

Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Program (eL&G Program)



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

1. What is the purpose of the program?

The eL&G Program aims to reduce air pollution by replacing polluting commercial lawn and garden equipment with zero-emission electric alternatives. The program supports community-driven emission reduction plans and aligns with the Air District's [Strategic Plan](#) to reimagine incentive programs.

2. What is electric lawn and garden equipment?

Electric lawn and garden equipment refers to new, cordless, zero-emission electric tools that serve the same function as the combustion-powered equipment being replaced. Eligible categories include chainsaws, trimmers, edgers, brush cutters, leaf blowers, vacuums, walk-behind mowers, and ride-on or stand/sit mowers.

3. Am I eligible to participate?

To participate in the Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Replacement Program (eL&G) you must be a commercial operator of lawn and garden equipment, have your principal place of business in California, and have your primary administrative office or headquarters ("principal place of business") located within the eligible geographic area zip codes listed in the table below. Visit the [Eligibility Page](#) to learn more.

Eligible Geographic Program Areas

County	Community	Eligible Zip Codes
San Francisco	Bayview Hunters Point	94107, 94110, 94124, 94134
Alameda	East Oakland	94601, 94603, 94605, 94621
Alameda	West Oakland	94607, 94608, 94609, 94612

Contra Costa	Richmond and San Pablo	94801, 94803, 94804, 94805, 94806, 94850
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4. What is the process?

1. Review Program Requirements to confirm your eligibility and gather the necessary supporting documentation.
2. Visit an [authorized vendor](#) to request a voucher and submit the required documentation and select new equipment.
3. Vendor reviews application for eligibility and completeness to submit to the Air District within 5 days.
4. Air District reviews and approves or rejects within 25 days and notifies the program participant of approval and provides voucher to proceed with equipment replacement.
5. Return to the vendor to exchange qualifying equipment and receive a point-of-sale discount on new electric lawn and garden equipment.
6. Vendor tests old equipment for operability and sends old equipment to be scrapped
7. Vendor submits for payment within 60 days of when the voucher was redeemed and new equipment was sold.
8. District issues payment on complete payment packets within 30 days of receipt.

5. Is there a deadline to apply?

Applications are currently being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until all funds are expended. We encourage applying for funding as soon as possible in order to reserve funding.

6. How is the program funded?

Funding for the exchange program is provided by Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program Funds and Mobile Source Incentive Funds. The Air District may also utilize additional funding sources at its discretion.

7. What are the types of electric lawn and garden equipment are available for purchase in the program?

Eligible lawn and garden equipment available for purchase in-store include chainsaws, trimmers, edgers, brush cutters, leaf blowers, vacuums, ride-on or stand/sit mowers and walk behind lawn mowers.

Please note that equipment availability may vary by approved vendor location.

8. How much can I get towards new equipment?

Voucher amounts depend on the type of equipment purchased. Eligible applicants may receive:

- **\$700** for chainsaws, trimmers, edgers, or brush cutters
- **\$1,400** for leaf blowers or vacuums
- **\$1,500** for walk-behind lawn mowers
- **\$15,000** for ride-on or stand/sit mowers

Additional eligible program costs include:

- Batteries, chargers, charging cables, adapters, and other charging equipment

9. Can I bring my equipment to any vendor location?

No, you must bring your equipment to an Air District-approved vendor. Only these vendors are authorized to process applications, verify equipment eligibility, and handle the destruction of old equipment. A list of approved vendors is available on the program website [here](#).

10. Do I need to pay taxes on my voucher?

Yes, the voucher amount is considered taxable income and will be reported to the Franchise Tax Board. Participants must submit a completed IRS W-9 form during the application process.

11. Can I apply more than once?

Yes, but only one application is allowed per funding cycle. Each program participant has a maximum funding cap of \$100,000.

12. Can I destroy my own equipment?

No, the approved vendor you work with will be responsible for destroying the existing equipment that will be traded in accordance with the program requirements.

