

<u>Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE)</u> <u>Rebate Program Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)</u>

Program Description

- MEA is providing incentives to Marylanders to expand the State's electric vehicle charging infrastructure through the fiscal year (FY) 2026 Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) Rebate Program.
- Subject to funding availability and eligibility requirements, the EVSE Rebate Program
 provides rebates for costs incurred acquiring and/or installing eligible EV supply
 equipment, also referred to as charging stations.

Type of Incentive Program

 Rebates will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis as funds are available to complete and eligible applications. This is a reimbursement program, and rebate recipients must provide their own funding to cover expenses as they are incurred.
 Applications may be submitted to MEA only after the EVSE has been acquired, installed, put in operation, and paid in full.

Program Budget

- As established in statute under <u>§9–2009 of the State Government article</u>, the total amount of funding currently available for this rebate program in state FY 2026 (7/1/25-6/30/26) may not exceed \$2,500,000.
 - Please review the Rebate Amounts section of this FOA for information about how applications received prior to **July 15th, 2025**, will be addressed.
 - Issuance of a rebate by MEA cannot be assured once the FY 2026 Program Budget has been exhausted.
- Funding for residential rebates has been initially allocated 60% of the total program budget, or \$1,500,000 in total. Funding for commercial rebates has been initially allocated 40% of the total program budget, or \$1,000,000 in total. After April 1, 2026, these initial funding allocation limits will be removed. Any eligible FY26 applications not yet processed due to one of the initial funding allocations being exhausted will then be processed in the order the applications were received, up to the available overall FY26 budget for the entire EVSE Rebate Program.
- An entity applying for a commercial rebate will not receive awards totaling more than \$125,000 in aggregate in FY 2026 funding.

Application Deadline: 3:00 PM EST, June 1, 20261

Program Changes for FY26

Applications for FY26 should be submitted online through the MyMEA Portal. MEA
will stop accepting applications submitted on the FY25 application form on or after July
15, 2025, and applicants will be instructed to reapply using the MyMEA Portal. Please
read below on Page 5 in the "How to Apply" section to learn about this new process and
how to proceed.

Eligible Applicants and Guidance

Eligible applicants for the residential rebate include:

- Individuals who are purchasing EVSE for their private and exclusive use at their home.
 - Only one rebate (for the cost of one charger and one corresponding EVSE installation, if applicable) is permitted per individual. If an individual has previously received an EVSE rebate from MEA, they are not eligible for an additional rebate at the same address nor a different address.
- An individual with a legal rental license issued by the jurisdiction having authority that
 purchases and installs a charger at a residential property they own and lease should
 apply under the residential application, unless the project expenses are instead paid by a
 commercial entity as described in the commercial rebate section below.
- An individual living at a multi-unit development (MUD) (e.g., apartments, condominiums, homeowners associations, etc.) that purchases EVSE for their personal use should submit a residential application. A resident of a MUD (apartments, condominiums, HOAs) may apply for the residential program to purchase EVSE for their personal parking space, with property manager approval.
 - Owners, property managers, or other representatives of MUDs are eligible to apply to the EVSE Rebate Program for common area EVSE charging under the commercial rebate.

Commercial rebate applicants must be registered and in good standing with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). <u>Eligible applicants for the commercial rebate include</u>, but are not limited to:

- Entities that purchase and locate EVSE for non-exclusive use at multi-unit developments.
 - o If you are an owner, property manager, or other representative of a multi-unit development, you <u>may</u> be eligible to participate in MEA's FY26 Community Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Program. Please reach out to MEA at

¹ Or until budgeted FY2026 funding is exhausted, whichever comes first.

- <u>transportation.mea@maryland.gov</u> to learn about this possible opportunity for multi-unit EV charging being developed in FY26.
- If an individual living at a MUD development purchases EVSE for their personal use, that individual should submit a residential application instead.
- Employers that purchase and provide EVSE, located at a workplace, to their employees.
- Companies that purchase and install EVSE to support fleet electric vehicles.
- Incorporated non-profit entities that are in good standing with SDAT.
- Units of state or local government.

