

HMLP Incentive Program

Heat Pumps

Premise

All of HMLP's incentive programs must be in-line with the HMLP Policy on Demand Management and Electrification established by the Hingham Municipal Light Board on June 1, 2022. To ensure that HMLP's incentive programs meet their intended objectives, each program and its corresponding guidelines is reviewed and approved by the Light Board. HMLP reserves the right to adjust or conclude its incentive programs at any time.

Overview & Benefits

Heat pumps are an efficient, electric system that can provide both heating and cooling for buildings. When paired with well-insulated or passivehouse buildings, heat pumps are much more effective than other types of traditional heating fuels such as natural gas, oil, or propane. This technology can significantly reduce energy consumption and operation costs by running at 300% efficiency compared to 50-95% efficiency fossil fuel systems. Customers can proactively reduce the system size needed by completing a manual J- an assessment that measures the exact consumption of every room in the building- or recommended weatherization projects, particularly insulation.

There are different kinds of heat pumps, but residential homes commonly use air-source heat pumps (ASHPs) and commercial buildings use geothermal/ground-source heat pumps (GSHP). In New England, heat pumps must withstand cold weather and maintain high efficiency. The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP) provides a Cold Climate Air-Source Heat Pump List to building owners for consideration. This list is an essential tool to review when determining what heat pump(s) will work best in Hingham homes and businesses.

HMLP is incentivized to support electrification to increase its revenue over time and assist the Town of Hingham in lowering its carbon footprint. Heat pumps are a decarbonization technology that will allow the building sector to transition away from fossil fuel heating sources and towards electricity. HMLP is committed to achieving a carbon-free power supply and this means that electricity will eventually be a carbon-free option for buildings. Fossil fuels will always contribute to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, but electricity is being generated by more and more renewable and non-emitting sources every day. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has recognized heat pumps as a valuable tool in meeting its own climate goals. Since heating in buildings makes up a significant portion of GHG emissions from the building sector, every individual and community that takes action can make a large impact for the climate.

Incentive Objectives

The short-term and long-term goals for HMLP's heat pump program are to:

- a. Increase the rate of electrification in the Town of Hingham;
- b. Utilize efficiency to reduce the amount of energy required to heat buildings; and
- c. Foster an efficient, carbon-free built environment in Hingham that meets state and local climate objectives, including net-zero carbon emissions, by 2040 as adopted by the Town of Hingham in 2021.

Incentive Amount & Budget

HMLP will offer a rebate for the installation of air-source heat pumps (ASHPs) of \$750 per ton of capacity installed up to \$4,500 maximum for all customers.

HMLP will offer \$500 as a weatherization adder when customers have completed any eligible weatherization project(s) prior to installation of an ASHP.

HMLP will offer \$1,000 as a whole-home adder when residents attest that their new system will heat 100% of their building's load.

HMLP's 2022 heat pump program budget will be set for \$50,000 and reviewed annually.

Incentive Guidelines

- This incentive is effective starting July 1, 2022 and resets annually.
- Incentives are available on a *per account* basis.
- The customer's account must be in good standing with HMLP with no overdue bills.
- Eligible customers must have non-natural gas primary fuel for heating.
 - Customers with natural gas as their primary heating fuel are eligible for Mass Save incentives. If a natural gas customer would like to take HMLP's rebate instead, then they must provide documentation that they do not qualify for Mass Save's rebate.
- Customers must complete an ENE energy assessment within two years before the project.
- Eligible work must be performed by a licensed contractor at the account location.
- Eligible systems must be listed on the NEEP Cold Climate Heat Pump List.
- Abode's pre-approval form must be filled out and returned prior to installation.
- Landlords can apply on behalf of tenant accounts for rental buildings.
 - The landlord(s) and/or tenant(s) can inquire about this guideline from HMLP at any time. HMLP will require the signature of both the building owner and the HMLP account owner on the application if they are separate. Any desired or necessary negotiations are to be worked out between the landlord(s) and tenant(s).
- Purchase date and applications must be submitted by 12/31 of the current calendar year.
- HMLP may request additional information or reject rebate applications at any time.
- Offer is subject to funding availability and can expire at any time.