

### **Presents**



# **Program Guidelines for Consumers**

Rev. October 15, 2019

#### Introduction

As part of Governor Malloy's efforts to provide cleaner, cheaper and more reliable transportation energy and to support our clean air goals, EVConnecticut is excited to announce an incentive pilot program – the *Connecticut Hydrogen and Electric Automobile Purchase Rebate*<sup>1</sup> (CHEAPR). This program will increase the number of clean vehicles on our roads by offering Connecticut drivers up to \$5,000 towards the purchase or lease of a new, eligible electric vehicle!

The CHEAPR incentive program is currently made possible through a funding commitment by American Electric Power Service Corporation, as part of a broader commitment to energy efficiency set forth in a Settlement Agreement between American Electric Power and the State of Connecticut. The program was initially created and funded through a commitment from Eversource Energy, formerly Northeast Utilities, as part of a broader commitment to energy efficiency and related initiatives set forth in a Settlement Agreement related to the NU-NSTAR merger. This was followed by a similar funding commitment by Avangrid, as part of a broader commitment to energy efficiency, renewable generation, storage, alternative transportation, electric vehicles and other clean technologies set forth in a Settlement Agreement between Iberdrola USA Inc. and UIL Holdings Corporation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While the CHEAPR program is titled as a *rebate*, the program is intended to provide an *incentive* for (a) the purchase of a plug-in or hydrogen powered vehicle over an internal combustion engine powered vehicle; and (b) the purchase of an electric or plug-in electric vehicle with the greatest all electric range.

### **Program Overview**

For a limited time<sup>2</sup>, EVConnecticut is offering an incentive of up to \$5,000 for Connecticut residents<sup>3</sup> who purchase or lease a new, eligible electric vehicle from a licensed Connecticut franchised new automobile dealer<sup>4</sup>. The CHEAPR program is able to process rebate applications for individual consumers who purchase or lease an eligible vehicle directly from an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) that does not have licensed franchised new automobile dealers in Connecticut (e.g., Tesla).

This incentive applies to the following kinds of vehicles:

- Battery electric vehicles
- Fuel cell electric vehicles
- Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles

The CHEAPR program has limited funds, so it's important to check <a href="http://www.evconnecticut.com/CHEAPR">http://www.evconnecticut.com/CHEAPR</a> often to make sure funds are still available.

### **Applying for CHEAPR**

Applying for CHEAPR couldn't be easier! After you visit your local new car dealership and select an eligible new vehicle, you just have to

- 1. Purchase or lease an eligible new vehicle<sup>5</sup>
- 2. Your dealer will complete the application process for you!

# **Make Sure You Qualify**

To qualify for a CHEAPR incentive, applicants must:

- Provide proof of Connecticut residency
  - o Individuals must provide their Connecticut<sup>6</sup> driver's license number
  - Non-individuals<sup>7</sup> must provide their tax identification number
- Provide proof of purchase or lease of an eligible vehicle from a licensed Connecticut franchised new automobile dealer unless the eligible vehicle is a Tesla and not available through such a dealer<sup>4</sup>
- Provide proof of registration for the eligible vehicle in Connecticut
- Certify that the applicant will retain possession of the vehicle for at least 24 months in Connecticut
- Complete application materials and a short survey within 10 days after the date of purchase or lease. Note: Applications submitted prior to the date of purchase or lease will not be accepted. The eligible vehicle must also be registered in Connecticut before an online application is submitted. For purchases, the date of purchase is the day that the purchase agreement is signed.<sup>8</sup> For leases, the date of lease is the date upon which the lease of the vehicle commences as specified in a signed lease agreement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The CHEAPR rebate program will run from May 19, 2015 until program funds are exhausted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For purposes of the CHEAPR rebate program, Connecticut residents include active duty members of the armed forces who are stationed in Connecticut.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Eligible new Tesla vehicles purchased out of state qualify for CHEAPR until such time that new Tesla vehicles may be sold in Connecticut. See Section J, *Purchase or Lease of Eligible Vehicles from Tesla*, of the CHEAPR Implementation Manual for more information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Vehicles used as dealership floor models or demonstration ("demo") vehicles are eligible for CHEAPR rebates provided they have not been previously registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). Please contact the Program Administrator to verify vehicle eligibility prior to vehicle purchase/lease.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Active duty members of the armed forces who are stationed in Connecticut but with permanent residency in another state may use military orders as proof of residency.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Non-individual entities eligible for the CHEAPR rebate program include businesses, non-profit organizations, and state and municipal governments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> For purchasers or lessees of eligible Tesla vehicles, please see Section, *Purchase or Lease of Eligible Vehicles from Tesla*, of the CHEAPR Program Implementation Manual.

