What are the Electric Vehicle Support Grants?

The Program supports organizations to purchase up to two new battery or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (EVs) and charging stations to create clean transportation options for residents in the Columbia Basin Trust region (Basin) (ourtrust.org/map).

The Program supports the priorities of Community Well-being, Support for Business Renewal, and the Climate Resilience, contained in the Columbia Basin Management Plan: Strategic Priorities 2020-2023.

Who can apply?

Eligible applicants include registered non-profits and First Nations within the Basin that support social service and food recovery initiatives.

Your organization must:
- demonstrate an ongoing need for EVs;
- apply to other applicable funding programs for EVs and/or charging stations; and
- demonstrate ownership of property if applying for electric vehicle charging stations.

You are not eligible for this program if you represent a local government, educational institution, or for-profit organization.

When is the application deadline?

September 15, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. PT / 3:00 p.m. MT.

What types of projects are eligible?

Eligible projects include but are not limited to:
- transportation of clients and/or staff outreach;
- transportation of equipment or materials related to core operations; and
- food recovery or delivery.

Priority may be given to replacing existing fossil fuelled fleet vehicles owned by the organization.

What types of projects are not eligible?

The types of projects that are not eligible include, but are not limited to projects that:
- have limited public benefit;
- are related to sports;
- take place outside the Basin; and
- relieve any level of government of its obligations.
Projects are not eligible if the intended use of the vehicle is for:
- personal use by staff or volunteers;
- renting out;
- promotional, advocacy, or lobbying; or
- rideshare.

**WHAT TYPES OF COSTS ARE ELIGIBLE?**
The types of eligible costs include, but are not limited to:
- purchase of up to two EVs;
- costs of converting up to two fossil fuel vehicles to EVs; and
- purchase and installation of charging stations for communities with demonstrated need.

**WHAT TYPES OF COSTS ARE INELIGIBLE?**
The types of ineligible costs include, but are not limited to:
- the purchase of fuel-cell electric vehicles;
- the purchase of hybrid electric vehicles (non plug-in); and
- the purchase of electric motorcycles, bikes or scooters.

Individual project eligibility is determined by the Trust as its sole discretion.

Projects should demonstrate that it benefits Basin residents broadly and that the primary beneficiary is not the applicant or solely the members of a membership-based organization.

**HOW MUCH WILL THE TRUST FUND?**

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<tr>
<th>Eligible Expenses</th>
<th>Percentage Paid for by Grant and Applicant</th>
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| EV purchase or conversion (maximum of two EVs per organization) | • Grant: up to 75% of eligible costs up to a maximum of $75,000 per vehicle  
  • Applicant: 25% of eligible costs |
| EV Charging station(s)                                 | • Grant: 80% of eligible costs up to a maximum of $35,000  
  • Applicant: 20% of eligible costs |

- Depending on availability of rebates and applicant’s ability to contribute, the Trust may consider a larger contribution.
- In-kind contributions will not be counted towards the total cash budget or applicant’s required cash contribution.
HOW DOES THE TRUST SELECT PROJECTS FOR FUNDING?
The Trust’s evaluation uses the following selection criteria to prioritize funding:
- The project demonstrates it meets the program eligibility listed above.
- The project demonstrates community support, indicated by activities like fundraising, financial commitments, letters of support, and partnerships.
- The project demonstrates readiness to move forward in the stated timelines.
- The project, and organizations coordinating the project, demonstrate an understanding of the need for long term maintenance of the project that can be demonstrated by a long-term budget or asset management plan for ongoing and scheduled maintenance/repairs.
- The Trust strives to distribute Program funds across communities, organizations and project types and will consider this as part of the adjudication of all applications.

Additional consideration may be given to projects that:
- replace existing fossil fuel powered vehicles with EVs;
- connect key highway/travel corridors with the installation of charging stations; and
- are in rural areas that demonstrate broad community need and impact.

WHEN WILL I HEAR THE RESULTS?
The review process usually takes up to eight weeks. We will contact you by email, at the address on your application form, to provide an update on your application. Prior to approving any projects, Trust staff may contact you during the evaluation phase to request additional information.

If approved, we will also let you know whether there are conditions you will need to address. We will then send a Contribution Agreement for signature and you will receive the funding after both parties sign this.

WHEN CAN MY PROJECT START?
Trust funding can only be put toward approved project expenses after the Contribution Agreement has been signed.

WHAT ELSE DO I HAVE TO KEEP IN MIND?
Even if a project meets the eligibility criteria it may not be selected for funding as the Trust often receives requests for more funding than what is available. The Trust retains the discretion to determine project eligibility and the amount of funding it may allocate to each project. The Trust retains the discretion to offer part, or all of the Trust portion of the funding request.

Depending on the nature of your project, you may be required to obtain specific permits and approvals prior to receiving Trust funds.
HOW DO I APPLY?

1. If you would like to work offline, download the Application Worksheet. The Application Worksheet contains additional information on how to complete the questions in the online application form. This is optional and cannot be used as your application.

2. When you are ready, complete the online application form.

3. You may save a draft and return to it at a later date to resume your application.

4. Once your application is complete, and you have confirmed all of the steps in the Program Guide, click Submit. After you submit, you will receive an email confirmation that will contain your application.

5. If you need to make an edit to the submitted application before the application deadline, you can do so from the Your Entries and Drafts page on the application form website.

If you prefer to submit a paper application, or if you have any questions about the application process, please contact Trust staff at nsp@ourtrust.org or 1.800.505.8998.