Please note that except for MUDs, eligible chargers must be located at a non-residential place of business.

Ineligible applicants include

- Regulated utilities.
- Units of the federal government (even if property is located within Maryland).

Rebate Amounts and Commercial Rebate Award Maximum Per Applicant

- For complete and eligible FY26 EVSE applications that are submitted for the first time on or after July 15th, 2025, rebates are calculated on a per charger basis by multiplying 50% of the total eligible EVSE purchase and installation costs, capped at the following amounts:
 - Residential: 50% up to \$700
 - Commercial: 50% up to \$5,000
 - Commercial rebate award maximum per applicant: An entity applying for a commercial rebate will not receive awards totaling more than \$125,000 in aggregate in fiscal year 2026 funding.
- Dual-headed charging stations and charging stations with the capability of charging multiple vehicles at one time are considered one charger. Applicants and charging station manufacturers that require clarification of this provision or believe certain equipment should be considered two separate charging stations should contact the MEA Program Manager before beginning a project.
- Applications received prior to July 15th, 2025 will be processed based on the original date received or date received when missing information was sent back to MEA.

Eligible Costs

Eligible costs under this program include those costs directly attributable to the site
design, charger equipment, installation, labor, permitting, site preparation, upgrade for
utility connections, signage, and equipment necessary to implement and operate the
EVSE. MEA considers project costs paid over a period of time on a subscription basis to
be eligible costs.

- Gift cards may be listed as a cash expenditure for rebate reimbursement. Award points
 and other discounts are not eligible expenses and should not be included on the
 application for rebate reimbursement.
- Costs that an applicant has not included on a submitted application will not be considered in calculating a rebate, even if those costs would have been eligible.
 Submitted costs will only be adjusted downward in the event ineligible costs are included in the application.

Ineligible Costs

- Ineligible costs include the purchase of (electricity) fuel to power the EVSE, and any ongoing equipment and site maintenance costs.
- Based on the level of interest in the EVSE program and to maximize the number of
 potential program participants, MEA will no longer consider taxes, shipping costs, and
 credit card payment convenience fees as eligible expenses for inclusion in the rebate
 calculation.

Project Requirements

- A single charger will not qualify for multiple rebates, even if owned by different people at different times or relocated from one location to another.
- The EVSE must be installed on property located in Maryland and must be used for charging on-road motor vehicles propelled by electricity.
- To help ensure EVSE incentives are directed to a more permanent build-out of EVSE infrastructure, MEA has phased out incentives for Level 1 (120 V) EVSE equipment in FY25. EVSE rebates will not be issued to Level 1 EVSE purchased on or after October 1, 2023,² except as noted in Footnote #1.
- EVSE must be safety certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) identified by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration. NRTLs in North America that can test and certify EVSE include, but are not limited to, the Underwriter's Laboratory (UL), Intertek (ETL), and MET Laboratories, Inc.
- EVSE must be purchased new; used EVSE expenses, to include installation costs, are ineligible for the rebate in FY26.
- For applicants that include installation expenses in their application, EVSE must be installed by a Maryland-licensed, professional electrical contractor. Eligible EVSE may not be self-installed unless that individual is also a Maryland-licensed, professional electrical contractor. For self-installations, proof of Maryland electrical license is required.
- EVSE may either be networked or non-networked, though networked is recommended.
- EVSE may either be publicly or privately accessible.
- EVSE may either be hard-wired or plug-in.

² Level 1 EVSE equipment purchased on or after October 1, 2023, may be eligible for a rebate if documentation clearly shows that the necessary equipment and installation upgrades needed to adapt the Level 1 charger for Level 2 charging have occurred (e.g., NEMA adapter purchase and 240 V outlet installation).

- MEA will not award a rebate for EVSE replacing EVSE that previously benefited from, or was incentivized by, EVSE Rebate Program funding.
- In support of Maryland's greenhouse gas reduction goals and to ensure electric vehicles are charging as efficiently as possible, MEA strongly encourages applicants to consider EVSE that are qualified under the federal <u>ENERGY STAR</u> program. MEA may limit incentives to ENERGY STAR qualified EVSE equipment in a future fiscal year.

