/stations

Procurement & Installation

- Must be a new station, not ordered until after the pre-approval letter is issued by DNREC. Stations that are resold, rebuilt, rented, leased, or have new parts installed in existing stations are not eligible.
- Must be installed by a Delaware-licensed electrician.

Site Plan and Parking Standards:

Design & Layout

- Charging station locations must be designed in consultation with a licensed electrical contractor or electrician.
- Parking spaces must have a level and well-maintained surface, with parking striping preferred.
- For each port installed, one parking space must be designated for plug-in electric vehicle use only and marked clearly with visible signage. The applicant must actively enforce this requirement.
- Must comply with applicable ADA requirements and design recommendations for accessible EV charging stations: https://www.access-board.gov/tad/ev/.
- Provide sufficient daytime and nighttime illumination to operate charging equipment.
- Allow vehicles to safely park front-to-back or back-to-front to accommodate charging port variations across different vehicles by providing cords that are long enough. Cords should be a minimum of 18 feet and comply with the National Electric Code (NEC) article 625.
- Be located and designed so that charging cords do not create blockages, tripping hazards, or barriers to pedestrian flow.
- Be designed to prevent physical damage to the charging equipment (e.g., bollards and curbing).
- Be located to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of heavy rain or flooding.