**Electric Vehicle Charging Rate Q/As for Electricity Distributors:**

(Updated Sept. 11, 2025)

Questions and Answers:

**What is the Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) Rate?**

The EVC Rate is an electricity delivery rate designed specifically for eligible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in Ontario to better reflect the transmission costs of serving EV chargers with low load factors. It reduces the Retail Transmission Service Rates paid by participating EV charging stations.

**Who is eligible for the EVC Rate?**

EV charging stations must meet all the following criteria to participate in the EVC Rate:

* Have at least one Direct Current Fast Charger,
* Ensure that at least 90% of total monthly peak demand is attributable to EV charging,
* Have a monthly peak demand between 50 kW and 4,999 kW,
* Have a 12-month average load factor of 20% or less,
* Must not primarily serve commercial/public sector EV fleets, and
* Any distributed energy resource behind the account’s meter must not exceed the station’s annual peak demand.

**How is the EVC Rate calculated?**

The EVC Rate reduces the Retail Transmission Service Rates that participating EV charging stations would otherwise pay. Retail Transmission Services Rates are part of the electricity bill.

Participating customers will pay 17% of the Retail Transmission Service Rate that other customers in a distributor’s General Service 50 kW to 4,999 kW class will pay. In other words, if a customer’s base Retail Transmission Service Rate is $100/kW, it would instead pay $17/kW under the EVC Rate.

The EVC Rate better aligns the Retail Transmission Service Rates paid by participating EV charging stations with the transmission system costs incurred to serve them.

**When can I apply for the EVC Rate?**

*(Distributor to provide information on when their customers can apply. As a reminder, distributors must begin offering the EVC Rate after their OEB-approved 2026 distribution rates become effective. Distributors are also encouraged to make the opt-in forms available at least 90 days in advance of the effective dates of their 2026 rates. Where a distributor receives a complete opt-in form, it must begin charging the customer the EVC Rate at the beginning of the next billing period or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter. Although distributors should begin accepting opt-in forms before their 2026 rates have been approved, they must not begin charging any customers the EVC Rate until such approval).*

**How do I apply for the EVC Rate?**

Eligible customers must submit an opt-in form to us. *(Distributor may provide information on how customers can receive opt-in form).*

**Who is considered a “customer” under the EVC Rate?**

A "customer" refers to the owner or operator of an EV charging station whose facilities are connected to or are intended to be connected to an electricity distributor’s distribution system. A customer is not the end-user of the EV charging service, such as the driver of a vehicle that uses the EV charging station.

**I have an EV charger installed at my home. Am I eligible for the EVC Rate?**

No. Charging stations that may participate in the EVC Rate include those that are located:

* On or near highways
* On the site of a retail establishment, plaza, shopping centre
* On the site of a municipal, university, school or hospital building
* On a site associated with a multi-unit residential building, such as a condominium
* On employee parking lots.

**Why does the EVC Rate not apply to customers with EV chargers installed at home?**

The EVC Rate aims to fill gaps in public charging infrastructure in underserved areas. The rate was designed to reduce the cost of electricity for public EV chargers in areas where demand for the service is only beginning to emerge, making it more economical to build charging infrastructure in more communities.

**Where can I find more information about the EVC Rate?**

*(Distributor may point customers to any material they have about the EVC Rate, such as a webpage).* More information about the EVC Rate can be found in the OEB’s [EVC Rate Overview Final Report](https://www.rds.oeb.ca/CMWebDrawer/Record/893895/File/document).