

# Applying to the Low Emission Vehicles Contestable Fund

Do you have an idea that could increase the number of low emission vehicles on our roads?



The Government's Low Emission Vehicles Contestable Fund supports projects that encourage innovation and investment to accelerate the uptake of electric and other low emission vehicles in New Zealand.

The fund offers up to \$7 million a year to co-fund projects with private and public sector partners in areas where commercial returns aren't yet strong enough to justify full private investment.

It is administered by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA).

## Objectives of the fund

### The fund is highly competitive.

To be successful, applications must set out how the project will achieve at least one of these objectives:

- increase the variety and supply of low emission vehicles
- improve the availability of servicing or charging infrastructure in areas where demand is uneconomic or not fully developed
- increase demand for low emission vehicles
- develop innovative products or systems for electric vehicles.

Successful projects will also align with the investment focus, which may change from round to round.

**Projects must involve mainstream vehicles that operate on roads used by the public such as passenger vehicles, buses and trucks; charging or other technologies that will support EV uptake.**



Photo Credit: John Mailley



## How much can you apply for?

You can apply for up to 50% of total project costs to a maximum of \$500,000. Other proposals will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Find out more in the RFP documents on our website.

## Who can apply?

The fund is open to all New Zealand-based legal entities except Public Service Departments, non-Public Service Departments and Statutory Crown Entities such as District Health Boards. Projects must be delivered in New Zealand but can involve overseas-based partners.

## Where to start

Visit the **EECA website** to find out:

- the investment focus of the current round
- what's in and out of scope (vehicles, technologies, projects and activities)
- information about previously approved projects
- RFP documents.



## Application process

**There are two funding rounds a year. Applicants generally have 4–6 weeks to submit proposals after the funding round opens.**

An independent panel of market experts then assesses proposals against the fund objectives and investment focus. The panel makes recommendations to the EECA Board, which makes final decisions. The approval process takes around three months.

Applicants are then notified of the outcome. EECA works with successful applicants to put contracts in place and share results.

# Tips for a strong application

- **Plan your project well and cost it out.** Projects that are ready to go and will deliver quickly are preferred.
- **Be clear about the benefits to New Zealand.** Show how you're advancing the Government's goals for low emissions transport.
- **Show how your project is new or innovative.** See the EECA website for what's already been done.
- **Have your approvals and suppliers in place before you apply.** Co-funding should be the last piece to put in place.
- **Only ask for what you need.** Applications that ask for less than 50% are more competitive.
- **Show how you will pave the way for others,** for example by sharing insights that will encourage other businesses.

## Find out more

- Visit the EECA website [www.eeca.govt.nz](http://www.eeca.govt.nz)
- Email [LEVFund@eeca.govt.nz](mailto:LEVFund@eeca.govt.nz)

## Receive fund updates

- Subscribe to Electric Vehicle News [www.eeca.govt.nz](http://www.eeca.govt.nz)
- Follow us on Twitter [@EECA\\_NZ](https://twitter.com/EECA_NZ)
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# A few of the co-funded projects so far...

- 100% electric delivery vans, taxis, buses, campervans, trucks and specialist vehicles
- Car and bus charging infrastructure
- Car share schemes
- Truck conversion facilities
- Long haul electric truck trial
- Smart poles with EV charging
- Fast charging on tourist routes
- Park and ride charging facilities
- Qualifications frameworks
- Hydrogen vehicle trial
- Electric courtesy cars for auto workshops
- Onsite charging facilities for businesses
- Vehicle-to-home smart charging trial
- Retirement village car pooling
- Data collection and research
- EV charging impact assessment
- Solar charging demonstration project
- Electric refrigerated van



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