

FY 26 Charge Up SB Program Guidelines and Terms & Conditions

1. Program Description

The Charge Up SB Program provides multifamily (MF) or multiunit dwelling (MUD) property owners who are SBCE customers with incentives and free, comprehensive technical assistance that addresses costs and technical barriers associated with the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure (EVCI). Charge Up SB aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from personal light-duty vehicles and increase access to electric vehicle (EV) charging for renters by supporting the deployment of cost-effective EVCI at MF properties.

2. Program Term

- 2.1. The program will accept applications for incentive reservations between April 15, 2026, and June 30, 2026, or until funding is fully subscribed.
- 2.2. Incentives will only be provided for equipment purchased and installed between April 15, 2026, and June 30, 2026.

3. Program Measures and Incentive Limits

- 3.1. Incentives are available to MF property owners for the following upgrade measures:
 - 3.1.1. Level 1 and Level 2 Outlets
 - 3.1.2. Level 2 Charging Stations
 - 3.1.3. Make Ready Infrastructure
 - 3.1.4. Power Management Hardware and Software
- 3.2. Incentives are available on a first-come, first-served basis based on application submittal date while program funds are available.
- 3.3. Only one (1) EVCI project per site address.

4. Program Guidelines

4.1. Property Eligibility

- 4.1.1. MF properties must be located within the City of Santa Barbara and served by SBCE. EVCI must be connected to a meter associated with an active SBCE customer account.
- 4.1.2. MF properties (e.g., apartments, condos, etc.) must include three (3) or more housing units.
- 4.1.3. Parking spaces can be shared or assigned.

4.2. Applicant Eligibility

- 4.2.1. Applicant site must be active customer of SBCE with an account in good standing.
 - 4.2.1.1. Applicant site must continue to receive SBCE's generation service at the location where the upgrades will be installed for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of installation.
 - 4.2.1.2. If an applicant site ceases to receive SBCE's generation service at the location where the upgrades are installed within five (5) years after installation, the applicant must return the awarded funds to SBCE.
 - 4.2.1.3. An opted-out customer may re-enroll in SBCE service to regain eligibility to participate in programs. By re-enrolling and participating in SBCE incentive programs, customer agrees to remain enrolled in SBCE service for a minimum of

five (5) years.

4.2.2. Applicant must be owner of residential MF building where EVCI will be installed.

4.2.2.1. Owner can designate an installation contractor or 3rd party “charging as a service” vendor as their applicants by completing a Designated Applicant form available on program website. A Designated Applicant form completed and signed by property owner is required for application to be submitted by anyone other than property owner.

4.3. Affordable Housing (AH) Applicant Eligibility

4.3.1. To qualify, applicant property must meet the following criteria:

4.3.1.1. The property must be designated as AH in the City of Santa Barbara’s Affordable Housing Program and Inventory and 100% of the units must be deemed affordable (with exception of the manager's unit).

4.3.1.2. To verify designation as AH, applicant must provide their Recorded Covenant Number and upload their Recorded Covenant with the City of Santa Barbara.

4.4. Project Eligibility

4.4.1. Purchases and installation of equipment must be made and completed after April 15, 2026.

4.4.2. All work performed as part of the project must be performed by a valid California state-licensed electrician or a contractor company that holds a valid California C-10 license.

4.4.3. Installations must comply with all federal, state, and municipal laws, ordinances, rules, codes, standards, and regulations including those required by the California Type Evaluation Program (CTEP) where applicable.

4.4.4. Installations must be permitted by and receive final inspection approval from the City of Santa Barbara prior to incentive payment.

4.4.5. Where applicable, installations must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and relevant accessibility requirements as enforced by City of Santa Barbara.

4.4.6. Funds cannot be used for projects where the equipment has already been purchased or installation costs have been incurred prior to program term and SBCE approval.

4.4.7. Funds cannot be used to pay for the replacement of existing charging equipment, whether operable or inoperable.

4.4.8. EV charging outlets, ports, and stations installed with SBCE funding must be made available for use upon completion of installation and remain available for a minimum of three (3) years.

4.4.9. Incentive amounts, including those from other incentive programs, cannot exceed total project costs. If a project is combining incentives from different programs, SBCE incentives may be reduced so that total incentives do not exceed total project costs.

4.5. Equipment Eligibility

4.5.1. Level 1 or Level 2 Outlets

4.5.1.1. Outlets must be 120V or 208 – 240V with a 15A – 50A circuit.

4.5.1.2. Each outlet must provide a 1.4 kW minimum power supply.

4.5.1.3. Receptacles must be NEMA rated for continuous load EV charging.

4.5.1.4. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) receptacle or Ground Fault Protection Equipment (GFPE) must be used.