Application Process and Contents

• Application Eligibility Restrictions

- The received date of an application must be within 6 months of the EV charger being installed. If the installation date is outside of this 6 month mark, an application is ineligible and will be cancelled upon review.
- If an application is being submitted for both equipment and installation expenses, the application must be submitted within 6 months of payment in full for the installation as indicated on the final receipt.

• General Application Instructions

- An incomplete application package is deemed ineligible until all necessary supporting documents and information are provided to MEA.
- As rebates are issued on a first-come, first-served basis, applications will not be processed for rebate funds until the date that MEA receives <u>all</u> necessary application documents and information, rather than the initial application date.

How to Apply

 MEA prefers that EVSE applications be submitted electronically through the MyMEA Portal, whenever possible.

■ For residential AND commercial applicants:

- Go to the EVSE Rebate Program webpage and apply through the portal here.
- Applications must be submitted through the new Portal
 - For Residential, each applicant must create an account to be considered for the Program.
 - For Commercial, each applicant must create an account, or their authorized third-party entity.
- Applicants will be able to track where an application is along the way and receive update emails as necessary.
- Questions about submitting an application via physical mail can be sent to evse.mea@maryland.gov.

Application Contents

- Copy of a paid invoice, receipt, or equivalent proof of payment for <u>the EVSE</u> <u>charger</u> showing item(s) purchased, purchase price, date, and applicant name and address.
 - If an applicant seeks a rebate for only the installation of a NEMA 14-50 outlet to be used by plug-in EVSE, this can be waived when going through the application in the Portal, and the equipment invoice would not be required.
 - Only the cost of the purchased EVSE should be included in the equipment cost section. Purchase cost of a NEMA 14-50 outlet, adapter, and any other installation materials should instead be included in the installation cost section.
- Copy of a paid invoice, receipt, or equivalent proof of payment for <u>EVSE</u> installation showing installation price, installation date, and address at which the installation occurred. Additionally, documentation must clearly indicate the EVSE installation work performed. A non-descriptive invoice (e.g., an invoice from a company working on an EVSE installation that only lists the home address and amount paid) is insufficient.
- Photo of installed EVSE.
 - If an applicant seeks a rebate for the installation of a NEMA 14-50 outlet to be used by plug-in EVSE, the photo must still show the actual EVSE plugged into the new NEMA 14-50 outlet. The photo must also show the actual EVSE charging equipment.
- IRS W-9 Forms Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification
 - For residential applicants, applicants must submit an IRS W-9 form with their application. The applicant name listed on the W-9 form should be the same as how the applicant's name would be listed on an income tax return (e.g., no nicknames, no abbreviated names). The mailing address and the taxpayer identification number on the W-9 must be identical to the information on the application.
 - Commercial applicants applying to the program for the first time, or whose mailing address has changed, are also required to submit a complete and signed W-9 form.
 - The name on the application should also be identical to the name on the W-9 form being submitted with the application.
 - In the event of a variation between the application and a W-9 form, or the W-9 and the state's financial system, MEA may ask the applicant to resubmit an updated W-9 form or, for residential applicants, additional supporting documentation verifying identity (e.g., a copy of the applicant's driver's license). The processing of the application will not be possible until the revised W9 form is received by MEA.
 - Failure to submit a W-9 within the requested time frame will result in MEA canceling the application.

