

This state-by-state guide highlights a range of tax credits and incentive programs specifically relevant to the convenience services industry, offering operators clear application instructions and links to find further information. While this report emphasizes programs tailored to the convenience services industry, you know your business and its unique needs.

Opportunities for Convenience Services Operators

Business Energy Rebates Program

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SUSTAINABLE ENERGY UTILITY

The DC SEU Business Energy Rebates program provides DC businesses and institutions with financial rebates for installing energy-efficient equipment.

Eligibility Requirements

- Projects must involve a facility improvement that results in a permanent reduction in electrical and or/natural gas energy usage.
- Projects must meet the requirements detailed in DCSEU's technical specifications
- Projects that are NOT eligible for rebates include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - Fuel switching
 - Changes in operational and/or maintenance practices or simple control modifications not involving capital expenditure
 - On-site electricity generation
 - Projects focused primarily on power-factor improvement
 - Projects that involve peak-shifting
 - Renewable-energy projects
- Any product installed at a facility must be sustainable and provide 100% of energy benefits as stated in the application for a period of at least five (5) years or for the life of the product, whichever is less.
- All products must be new; used or refurbished equipment is NOT eligible for rebates.
- Installations must be completed in accordance with all laws, codes and other requirements applicable under federal, state and local authority.
- Projects must be installed on the municipal utility account listed on the submitted utility bill.

All projects must be submitted to DCSEU for pre-approval. Incomplete applications may not be processed.

Application Information

To apply for rebates for your business, follow these steps:

- Verify the eligibility requirements of your product.
- You can submit multiple products for the same address.
- We only issue one check to one recipient per application.
- A contractor or business can submit on behalf of a customer and vice versa. An email address will be required for both the contractor and the customer.
- For questions about the application process, please call 202-479-2222 or email info@dcseu.com.

- The DCSEU also offers enhanced rebates for affordable multifamily buildings:
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 - Lighting (Now available through the Online Rebate Center)
- You must create and/or log into an account.
- All submissions must be pre-approved.
- Technical specifications for products are required for pre-approval.
- A copy of the rebate recipient's W-9 is required for pre-approval.
- PEPCO and/or Washington Gas utility bills are required for pre-approval.

[Additional information available from the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility.](#)

DC Bizcap - Collateral Support Program

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, SECURITIES AND BANKING

The Collateral Support Program (CSP) provides funds for deposit with a participating lender (a participating bank, credit union or community development financial institution) to provide the necessary collateral to cover the borrower's collateral shortfall.

Eligibility Requirements

Loan funds may be used for the following authorized purposes: Start-up costs, Working capital, Business procurement, Franchise fees, Equipment, Inventory, Purchase, construction, renovation or tenant improvement of commercial real estate, Tangible and intangible property (except goodwill)

Borrowers must be:

1. A non-public company registered in the District and subject to taxation in the District (e.g. a corporation, partnership, joint venture, cooperative, sole proprietorship, District-designated charitable and other non-profit institution)
2. Fewer than 750 existing employees, including subsidiaries and affiliates
3. Principal offices within District (demonstrated by lease or deed)
4. At least 75% of employees, including subsidiaries and affiliates, must work in and provide services in the District
5. At least 25% of W-2 employees must be District residents
6. Business owner must provide a personal guaranty
7. Closing and annual fees of up to 4%
8. Maximum of 50% of commercial loan up to \$1 million
9. Principals must not have been convicted of a sex offense against a minor
10. Principals must not have any conflict of interest with the lender, investor or the government

Currently, there are 10 participating lenders (see list of DC BizCAP Participating Lenders). Additional lenders may apply to participate in the CSP. Lenders must be:

1. Insured Depository Institutions
2. Insured Credit Unions
3. Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs)

Application Information

See website for enrollment forms.

[Additional information available from the Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking.](#)

DC Bizcap - Loan Participation Program

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, SECURITIES AND BANKING

The Loan Participation Program (LPP) provides capital to small businesses by either purchasing interest in the loans made by lenders or lending alongside private lenders to provide direct lending.

Eligibility Requirements

Loan funds may be used for the following authorized purposes: Start-up costs, Working capital, Business procurement, Franchise fees, Equipment, Inventory, Purchase, construction, renovation or tenant improvement of commercial real estate, Tangible and intangible property (except goodwill)

Borrowers must be:

1. A non-public company registered in the District and subject to taxation in the District (e.g. a corporation, partnership, joint venture, cooperative, sole proprietorship, District-designated charitable and other non-profit institution)
2. Fewer than 750 existing employees, including subsidiaries and affiliates
3. Principal offices within District (demonstrated by lease or deed)
4. At least 75% of employees, including subsidiaries and affiliates, must work in and provide services in the District
5. At least 25% of W-2 employees must be District residents
6. Business owner must provide a personal guaranty
7. Closing and annual fees of up to 4%
8. Maximum of 50% of commercial loan up to \$1 million
9. Principals must not have been convicted of a sex offense against a minor
10. Principals must not have any conflict of interest with the lender, investor or the government

Currently, there are 10 participating lenders (see list of DC BizCAP Participating Lenders). Additional lenders may apply to participate in the CSP. Lenders must be:

1. Insured Depository Institutions
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Application Information

See website for enrollment forms.

[Additional information available from the Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking.](#)

Other Credits, Incentives, and Government Programs

Commercial Waste Compactor Demonstration Grant

DEPARTMENT OF SMALL AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Commercial Compactor Demonstration Project grant aims to help licensed DC businesses (for-profit entities) reduce sanitation issues that can attract rodents and pollute DC's waterways.

DC Bizcap - Innovation Finance Program

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, SECURITIES AND BANKING

The program provides capital to investors that co-invest with the District in start-ups and emerging companies that seek financing alternatives to traditional commercial financing.

Great Streets

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Great Streets is a multi-year and multiple agency effort to transform under-invested corridors into thriving and inviting neighborhood centers using public actions and resources, as needed, to leverage private investment in retail, housing, offices and cultural facilities.

Industrial Revenue Bond Program

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Tax-exempt bond financing for real estate purchases, tenant improvements, equipment, and other capital needs.

Payments In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Payments In Lieu of Taxes Act of 2004 (PILOT Act) authorizes the issuance of bonds to finance development projects in the District, including the development, redevelopment, and expansion of business, commerce, housing, or tourism, or the provision of necessary or desirable public infrastructure improvements.

Qualified High Technology Companies (QHTC)

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Qualified High Technology Companies (QHTC) can claim tax benefits to support their growth in the District. These benefits include a reduced capital gains tax rate and lowered costs to hire and train workers.

Retail Tax Increment Financing

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Retail Incentive Act of 2004, as amended, authorizes the issuance of TIF bonds to promote retail development in "Retail Priority Areas" designated by the Mayor.

Supermarket Tax Incentives

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DMPED)

Through the Supermarket Tax Exemption Act of 2000, the District waives certain taxes and fees to supermarkets that locate in specific neighborhoods.

Tax Abatement Financial Analysis (TAFA)

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Allows tax relief on certain properties that do not qualifying under existing provisions of District law.

Tax Increment Financing

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a program through which the District provides economic development project funds by borrowing against future tax receipts expected to be generated as a result of the construction and operation of projects partially funded by these funds.

Vitality Fund

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Employment Center Vitality and Local Jobs Creation Fund (Vitality Fund) is a multi-year, performance-based incentive program designed to support existing companies in target industries that are actively planning to relocate, expand, or retain their physical location in Washington, DC.