Within available funds, private individuals are allowed one CHEAPR incentive and non-individuals are allowed up to two CHEAPR incentives.

### When to Expect Payment

Payment will be sent by electronic funds transfer to you or your designee (i.e., the dealership) within 10 calendar days after your application is approved. In most cases, the entire application process, including rebate payment, should be completed within two weeks of vehicle purchase or lease.

# **Eligible Vehicles and Incentives**

On and after October 15, 2019, the program incentives are:

| Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) |                                 |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Incentive Amount                       | <b>EPA Rated Electric Range</b> |
| \$500                                  | All PHEVs                       |
| Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)         |                                 |
| Incentive Amount                       | <b>EPA Rated Electric Range</b> |
| \$1,500                                | 200 miles or greater            |
| \$500                                  | Less than 200 miles             |
| Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV)      |                                 |
| Incentive Amount                       | <b>EPA Rated Electric Range</b> |
| \$5,000                                | Any fuel cell electric vehicle  |

From October 15, 2018 through October 14, 2019, the program incentives were:

| Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) |                                |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Incentive Amount                       | EPA Rated Electric Range       |
| \$1,000                                | 45 miles or greater            |
| \$500                                  | Less than 45 miles             |
| Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)         |                                |
| Incentive Amount                       | EPA Rated Electric Range       |
| \$2,000                                | 200 miles or greater           |
| \$1,500                                | 120-199 miles                  |
| \$500                                  | Less than 120 miles            |
| Fuel Cell Electric Vehicle (FCEV)      |                                |
| Incentive Amount                       | EPA Rated Electric Range       |
| \$5,000                                | Any fuel cell electric vehicle |

For program incentives prior to October 15, 2018, see the Program Implementation Manual.

All vehicles that are eligible for CHEAPR must meet the following criteria:

- Capable of highway operation
- A base MSRP that does not exceed \$42,000 for PHEV/BEV models and \$60,000 for FCEV models

The following vehicles are not eligible for CHEAPR:

- Aftermarket plug-in hybrid electric and battery electric conversions
- Electric scooters, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), and neighborhood or low speed vehicles
- Electric motorcycles

#### The Fine Print....

The CHEAPR program is a monetary incentive available to Connecticut residents and Connecticut franchised new car dealers<sup>9</sup> for the purchase or lease of a new plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV), battery electric vehicle (BEV) or fuel cell electric vehicle (FCEV) that is highway capable and has a base MSRP not exceeding \$42,000 for PHEV/BEV models and \$60,000 for FCEV models. For purposes of this program, PHEVs, BEVs, and FCEVs may collectively be referred to as electric vehicles (EVs).

The purchase or lease of an eligible vehicle, does not entitle a buyer or lessee to an incentive payment and no express property right is created by this program. Vehicle purchaser and lessee incentive levels and other requirements are determined by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), who in its sole discretion reserves the right to make changes at any time to any program parameter including, but not limited to, eligible vehicles, incentive amounts, vehicle price caps, and vehicle purchaser or lessee requirements. For complete terms and conditions, see the CHEAPR Program Implementation Manual.

### **But Wait, There's More!**

Did you know that in addition to CHEAPR, you may also benefit from a federal tax credit of \$2,500 to \$7,500, depending on the size of the battery in the eligible electric vehicle? On the low end of the spectrum, cars with 4 kWh battery packs qualify for a \$2,500 tax credit. The credit maxes out at \$7,500 for cars with a 16 kWh or larger battery pack.

<sup>9</sup> Eligible new Tesla vehicles purchased out of state currently qualify for the CHEAPR program. If such vehicles become authorized for sale or lease within Connecticut, applicants will be required to purchase or lease such vehicles from retail locations within the state. See Section J, *Purchase or Lease of Eligible Vehicles from Tesla*, of the CHEAPR Implementation Manual for more information.