Terms and Conditions

- Applicant, if a business, is incorporated or is registered to do business in the State, and is
 in good standing with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation.
- To the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief, the applicant is not in default on any financial obligation to the State or MEA.
 - Rebate funds may be withheld by the Comptroller of Maryland (Comptroller) to be paid towards outstanding tax or other financial obligations to the State of Maryland or the federal government, as determined by the Comptroller.
- Applicant certifies to MEA that applicant has the right to install the EVSE for which a
 rebate is being sought at the property where the EVSE is installed, or has otherwise
 obtained consent from the property owner or landlord to install the EVSE.
- Applicant affirms, to the best of Applicant's knowledge and belief, that (i) the installation
 of the EVSE was completed in compliance with all local and state zoning, building,
 historic preservation and other applicable codes and construction/rehabilitation laws or
 regulations; and (ii) Applicant has obtained all necessary regulatory approvals, permits,
 variances, and licenses to install the EVSE, including Maryland Historical Trust approval
 of any architectural plans and specifications for the installation, if applicable.
- Applicant agrees that MEA may share certain information obtained by MEA from the
 applicant with external entities as part of local utility EVSE programs/efforts and
 federally funded EVSE data collection projects. For residential applicants, this
 information may include project county, zip code, and project type. For commercial
 applicants, this information may include applicant name, applicant contact information,
 project address, and project type.
- Commercial applicants certify that they will ensure that publicly available EVSE is registered with both <u>Plugshare</u> and the <u>US Department of Energy's Alternative Fuel Data</u> <u>Center (AFDC) Station Locator</u>. Private commercial charging stations are encouraged, but not required, to be registered with both platforms.
- Upon reasonable notice and when requested by MEA, applicants receiving a Commercial EVSE rebate shall allow MEA employees or representatives access to the Project Site to monitor the project and confirm EVSE charger operation.
- American Manufactured Goods Chapter 757 of the 2019 Acts of the General Assembly
 of Maryland (effective October 1, 2019) includes a provision referencing the American
 Manufactured Goods provisions in §§ 14-416 and 17-303 of the State Finance and
 Procurement Article. Applicants affected by those provisions should take them into
 account when developing applications to Strategic Energy Investment Fund
 (SEIF)-funded programs.
- Rebates issued by the State of Maryland may be taxable, and result in the issuance of a 1099-G form. As the MEA is unable to give tax advice, any tax-related questions should be directed toward a qualified tax professional.
- Applicant certifies to MEA that they understand MEA or an MEA-authorized representative may contact the applicant in the future regarding electric vehicle use and

- vehicle charging behavior as well as overall electric drive satisfaction to help inform current or future programs.
- With good cause and at its sole discretion, MEA may grant an exception to the six month deadline on a case-by-case basis.
- Use of Personal Information- In accordance with Section 4-501(c)(3) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, MEA is required to advise Applicants of the following:
 - (1) The information being requested by the Application is necessary to document the completion of the project and to ensure installation of a qualifying system.
 - (2) Failure to provide all required information will result in cancellation of your Rebate application and ends any obligation to you under this program.
 - (3) Upon submission for payment, some of this information will be provided to other agencies of the State to process the payment of the Rebate.
 - (4) The applicant's name or rebate recipient's name and award amount may be publicly accessible on our website.
 - (5) Unless otherwise provided by law or court order, portions of the information provided by a company may be subject to disclosure upon request for inspection under Maryland's Public Information Act. To the extent permitted by law, confidential information will not be disclosed except for the purpose of processing your Rebate application.
 - (6) As set forth in Sections 4-502 of the General Provisions Article, you may request to correct a record maintained by the EVSE Rebate Program that contains inaccurate or incomplete information.

Relevant Programs/Resources

- Applicants may find additional savings on charging equipment and installation costs through programs now offered by <u>Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE)</u>, <u>Pepco</u>, <u>Delmarva Power</u>, and <u>Potomac Edison</u>.
 - Applicants are strongly encouraged to register their EV with their utility if they have not done so already.
- For more information on EVs and EVSE, please visit <u>marylandev.org</u> or the US Department of Energy <u>Alternative Fuel Data Center (AFDC)</u>.

Contact Information

- If you have questions about the program in general or this Funding Opportunity Announcement, contact Natalie Buscemi, MEA Transportation Program Manager at transportation.mea@maryland.gov.
- If you have questions regarding submitted applications and/or their status, please contact evse.mea@maryland.gov.