



South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

Financial Incentive Program to Reduce Hexavalent Chromium Emissions From Chromium Electroplating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Facilities Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the Financial Incentive Program to Reduce Hexavalent Chromium Emissions?

Facilities subject to South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) Rule 1469 - Hexavalent Chromium Emissions from Chromium Electroplating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations are eligible to receive incentive funds for certain types of projects that reduce hexavalent chromium emissions beyond Rule 1469 requirements.

Who can apply?

Owner or operators of a chromium electroplating and chromic acid anodizing operation (referred to as a hexavalent chromium plating facility) that meet the following requirements can apply for incentives:

1. Located within the South Coast AQMD
2. Meets federal, state, and local requirements applicable to chrome plating operations
3. Has the authority to make necessary building modifications

What kind of projects can receive funding?

1. Conversion to trivalent chromium plating operations or other non-hexavalent chromium metal plating alternatives
2. Other technologies, subject to approval, that provide hexavalent chromium reductions in excess of those required by federal, state, and local rules and regulations

I previously switched to a non-hexavalent chromium metal plating alternative. Can the incentive funds be used for these costs?

Unfortunately, the incentive funds cannot be used for projects implemented prior to this program. The incentive funds are intended to be used for new projects that result in emission reductions beyond regulatory requirements.

I would like to remove a hexavalent chromium plating line. Can incentive funds be used for equipment removal and disposal costs?

The purpose of the program is to fund projects that result in emission reductions above and beyond regulatory requirements. Equipment removal that is not a part of an emission reduction project is not eligible for funding.

How much funding is available?

For a small business, all project costs (engineering, design, equipment, installation, and testing) can be funded under the program. For facilities that are not small businesses, 90 percent of project costs can be reimbursed. However, all facilities, including small businesses, will be responsible for ongoing operation and maintenance costs.

How do I get more information?

South Coast AQMD has released two Program Announcements for the program.

Program Announcement #2023-01 - Funding Incentive Program to Reduce Emissions from Hexavalent Chromium Plating Facilities is for hexavalent chromium plating facilities interested in participating in the program. Any hexavalent chromium plating facility seeking incentive funds is required to prepare and submit a proposal that meets the requirements of Program Announcement #2023-01.

Program Announcement # 2023-02 - Identifying Contractors that Convert Hexavalent Chromium Plating Lines to Non-Hexavalent Chromium Alternatives is intended to identify contractors that have experience in designing and installing trivalent chromium system conversion projects. Information obtained from contractors replying to Program Announcement #2023-02 will be provided to hexavalent chromium plating facilities that seek expertise to implement eligible projects.

Copies of the above Program Announcements can be found by visiting:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/grants-bids>

The documents at the above link provides further program details including eligibility criteria, funding amounts, and procedures for responding to the Program Announcements. As described in the documents, interested parties can work with their own contractors or can work with a contractor identified through companies responding to Program Announcement #2023-02.

When is the due date to apply?

Funding is limited; therefore, proposals are requested as soon as possible. Additionally, all projects must be completed with final invoices paid no later than May 1, 2024.

How do I receive payment for eligible projects?

All entities participating in the program will be required to enter into a contract with the South Coast AQMD. The Program includes two contract payment options: 1) reimbursement after project completion or 2) payment after completion of individual contract milestones (e.g., engineering and design, installation, etc.). Program payment provisions will be established during the contract development process.

How do I get more information?

For questions regarding the Program Announcements and/or the incentive funds, please direct inquiries to one of the following South Coast AQMD contacts:

Tiffani To
Air Quality Specialist
(909) 396-2738
tto@aqmd.gov

Michael Laybourn
Program Supervisor
(909) 396-3066
mlaybourn@aqmd.gov