4.5.1.5. Receptacles installed outside must use NEMA 3R minimum rated

enclosures.

- 4.5.1.6. Installations must meet indoor or outdoor National Electric Code (NEC) requirements per installation location.
- 4.5.1.7. There must be a dedicated EV charging circuit breaker clearly labeled in the service panel or sub-panel.
- 4.5.1.8. A minimum of two (2) outlets must be installed.
- 4.5.1.9. A minimum of one-year warranty on parts.
- 4.5.2. Level 2 Charging Stations
 - 4.5.2.1. Chargers must be 208 – 240V with a 20A – 80A circuit.
 - 4.5.2.2. Chargers must utilize an SAE J1772 or SAE J3400/North American Charging Standard (NACS) compliant charging connector.
 - 4.5.2.3. Chargers must have a 6.2 kW minimum capable power supply. Actual operating power draw may be lower when controlled by power management.
 - 4.5.2.4. Chargers must be NEMA 3R rated minimum.
 - 4.5.2.5. Chargers must be UL 2594 certified by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).
 - 4.5.2.6. Hardware must be new, hardwired, and either installed on a wall, post, pillar, column, or pedestal. No refurbished or repurposed equipment may be installed.
 - 4.5.2.7. A minimum of (1) one-year warranty on parts.
- 4.5.3. Make Ready Infrastructure
 - 4.5.3.1. Make Ready Infrastructure may include materials and labor that occur during project installation or in anticipation of (e.g., pre-wiring) additional EV charging projects in the future.
 - 4.5.3.2. Eligible expenses include wiring, conduit, breakers, panel upgrades, and other expenses subject to incentive levels and site caps outlined further below.
 - 4.5.3.3. Pre-wiring must include conduit out to each site, terminate in the distribution panel and be stubbed out at the parking space.
 - 4.5.3.4. New electrical panels must be specified and installed in compliance with the California Electrical Code.
 - 4.5.3.5. New electrical panels must be required in order to address safety issues or to enable the new charging equipment load.
 - 4.5.3.6. In order for a project to be eligible for a new electrical panel, it must include the installation of a minimum of four (4) new chargers or 100% of residential units.
 - 4.5.3.7. Only one new electrical panel per service address will be eligible for the panel upgrade incentive (see Table 1 below).
- 4.5.4. Power Management Hardware and Software
 - 4.5.4.1. Power Management Hardware and Software may include materials and labor directly related to the procurement and installation of power managed panels and controllers, power managed and shared circuits, and/or Automatic Load Management System (ALMS) software.
 - 4.5.4.2. If software is utilized, it must use an open standard protocol, such as Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) and be capable of communicating with EVCI.
 - 4.5.4.3. If software is used, networking agreement with EVSP network must be active for a minimum of two (2) years.

5. Eligible Project Costs

- 5.1. All incentives are capped at a percentage of project costs. Project costs can only include the monetary cost required to install the EVCI included within the project scope.
- 5.2. SBCE requires itemized invoices fully documenting the project costs prior to issuing the incentive payment.
- 5.3. The following costs are considered eligible costs when determining the incentive cap:
 - 5.3.1. Utility service upgrades, net of any utility service allowance
 - 5.3.2. Design and engineering services, if not provided through SBCE
 - 5.3.3. EVCI hardware (EV charging stations and outlets)
 - 5.3.4. Pre-paid networking or subscriptions costs, as applicable
 - 5.3.5. Pre-paid service, extended warranty(ies), and O&M agreements associated with EV charging infrastructure, as applicable
 - 5.3.6. Installation costs including labor, materials, and civil (e.g., trenching, backfill, curb cutting, etc.)
 - 5.3.7. Load management, power sharing equipment, charge controller, energy management systems, etc. associated with EVCI
 - 5.3.8. Project signage
 - 5.3.9. Required ADA upgrades
 - 5.3.10. Permit fees

6. Project Verification

- 6.1.1. To claim an incentive(s), applicants must verify that their project has been permitted, completed, and paid.
- 6.1.2. Applicants will be required to provide:
 - 6.1.2.1. Copies of itemized invoice(s) for all applicable project costs including design and engineering, equipment, installation, networking, etc. All invoices must be marked as paid. If project required a new electrical panel, the invoice must explicitly list this cost in a separate line item.
 - 6.1.2.2. Photos verifying installation and operation of new equipment and equipment serial numbers. If project required a new electrical panel, provide photos of pre-existing and new electrical panels displaying all circuits.
 - 6.1.2.3. Proof of permitting by including a copy of City of Santa Barbara Inspection Report indicating final approval has been issued and project status is "Complete" in accordance with the local building permit process, and as required by California Building Standards Code and local ordinance.

