



Commercial Rebates

HIGH EFFICIENCY LIGHTING

QUALIFICATIONS/GUIDELINES

1. All lighting retrofit projects require a pre-inspection prior to work being started in the facility.
2. **The fixtures being retrofitted must be energized and in operation.**
3. Qualified small business customers and non profits may be eligible for a 20% bonus on the rebate.
4. Rebate funds can be encumbered during the fiscal year in which the funds are to be disbursed. A 'Letter of Intent' from Austin Energy may be issued for projects that exceed \$50,000.00 in total rebate funding. Rebate applications in the amount of \$50,000 or above requires City Council approval.
5. A final inspection of all qualifying equipment will be conducted once the site is accessible. The client, contractor, responsible agent or owner is responsible for scheduling this on-site inspection.
6. After proposed rebate items pass final inspection, the final rebate payment will be determined.
7. **All installations require permits** as mandated by the City of Austin's Development, Review and Inspection Department (974-6406). All work must be performed in accordance with all applicable national, state, local, and manufacturers' codes and standards.

Relamping and Reballasting of Existing Fluorescent Fixtures

This category requires all existing lamps and ballast(s) to be replaced with new lamps and electronic ballasts.

Specific Qualifications for Electronic Ballasts

1. Meet Federal Efficiency Law 100-357.
2. Meet EMI and RFI specifications of the FCC regulations.
3. Meet National Electric Code installation provisions and UL Class P protection standards.
4. Power factor of 0.9 or greater (excluding CFLs and cold cathode lamps).
5. Must operate at high frequency of 20 kHz or greater.
6. Use electronic components to alter voltage and limit current.
7. Current crest factor of 1.7 or less.
8. Total harmonic distortion (THD) shall not exceed 20%.
9. The ballast must be compatible with the new lamps.
10. Minimum 15 year rated ballast life.
11. Minimum 5-year product warranty from the date of installation.

Incandescent to Fluorescent Conversions

An incandescent to fluorescent conversion is the modification of an incandescent fixture by installing a hard-wired (\$250/kW) compact fluorescent fixture.

Specific Qualifications

1. The ballast (excluding CFLs) must have a power factor of 0.9 or greater.
2. The lamp must have a current crest factor less than 1.7 and have a minimum rated life of 10,000 hours.
3. Minimum 1-year product warranty from the date of installation.

Screw-In / CFL bulb replacement

Screw-in fluorescent lamps are simple replacements for incandescent sockets and can significantly reduce wattage without negatively affecting lighting levels.

Specific Qualifications

1. Screw-in CFLs must be EPA, Energy Star labeled. \$1.00 or \$2.00 available depending on the installed bulb wattage, cold cathode rebate is \$6.00 per lamp.
2. Screw-in cold cathode lamps must have a minimum rated life of 25,000 hours.
3. Ceramic metal halide lamps will be paid the same as cold cathode lamps (\$6.00/lamp).

LED Lighting

LED technology may replace incandescent, fluorescent, HID or neon technology. Screw-in, hardwire, rope or low voltage retrofits are eligible. Rebate level is \$300/kW.

Specific Qualifications

1. All installed LED lighting equipment must have a minimum rated life of 50,000 hours.

Exit Sign Retrofit or Replacement (Incandescent / Fluorescent to LED)

Rebate level for this category is set at \$20 per sign retrofit or replacement.

Specific Qualifications

1. New kits/replacements must use LED technology or kits using illuminated input wattage signs.
2. All installed LED lighting equipment must have a minimum rated life of 50,000 hours.

Group Relamping

This lighting strategy involves the systematic replacement of all fluorescents lamps at a pre-determined interval. The primary benefit is avoided maintenance expenses. Rebates are 60 cents a lamp for 30w, 28w and 25w lamps. This conversion must represent a reduction in the resulting lamp wattage.

Specific Qualifications

1. Area to be group re-lamped must be clearly defined.
2. Replacement lamps must be compatible with existing fixture ballasts.
3. Lamps must carry a minimum two year warranty.
4. Existing (or proposed) system must be a T8 lighting system with electronic lamp/ballast combination.
5. This lamp rebate may be combined with re-lamp and re-ballast applications, where applicable.

System/Fixture Replacement

A system/fixture replacement functionally changes the lighting equipment to improve the overall efficiency. The quantity of fixtures may differ after the retrofit.

Specific Qualifications

1. This category includes incandescent-to-fluorescent and fluorescent-to-fluorescent installations.
2. Fixture is defined as the total unit including can/housing, lamp, ballast, and lens/diffuser.
3. Removed or phased out equipment not being replaced or upgraded does qualify for rebates as long as said equipment is part of the area being retrofitted.

H.I.D. to Fluorescent

Existing buildings with H.I.D. lighting in high-bay applications (and other areas) are good candidates for converting to high efficiency T-8 or T-5 fluorescent lighting. A significant reduction in wattage can be achieved without compromising lighting quality or quantity.

Specific Qualifications

1. Interior H.I.D. lighting systems must operate approximately 8 hours per day and during the 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. period weekdays and meet other minimum requirements.
2. All H.I.D. to fluorescent conversions will be paid under this category, for all qualifying locations.
3. Rebate funding is limited, may be subject to City Council approval and offered on a first-come, first-serve basis.
4. All work must be performed in accordance with all applicable federal, state, local, and manufacturers' codes and standards.
5. Refer to HID to fluorescent guidelines and procedures for additional details.
6. HID to Induction lighting conversion qualifies for HID to fluorescent rebates.

Austin Energy guidelines and rebate levels are subject to change at any time, without notice.

Austin Energy – Power Saver™ Program – Commercial Rebate

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