

Commercial EV Charging Frequently Asked Questions

What is “Make-Ready” Infrastructure?

“Make-Ready” infrastructure includes the electrical infrastructure that supports an EV charging station. This includes service connection upgrades between the local substation and transformer and electric vehicle (EV) supply infrastructure between the meter and service panel. The Program’s rebate helps reduce some of the upfront costs to making the site ready for charging station installation, and in some cases covers up to 100% of the cost.

What are the incentives and rebates available through this program? Please refer to the eversource.com for Eversource or uinet.com/EVProgramsForYourBusiness for UI to view available incentives.

Note: the amount of incentive dollars available per solution does not imply one setup is inherently better than another. Depending on the particulars of your EV and technology setup, the cheapest and best option might receive the fewest incentive dollars. Please see the Program Participant Guide to understand which of the possible eligible technologies is best for you.

Can I use these incentives for my existing charging stations?

Existing equipment is not eligible for these incentives. Existing charger owners might be eligible to participate in the Managed Charging program which offers incentives for enrollment and ongoing participation in Managed Charging if they choose. Please see our Commercial Participation Program Guide for more information.

How do I qualify for the “Make-Ready” program?

You must be a non-residential customer or be the owner/manager of a multi-unit dwelling (MUD) in Eversource or UI territory. Customers who lease the property where EV chargers will be installed can still participate in the program, however, the landowner will be required to execute a land rights document (easement). Program includes EV charging incentives for public parking areas, retail and mall parking, workplaces and fleets, colleges and universities, government properties, and MUDs.

Who is eligible to participate in this program?

Commercial and industrial or multifamily property owners/managers who are electric customers of Eversource or UI are eligible. Qualifying equipment must be installed and activated to qualify for the incentives available through this program. Customers who lease the property where the EV chargers will be installed can still participate in the program, however, the landowner must sign the application acknowledging their approval.

What work will Eversource and UI manage?

If you require a new service for your project, Eversource and UI will manage the new utility service and make the final connection to your service point after it has been inspected by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). Eversource and UI will provide rebates for eligible infrastructure (up to specified cap, see the Make-Ready Program Guide for details) that will connect to your chargers. This includes, but is not limited to trenching, a transformer, dedicated service meter, panel(s) if deemed necessary, and all conduits and necessary wiring to support the approved number of charging stations. Eversource and UI will also provide rebates for up to 50% of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) costs (up to specified cap, see the Make-Ready Program Guide for details).

What costs am I responsible for?

You are responsible for the cost of purchasing and installing the charging station(s) over and above the specified cap for eligible rebates. You own the charger and are responsible for maintaining and servicing the charger for a minimum of five years.

Are there any additional requirements for participating in program?

Yes. All chargers will be required to be networked to gather usage data. This will require an ongoing networking fee, determined by the vendor you select, that would be paid by you. In some cases (i.e., Fleets and MUDs) there is a requirement to participate in a Managed Charging Program like Demand Response or other custom program. Please see our Make-Ready Program Guide for more information.

Can I charge drivers to recoup costs of charging station operations?

Yes, your organization can bill drivers for charging station services subject to any applicable laws or regulations. Business and property owners have the final say on how their EV charging equipment is utilized. Before selecting a charging vendor for your project, see their supported billing methodologies to ensure your intended billing strategy is possible on their platform.

What type of charging stations are right for me/my property?

This will depend on how long your customers will be parked at your location. There are two types of chargers included in this program, Level II and Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFC). Level II requires 240-volt power and is ideal for workplaces, destination, and multi-unit developments or anywhere in which the user will be at the location for at least an hour in duration. DCFC requires 480-volt power and charges for 30 minutes or less than 1 hour. DCFC is ideal for highway, near-highway, dense urban locations, as well as for Workplace/Fleets where vehicle volume will be high and frequent.

Where do I purchase my charging station?

Customers must install approved charging stations to be eligible for incentives. Qualified charging station vendors can be found on the Business section of our website at eversource.com or uinet.com/ProgramsForYourBusiness under EV Charger Qualified Product List.

Do I hire my own contractor to install the charger?

Yes. You must hire a qualified, state-licensed, and insured contractor. The design and construction must comply with all local, state, and federal electrical standards to be eligible for the program.

How long does the Make-Ready program process take?

The total estimated timeline for electrification is 3–6 months from the initial step of application submission to the activation of the site (assuming permitting, inspections and the installation of the charging stations are done in a timely manner). This timeline also varies depending upon your requirements for new service from the utility. Incentive payment will be approximately one month from install completion and EVSE activation. Note: any errors or omissions, or any clarifications and/or corrections on the application necessary to confirm eligibility can delay your project beyond this rough timeline.

How can I get in touch with a program representative if I have a question(s)?

Eversource customers: You can contact a program specialist by emailing EversourceEVSsupport@clearesult.com.

UI customers: You can speak to a Program representative by emailing UIEVSupport@clearesult.com.

A representative will get back to you within 1-2 business days.

Where do I apply?

You can find the Make-Ready Application on the Business section of eversource.com or UI's website uinet.com/ProgramsForYourBusiness. Be sure to fully complete the application and provide all necessary documentation outlined in the application.

How can I understand Connecticut's existing electrical hosting capacity?

Hosting Capacity refers to an estimated maximum amount of power that can be accommodated on the distribution system at a given location under existing grid conditions and operations, without adversely impacting safety, power quality, reliability, or other operational criteria, and without requiring significant infrastructure upgrades.

Customers can [view this map](#) for Eversource territory or [view this map](#) for UI territory to get a general understanding of where there is currently more electrical load capacity in Eversource's or UI's grid in Connecticut. This map provides approximate values of Hosting Capacity measured in Megawatts (MW) by circuit in the distribution system. Note that circuits colored in gray (red for UI) have limited capacity or the information on the circuit capacity is not available. This does not mean that an EV charging station cannot be located on those circuits. Please request verification for projects to be considered on those circuits.

Please note that this map is being provided for informational purposes and is not intended as a substitute for filing an application with the utility. It is intended to guide developers to three phase circuits which may have underutilized capacity for large scale EVSE projects, particularly DC fast charger projects. The map will be updated regularly; however, the information provided is non-binding. Proposed projects will need further analysis and may need detailed engineering studies to determine whether such EVSE projects can be accommodated on the system.