



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

OFFICE OF
ENERGY RESOURCES

OER New Energy Programs Update

Presentation to EC4

Thursday, May 14, 2026

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Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV)
Fleet Cost Differential Rebate
Program

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Energy Storage Rebate Program

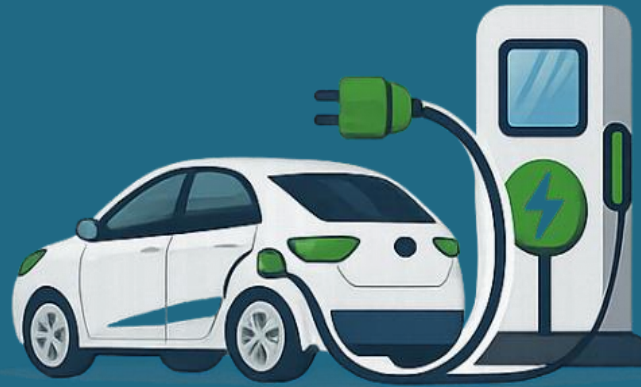
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**ZEV Fleet Cost
Differential
Rebate Program**

02

Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Fleet Cost Differential Rebate Program



ZEV Program Overview



- Available to State Agencies & Quasi-State Agencies
- Covers up to 100% of the cost differential between comparable ICE and eligible electric vehicles
- Prioritizes fully electric Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs)
- Eligible vehicle types also include:
 - Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs)
 - Select Low-Speed Vehicles (LSVs)

Vehicle Type	Vehicle Classification	Rebate Amount
BEV	SUV	\$ 6,000.00
	Truck	\$ 14,000.00
	LSV	\$ 3,000.00
PHEV	Sedan	\$ 9,000.00
	SUV	\$ 16,000.00
	Minivan	\$ 8,000.00

Table 2: Cap amounts for the ZEV Fleet Cost Differential rebate program

ZEV Program Overview



- **How does it work?**

- Agencies follow standard OMB/state fleet purchasing procedures
(Quasi-agencies should follow their standard procurement procedures)
- Agencies may either:
 - Submit the application directly to OER with supporting purchasing documents, **or**
 - OER can prepare the application on the agency's behalf using monthly State Fleet purchase reports
- Agency reviews/signs the application and provides reimbursement account information
- OER processes reimbursement of the eligible cost differential amount
(Typical reimbursement turnaround is approximately one week after receiving signed documentation)

Contact OER early in the process: Sara.Canabarro@energy.ri.gov



03

Energy Storage Rebate Program

State's First Standalone Energy Storage Rebate Program



The Office of Energy Resources announces the state's first rebate program dedicated exclusively to supporting the installation of standalone battery energy storage systems at homes and businesses across the state.

[Energy Storage Rebates | Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources](#)

Two Pathways to Support Storage Adoption

Policymakers use two complementary incentive structures to accelerate battery energy storage deployment:

REBATES



Reduce Upfront Costs

Direct financial incentives applied at time of purchase that lower the barrier to entry. Rebates cover a portion of equipment and installation costs, making storage accessible to more homes and businesses.

PERFORMANCE INCENTIVES



Reward Ongoing Participation

Recurring payments tied to system performance in demand response or grid services programs. Owners earn ongoing income for dispatching their batteries when the grid needs it most — typically summer peak hours.

Rhode Island's ESR Program combines both: upfront rebates + required ConnectedSolutions demand-response enrollment.

Program Tiers at a Glance



TIER 1 · ≤25 kW AC

Base Rate **\$250 / kWh**

Max Rebate **\$8,000**

Income-Eligible Rate **\$500 / kWh**

Income-Eligible Max **\$16,000**

Allocation **\$1,300,000**

Eligible Systems **ConnectedSolutions list**



TIER 2 · 25–250 kW AC

Base Rate **\$175 / kWh**

Max Rebate **\$45,500**

Max System Size **260 kWh @ cap**

Residential Limit **≤50 kW**

Allocation **\$700,000**

Eligible Systems **ConnectedSolutions or UL 9540**

How to Apply: Two-Step Process

STEP 1 Reserve Your Rebate



Tier 1: After executing installer agreement

Tier 2: Also requires submitted interconnection application

- ✓ Recent utility bill (last 3 months)
- ✓ Executed installation agreement (make/model, kWh, kW AC)
- ✓ Designated rebate payee
- ✓ Demand-response participation acknowledgment
- ✓ Income-eligible proof (if applicable)
- ✓ Tier 2: Copy of interconnection application

Reservation valid for 365 days · Up to two 180-day extensions

STEP 2 Complete & Get Paid



Submit completion package after system is installed:

- ✓ Final invoice (showing model, kWh, kW AC)
- ✓ Utility Authorization to Interconnect (ATI)
- ✓ Certificate of Completion from local permitting authority
- ✓ Installer Attestation (one-line diagram, serial numbers, photos)
- ✓ Proof of demand-response enrollment
- ✓ Customer W-9 (always required)

Payment issued within 4–6 weeks via check or ACH

04

**New England Heat Pump
Accelerator – Rhode Island
Program Updates**

New England Heat Pump Accelerator

The New England Heat Pump Accelerator is a regional program to speed up heat pump adoption in homes across Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.



The Accelerator offers:



Pass-through incentives

- Enrolled distributors offer point-of-sale discounts
- \$650 Air-source heat pump incentive
- \$300 Heat pump water heater incentives



Heat pump training & education

- Provides toolkits, quick sheets, and training to help contractors and installers grow their skillset.



Community grants & state pilots

- Focus on overcoming barriers to adoption in low-income communities
- RFP for community grants will be issued this summer
- State pilot RFP forthcoming



Data & insight

- The Accelerator is tracking program progress and plans to share key learnings so it can scale successes across the region
- Dashboards are forthcoming

New England Heat Pump Accelerator

Things to look out for from the Accelerator:



Pass-through incentives

- Expanding to include:
 - Air-to-water heat pumps
 - Geothermal heat pumps
 - Multifamily homes



Community grants

- Community grant RFI closed May 1
- RFP to be issued end of May through June
- July-August applicants will be notified of the status of their proposals

State pilots

- OER has been working with VEIC to develop state pilot programs informed by the RFI we issued in 2025
- RFP will be issued soon



Scan the QR code or visit the website to **sign up for the Accelerator Newsletter to receive updates and announcements**

www.NEHPA.org



Rhode Island Accelerator Heat Pump Rebate Program

OER launched the state's \$35 million Accelerator Heat Pump Rebate Incentive Program

The program provides rebates to support the installation of household air-source heat pumps and heat pump water heaters.

The program offers a pass through incentive of \$650 (per unit) for air-source heat pumps and \$300 (per unit) for heat pump water heaters.

The list of qualified products can be found at the following links:

Air-Source Heat Pumps - [Accelerator-HP-QPL-04.01.2026.xlsx](#)

Heat Pump Water Heaters - [ENERGY STAR Certified Heat Pump Water Heaters | EPA ENERGY STAR](#)

The program has a list (updated weekly) with eligible distributors: [Enrolled-Distributors.pdf](#)

All information on the rebate program and rules can be found at the following link: [Pass-Through Incentives | New England Heat Pump Accelerator](#)



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Questions/Comments