13. Who should I contact if I have questions about my application and how can I check the status once submitted?

You can contact our authorized vendors directly or contact us by email at lawnandgarden@baaqmd.gov or call 415-749-4994.

14. How do vouchers work?

Once an application is approved and you have received a Notice to Proceed, a voucher will be awarded that will provide a point-of-sale discount on the equipment purchase. The Air District will reimburse the vendor for this discount directly.

15. How do I scrap my equipment?

Once approved and awarded a voucher, you must turn in the old equipment to the vendor when purchasing the new one. The vendor will handle scrapping.

16. How do I add a vendor to the list?

If a vendor conducting business [within the boundaries of the Bay Area Air District](#) and interested in joining the program, they may submit a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) once the application period opens.

17. How many days do I have to bring in my old equipment?

Old baseline equipment must be surrendered at the time of purchasing the new electric lawn and garden equipment and no later than 30 days after receiving the Notice to Proceed or voucher.

18. Can residents apply?

No, currently, the program is only open to commercial lawn and garden operators.

19. How do I prove I'm a professional landscaper?

To verify your professional landscaping status, you must provide either a valid business license or a California C-27 contractor license, both for a minimum of the past two years.

20. What if I don't have 2-years of business licenses issued in California?

You must have 2 years of consecutive business licenses issued in California from the date you apply to be eligible to participate in the program.

21. Can non-operational equipment be exchanged?

No, eligible existing commercial grade lawn and garden equipment (“baseline equipment”) must be fully operational—able to start, move, and have all parts intact. Non-operable equipment is not eligible and will be rejected.

22. What if I have not owned and operated my existing equipment for at least 2 years?

The program requires an applicant to certify they have owned and operated the existing equipment they will turn in for a minimum of 2 years from the date of application. If the equipment can’t meet this requirement, then it is not eligible for the program.

23. Can I receive funding if I'm not in an eligible zip code?

At this time, we are only accepting applications from eligible applicants who have a business address that is within both the Air District’s jurisdiction (see this map on the Air District’s website) and at least one of the required geographic program area zip codes shown below.

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24. How will I provide the required backup documentation for my application?

If an application is initially approved, the Air District will send a Notice of Conditional Approval email to the Participant and a secure DocuSign link to upload required documents, including a W-9, business license or C-27 license, and a California-issued photo driver's license or identification card.

25. What part of my project does funding cover?

Program vouchers cover up to 85% of eligible equipment costs after discounts. Participants are responsible for the remaining 15%. Voucher amounts are capped at the maximum values listed in the program Eligible Equipment and Maximum Voucher Amounts table.

Example 1: If the total cost for a leaf blower, two batteries, and a charging cable is \$1,000, the voucher will cover \$850, and the participant pays \$150.

Example 2: A Program Participant buys one walk behind leaf blower for a total of \$2,000. In this example the voucher will be capped at \$1,500 and the Program Participant will pay the remaining \$500 balance out of pocket.

Eligible Equipment and Maximum Voucher Amounts

Commercial Grade Equipment	Max Voucher Amount
Chainsaws/Trimmers/Edgers/Brush Cutters	\$700
Leaf blowers/Vacuums	\$1,400
Walk Behind Lawn Mowers	\$1,500
Ride-on or Stand/Sit Mowers	\$15,000

26. What are eligible costs?

Eligible costs include:

- Equipment costs for equipment listed in the table below.
- Batteries, chargers, cables, adapters, and other charging equipment
- Sales tax
- Freight from the manufacturer to the vendor
- Warranty costs

Eligible Equipment and Maximum Voucher Amounts

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Ride-on or Stand/Sit Mowers	\$15,000

27. How many pieces of equipment can I replace? Is there a maximum amount of funding I can get?

Program participants can replace multiple pieces of equipment with up to a combined voucher limit of **\$100,000**.

28. How long am I required to keep the new equipment I receive through this program?

You must own and operate the new equipment for a minimum of 36 months from the date of receipt.

29. If I have a question that isn't answered by the program materials and FAQ, can I contact someone?

Yes, please contact us by email at lawnandgarden@baaqmd.gov.