7. Terms and Conditions

- 7.1. MF properties must be located within the City of Santa Barbara and served by SBCE.
- 7.2. MF properties (e.g., apartments, condos, etc.) must include three (3) or more housing units.
- 7.3. Applicant site must be active customer of SBCE with an account in good standing. EVCI installed with program funding must be connected to a meter associated with an active SBCE customer account.
- 7.4. Applicant site must continue to receive SBCE's generation service at the location where the upgrades will be installed for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of installation.
- 7.5. If an applicant site ceases to receive SBCE's generation service at the location where the upgrades are installed within five (5) years after installation, the applicant must return the awarded funds to SBCE.

- 7.6. An opted-out customer may re-enroll in SBCE service to regain eligibility to participate in programs. By re-enrolling and participating in SBCE incentive programs, customer agrees to remain enrolled in SBCE service for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 7.7. Unless using a Designated Applicant, program applicants must own the MF property where the EVCI will be installed.
- 7.8. To qualify for AH eligibility, properties must be designated as AH in the City of Santa Barbara's Affordable Housing Program and Inventory and 100% of the units must be deemed affordable (with exception of the manager's unit).
- 7.9. Incentives are available on a first-come, first-served basis based on application submittal date and while program funds are available.
- 7.10. Applicants must upload a complete and itemized bid from either an EVCI installation contractor or a design and engineering contractor to reserve an incentive. Bids will be utilized to determine incentive reservation amounts.
- 7.11. Installation contractors serving as Designated Applicants are required to pass down the entire incentive amount as shown by line-item deduction on project invoice.
- 7.12. Incentives may be considered income and may be taxable. SBCE is not responsible for any tax liability or determining whether tax liability exists.
- 7.13. Reservations for incentives must be made and approved prior to installation.
- 7.14. Purchases and installation of EVCI must be made and completed after April 22, 2026, and/or after date when incentive reservation number was received.
- 7.15. All projects and EVCI installed with program funding must meet eligibility requirements in Section 4 – Program Guidelines.
- 7.16. All work performed as part of the project must be performed by a valid California state-licensed electrician or a contractor company that holds a valid California C-10 license.
- 7.17. Installations must comply with all federal, state, and municipal laws, ordinances, rules, codes, standards, and regulations including those required by the California Type Evaluation Program (CTEP) where applicable.
- 7.18. Installations must be permitted by and receive final inspection approval from the City of Santa Barbara prior to incentive payment.
- 7.19. Where applicable, installations must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and relevant accessibility requirements as enforced by City of Santa Barbara.
- 7.20. Incentive reservations are valid for 270 days for MF Properties and up to 365 days for Affordable Housing MF Properties. EVCI installations that have not been completed within that timeframe may no longer be eligible for an incentive.
- 7.21. All approved applicants must submit a preliminary site plan within sixty (60) days from the beginning of their Incentive Reservation Period that outlines the total number and type of EVCI to be installed and location within the property. Applications submitted by a Designated Applicant must show evidence that the preliminary site plan has been approved by the property owner. Applicants that do not provide a preliminary site plan within 60 days of receiving approval will lose their incentive reservation at SBCE discretion.
- 7.22. Projects must be permitted and comply with all applicable codes. Applicants must provide verification of approved and completed inspection to claim an incentive.
- 7.23. Applicants must provide copies of itemized invoice(s), photo verification of newly installed equipment, and proof of permitting to claim an incentive.
- 7.24. Applicants may be contacted to participate in surveys, testimonials or interviews, provide or allow photos or videos to be taken, or contribute to other Program related marketing and promotional activities.

- 7.25. SBCE may enroll equipment that receives an incentive award under this Program in future demand response and/or load shaping programs implemented by SBCE. Future programs will not incur any additional costs or expenses to the Applicant and Applicant will be provided with an opportunity to opt-out before any future program is implemented.
- 7.26. SBCE or its authorized representatives may access data records to evaluate and measure the efficacy of the Program. Data may pertain to electricity consumption, billing, permitting, demography, and cost and process of installation. All data will be held confidentially and will be used for Program operation and analysis purposes only.
- 7.27. SBCE makes no representations or warranties, and assumes no liability with respect to the quality, safety, performance, or any other aspect of the equipment purchased and installed with an incentive award pursuant to this agreement and expressly disclaims any such representation, warranty, or liability.