

Aurora Water

Allocation Agreement Rebate Program Customer Guidance Document

Updated July 2023

General Purpose

Before 2024, Aurora Water limited Grass Replacement Incentive Program (GRIP) and smart controller rebates to \$50,000 maximums. Now, large properties with extensive projects which would exceed those maximums may be eligible to receive higher rebate amounts from Aurora Water on the condition of signing an allocation agreement.

Allocation agreements create a new permanent billing allocation for each meter supplying the property's irrigation. Currently, a property's existing allocation may be based on the size of the meter or the average of total use from the previous two years. The allocation agreement rebate would instead create a permanent water allocation based on the water needs of the property's landscape type(s):

- 17.5 gallons per square foot for turf.
- 9.5 gallons per square foot for water-wise shrub/perennial beds and native grass areas.

Usage up to 100% of the billing allocation will be billed at the Tier 1 rate. If usage exceeds the allocation, usage will be charged at a capital recovery rate which is up to three times the normal Tier 2 rate. The allocation is intended to hold the property responsible for meeting water efficiency standards or gradually reimbursing Aurora Water for the provided funding. Tier rates and capital recovery fees are subject to change along with other Aurora Water rate/fee schedules.

Properties will have two irrigation seasons to implement the project. The implementation period is intended for establishing plants, repairing irrigation systems and/or adjusting smart controllers to improve efficiency. The new permanent billing allocation(s) will go into effect on Jan. 1 after the second irrigation season.

Example: if a project is installed in July 2024, the 2024 and 2025 irrigation seasons count as the implementation period and new allocations would go into effect on Jan. 1, 2026.

Properties may apply for an allocation agreement rebate at any time throughout the year, however Aurora Water Conservation (AWC) encourages project installation to occur early in the irrigation season to maximize the time before permanent allocations are set.

Allocation Agreement Rebate Parameters by Year

Year	Allocation Agreement Requirement
2023	All rebates \geq \$50,000
2024	All rebates \geq \$20,000
2025 and beyond	All rebates \geq \$5,000

Eligible Water Conservation Projects

- Smart controllers.
- GRIP water-wise landscape conversions, including:
 - Water-wise plant materials (including seed.)
 - Compost.
 - Mulch.
 - Landscape features (boulders, berms, rock walls.)
 - Drip irrigation materials.

Process

1. Contact AWC staff with your conservation project proposal including:
 - a. Itemized estimate of total cost for eligible materials.
 - b. Timeline.
 - c. For water-wise landscape projects, include the total square footage of turf being converted and a to-scale design and plant list for the project area.
2. AWC will require up to 60 days to produce a map of your property's landscape (including measurements of turf grass and bed areas) and water savings estimate.
 - a. During this time, we recommend you ask landscape contractors to provide a map with the coverage boundary for each meter on the property.
 - b. If you have a looped irrigation system, include all the landscape covered by the looped portion of the system. This map can be refined over the two-year implementation period if needed.
3. AWC will provide you with an estimate of potential water savings and rebate amount.
4. Your property's owners or board must review the estimated cost, potential savings and rebate amount. We strongly recommend inviting AWC staff to review the allocation rebate and estimates with property stakeholders to avoid any confusion before committing to the project.
5. Submit the finalized map of meter coverage boundaries to AWC so we can draft the allocation agreements.
6. AWC will provide draft allocations, usage history and savings estimate for each meter.
7. Allocation agreements must be signed and notarized by the property owner or a board representative (we recommend the board president).
8. Install your water conservation project(s) according to standard rebate rules and requirements.
9. Rebate money will be disbursed once all projects are finalized, and the allocation agreement is signed.
10. After installation, your property has two irrigation seasons to optimize water savings, including:
 - a. Reviewing and editing landscape/irrigation coverage maps.
 - b. Establishing plant material.
 - c. Repairing irrigation systems and adjusting smart controller settings.
11. If mapping is edited during the implementation period, new allocation agreements will need to be drafted, signed and notarized. If no edits are made, the existing allocation agreements go into effect Jan. 1 following the end of the second irrigation season.