# San Diego Clean Cars 4 All Charging Grant Guidelines



**Please read the following carefully to learn more about the charging grant process.**

If you purchased or leased a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) or battery electric vehicle (BEV) with a grant from the San Diego Clean Cars 4 All (CC4A) Program, you may be eligible for a charging grant administered by GRID Alternatives. Once CC4A has paid your vehicle grant, you will receive an email from GRID Alternatives explaining how to select one of the two charging grant options described below.

# Charging Grant Options Overview

## Option 1: Home Installation

You may purchase your own eligible Level-2 EV charger, hire your own C-10 licensed and EVITP certified electrician to install it at your home, and then be reimbursed up to $2,000.

- Please use the link in your changing grant instructions email to submit the Pre-Installation Form *prior* to purchasing and installing your EV charger.
- You must purchase your own EV charger, which can be included in the $2,000 maximum reimbursement along with the installation cost. The program requires that it have a minimum power rating of 3.8 kilowatts / 16 amps, be new and unused, and be safety certified by UL or ETL/Intertek.
- Your electrician must be C-10 licensed and EVITP certified. If you would like a recommendation, simply respond to your charging grant instructions email to inquire about one. Otherwise, please use this database to search for an approved electrician: www.evitp.org/california. Please note that in addition to the business being on the approved list, the individual electrician performing the installation must have an EVITP certification.
- Your electrician must obtain a permit for your project with your local building department, and you must provide proof that your project passed inspection from your local building department in order to receive your reimbursement.

## Option 2: Charge Card Package

You may choose to receive either a $2,000 public charging credit or a $1,500 public charging credit plus a portable EV charger.

- Please use the link in your charging grant instructions email to submit the Charge Card Package Order Form.
- The public charging credit is loaded on a prepaid PEX card, which can be used at all major public EV charging stations. The PEX card is valid for 3 years from the issue date.
- Alternatively, you may choose to receive a reduced charging credit of $1,500 and a portable EV charger. If you have a compatible outlet near your parking space, you may be able to use

your portable EV charger at home. Otherwise, it's easy to keep in your car and use for charging at other locations. The portable EV charger works as a Level-1 charger when plugged into a standard 120-volt NEMA 5-15 outlet or a Level-2 charger when plugged into a 240-volt NEMA 14-50 outlet. The portable EV charger has either a J1772 or NACS connector, which you can select at the time of ordering.

## Choosing the Best Grant Option for You

If you are thinking about **Option 1: Home Installation**, please consider:

- **Parking:** You must have a dedicated off-street parking spot. Additionally, if you park in a lot (like in an apartment or condo building), it may not be feasible to install the EV charger, even if you have a dedicated parking space.
- **Home Ownership:** If you are a renter, you must receive permission from your landlord to install the EV charger.
- **Electrical Panel:** It may not be possible to install the EV charger if your home's electrical panel is already at capacity, or if it's old, in poor condition, or a type/brand known to have safety issues.
- **Electricity Costs:** Using an EV charger installed at your home will increase your electricity usage, thereby increasing your electricity bill.

If you are thinking about **Option 2: Charge Card Package**, please consider:

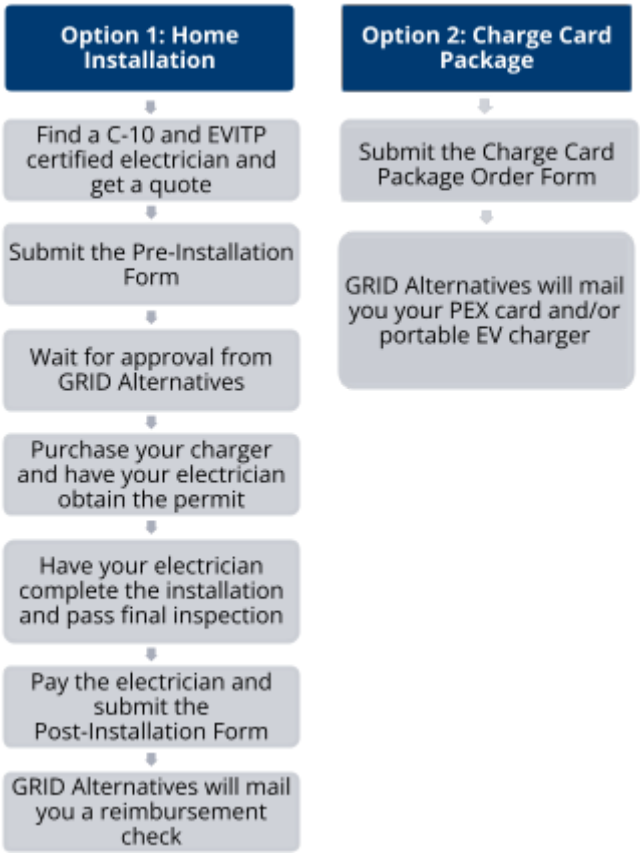
- **Proximity to Public Charging Stations:** Do you have public charging stations conveniently located near your house or along your commute? You can use online tools like plugshare.com to find charging stations and networks near you.
- **DC Fast Charging:** Some BEVs and PHEVs can't be charged at DC Fast Charging stations. If your car can only be charged at Level-2 charging stations, it may limit the number of stations available to you and can take a longer time to charge. Usually, Level-2 charging stations supply only 14-35 miles of range per hour of charge time. If you can't use DC Fast Charging stations, it may be more convenient to charge your vehicle at home where it's easier to charge

for long periods of time, such as overnight.

- **Electrical Outlets:** If you want to use your portable EV charger at home, check if you have an outlet near your parking space that is compatible with the portable EV charger. The portable EV charger works as a Level-1 charger when plugged into a standard 120-volt NEMA 5-15 outlet (~3.5-6.5 miles of range per hour of charging time) or a Level-2 charger when plugged into a 240-volt NEMA 14-50 outlet (~14-35 miles of range per hour of charging time).

## Grant Process and Timeline

The time to complete your grant will vary based on which option you select, the availability of equipment and electricians, your local building department's permitting and inspection timeframes, and other factors. The graphic below shows the general process for each grant option:



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Eligibility

**Who is eligible for a charging grant?**
To be eligible for a charging grant, you must have received a vehicle grant from San Diego Clean Cars for All. Before GRID Alternatives can serve you, GRID Alternatives must receive confirmation of your eligibility from San Diego Clean Cars for All, which happens once your vehicle grant is paid. Please allow 30 days from your vehicle purchase date for GRID Alternatives to send you the charging grant instructions email.

**What happens if I move?**
If you move to another residence within California between getting your vehicle grant and getting your charging grant, please inform GRID Alternatives as soon as possible. In most cases, a change of address can be accommodated. If you have moved out of state or have plans to move out of state within 30 months of your purchase/lease date, you will not be eligible for the charging grant.

**Am I eligible for other incentives?**
If you want to find out what other benefits you may qualify for, please use the Benefits Finder tool on www.accesscleanca.org. The Benefits Finder will provide information on other programs you may be eligible for, such as incentives and special EV rates from your utility provider.

## Option 1: Home Installation

**Who pays for the EV charger and its installation?**
You will purchase your own EV charger and pay your chosen C-10 licensed and EVITP certified electrician to install it. GRID Alternatives will then send you a reimbursement check in the mail for your eligible costs up to $2,000. Please be sure to use the link in your changing grant instructions email to submit the Pre-Installation Form, and wait for approval from GRID Alternatives, before purchasing and installing your EV charger.

**What if I'm a renter?**
Renters who want a home EV charger installation must provide written approval from their landlord or the property owner before proceeding with the installation process. Let us know if

you're a renter and we'll provide an approval letter for your landlord to sign.

**What if the total cost is above the $2,000 grant amount?**
$2,000 is the maximum reimbursement you can receive. If it does not fully cover the cost of the EV charger and all installation costs, including any necessary electrical upgrades, those additional costs will be at your own expense.

**What type of EV charger can I use?**
EV chargers must have a minimum power rating of 3.8 kilowatts / 16 amps, be new and unused, and be safety certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory such as UL or ETL/Intertek. You will submit the make/model of your desired EV charger in the Pre-Installation Form, so GRID Alternatives can verify its eligibility before you purchase it.

