



Commercial Lighting Incentive Agreement – FAQ

What customers are eligible to participate?

All commercial and industrial customers with electric service provided by Avista with a rate schedule of 11 or higher are eligible to participate.

What customers are not eligible to participate?

Business customers located outside of Avista's electric service territory are not eligible to participate.

What measures qualify for an incentive?

- Fluorescent Tubular Lamps to TLED
- Fluorescent Fixtures to LED Fixtures
- HID Fixtures to LED Fixtures or Lamps
- MR16 lamps to LED lamps
- Incandescent Can Kits to LED Fixture Retrofits
- Occupancy Sensor and LLLC Fixture Controls
- T12/T8 to LED Sign Lighting
- New Construction Exterior Fixtures

How is my incentive calculated?

Incentives are limited to the amounts listed on our Commercial Lighting Incentive Agreement. The incentive will be applied to the new installed quantity count. There is no incentive for lamps or fixtures installed beyond the existing quantity and incentives are not to exceed 100% of the project's combined equipment and labor costs.

Do I need pre-approval to start my lighting project?

Program participants are not required to seek pre-approval before purchasing and installing their equipment, but should ensure they meet all program requirements listed on the incentive agreement. Customers applying for the LLLC controls incentive must contact Avista prior to installation.

When does the program expire?

Our incentive program runs the length of the calendar year.

To qualify for Commercial Lighting incentives, equipment must be installed and applications must be submitted to Avista within 120 days of installation.

Will Avista conduct site inspections?

Avista reserves the right to verify installations any time before payment is issued. One sample of each type of lamp or fixture replaced must be retained for 30 days after Avista's receipt of application to enable Avista to verify the previous lighting condition.

Avista randomly selects 10% of all applications received for an installation verification. In addition, all projects with a total incentive over \$25,000 will be inspected by Avista prior to payment. These larger projects also require a lighting layout be included in their original application submission. The Avista Account Executive will contact the customer to arrange the inspection.

Where can I locate qualifying products?

- Avista does not make vendor recommendations
- Our local electricians and lighting distributors are a good resource for information about our incentive programs and can assist in selecting and installing the correct equipment.
- Solid State Lighting/LED equipment must be ENERGY STAR® rated (www.energystar.gov) or listed by the Design Lights Consortium (DLC) (www.designlights.org). Please refer to these websites to verify that your equipment is eligible for incentives.
- Only new equipment qualifies for incentives.

Does my equipment need to be installed by a licensed electrician?

No, customers may install the equipment themselves and provide Avista with their labor costs along with the invoices for materials.

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Are there any additional program requirements?

Exterior Lighting

- Lamps are eligible only if ballast and all other existing electrical components are removed.
- Lamps or Fixtures require dusk to dawn operation (82.5 hours or more).
- Equipment must be ENERGY STAR rated (www.energystar.gov) or listed by the Design Lights Consortium (DLC) (www.designlights.org) to be eligible.
- When lowering your wattage, it is recommended that you test your new fixture first to ensure proper light output is observed.

Sign Lighting

- To calculate the square footage, place a box around the lighting and measure the outer dimensions of the height and length. Multiply the height and length.
- Your invoice should confirm the square footage of the sign(s) or show a photo of the sign with the dimensions.
- For double sided signs – count only one side of the square footage for the incentive unless there is an individual sign cabinet on each side.
- Lighting placed under awnings does not qualify for the sign incentive. Utilize the custom incentive program for this type of retrofit.
- LED Sign Lighting does not need to be on an approved LED list. It is required to use LED Sign Lighting that has been tested for the life expectancy of the LED and driver; and it requires that the life expectancy of the LED and driver be greater than 40,000 hours of operation and with a warranty of five years or greater.
- Sign Lighting requires dusk to dawn operation (82.5 hours or more).

Lighting Controls

- Occupancy controls may not have a manual wall “on” switch capable of overriding the automatic “off” switch.
- New controls must replace a manual switching system and control at least 170 watts of lighting.
- Occupancy sensors installed as part of a new construction project, in areas where sensors are required by code, are not eligible for incentives.
- LLLC Fixture controls must be Qualified as LLLC Networked Lighting Controls on the Design Lights Consortium (DLC) (www.designlights.org) to qualify.

Interior Lighting

- New construction lighting does not qualify for this incentive. Please see the custom incentive program for interior new construction projects.

How do I apply for an incentive?

Step 1

Complete and submit a Commercial Lighting Incentive Agreement form in addition to the following required documents:

- Detailed, itemized invoices or proof of purchase for the equipment installed (providing quantity of each product, model numbers and cost).
- Manufacturers’ specification (cut) sheets or Qualified Product List screenshots (Energy Star or DLC) for the proposed/installed equipment.
- Projects with a total incentive amount over \$25,000 must include a lighting layout for inspection purposes.
- The Agreement must be signed by the customer and the Payment Release section must be completed on Page 1 of the Agreement if the customer requests the incentive check be made payable to a third party.

Step 2

The applicant will receive a notification via email when the application has been received. If applicable, the email will request any additional information that may have been missing in the original submission.

Step 3

Once the project has been reviewed by the Avista program manager, and upon receipt and verification of all required documentation, the customer will receive an email notification that the incentive check is being processed and mailed to the Payee listed on the application.

What if my retrofit does not meet the guidelines of the Commercial Lighting Incentive Agreement?

Lighting equipment that does not meet the requirements of the prescriptive lighting program may qualify under the custom incentive program at an incentive rate of \$0.23 per kilowatt-hour. Please contact your Account Executive prior to purchasing or installing any equipment to determine eligibility. You can locate your Account Executive here: myavista.com/bizrebates or email accountexecs@avistacorp.com.

Additional Questions?

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