**Do I need to have my electrician obtain a permit?**
Yes, it is a requirement of the program that your electrician obtain a permit for the EV charger installation with your local building department AND pass a scheduled inspection by your local building department once the EV charger is installed. A photo or screenshot of the inspection record, signed and dated by the building department inspector, is required to receive your reimbursement. Please be sure your electrician includes these costs in the estimate you submit in the Pre-Installation Form.

**Does my electrician need to be C-10 licensed and EVITP certified?**
Yes, in order to be eligible for the reimbursement your electrician must be C-10 licensed and EVITP certified. If you would like a recommendation, simply respond to your charging grant instructions email to inquire about one. Otherwise, please use this database to search for an approved electrician: www.evitp.org/california. Please note that in addition to the business being on the approved list, the individual electrician performing the installation must have an EVITP certification. You will submit your electrician's name, C-10 license number, and EVITP certification number in the Pre-Installation Form, so GRID Alternatives can verify their eligibility before you hire them.

**How will charging at home impact my electric bill?**
Charging your car at home usually means that you'll be using more electricity than you did before you got your car. Most EV drivers notice that, due to the extra electricity usage, their bill does increase when they start charging at home. Charging at home is still usually much less expensive

than paying for gas. You can also contact your utility provider about special EV rates and incentives to keep costs low. Especially if you enroll in a time-of-use (TOU) plan, you can maximize your savings by scheduling your car to charge during off-peak hours, when electricity is the least expensive.

## Option 2: Charge Card Package

**How do I use the public charging credit?**

The public charging credit is loaded on a prepaid PEX card, which can be used at all major public EV charging stations. If the charging station has a card reader, you can swipe your PEX card just like you would with a credit/debit card. You can also sign up for an account with the charging network(s) of your choice, using your PEX card as your saved payment method, then use the charging network's smartphone app to charge. The PEX card is valid for 3 years from the issue date.

**What are the levels of charging?**

There are three levels of charging available for EVs.

- **Level-1** is the slowest level, but also the most accessible, as all it requires is a standard 120-volt NEMA 5-15 outlet and the portable EV charger that comes with the vehicle or the portable EV charger provided in the Charge Card Package. Level-1 can add about 3.5-6.5 miles of driving range per hour of charging time.
- **Level-2** charging is faster. If you select Option 1: Home Installation, you can install a Level-2 EV charger at your home. If you select Option 2: Charge Card Package, you can charge at public Level-2 EV chargers using the charge credit and/or use your portable EV charger if a compatible 240-volt NEMA 14-50 outlet is available. Level-2 can add about 14-35 miles of driving range per hour of charging time.
- **DC Fast Charging**, sometimes called Level-3 charging, is the fastest method of charging, but is not compatible with all cars. If your car does have DC Fast Charging capabilities and you select Option 2: Charge Card Package, you can use the public charging credit to charge at public DC Fast Charging stations. DC Fast Charging can add about 10 miles of driving range per minute of charging time, then usually slows down as the battery gets closer to a full charge. Using DC Fast Charging as your primary method for charging your EV may impact your battery performance over time.

To learn more about charging levels, please visit www.driveclean.ca.gov/electric-car-charging.

**What are connector types?**

The connector is the end of the EV charger that you plug into your car. For Level-1 and Level-2 charging, there are two types of connectors: J1772 and NACS. Historically, only Teslas used the NACS connector and all other EVs used the J1772. However, more EVs are switching to NACS. When submitting the Charge Card Package Form you have the option to select a portable EV charger with a J1772 or NACS connector based on your vehicle. When purchasing your own EV charger for the home installation option, please be sure to purchase one with the correct connector for your vehicle. Adapters also exist for both types.

If you plan to use DC Fast Charging, you should make sure the public charging station you go to has a connector type that is compatible with your vehicle. Your car may require a CHAdeMO, CCS, or NACS connector for DC Fast Charging.

## Contact Us

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact GRID Alternatives at evs@gridalternatives.org or (855) 283-4638.