

What is CORE?

The [California Air Resources Board](#) (CARB), in partnership with [CALSTART](#), launched the **Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project (CORE)** to accelerate the purchase of zero-emission off-road equipment in California.

Senate Bill 170 of 2021 appropriated \$30 million to CARB to provide incentives for professional landscape equipment operated by small businesses or sole proprietors in California. In November 2022, CORE opened this \$30 million to voucher requests. Funds were fully subscribed and closed in October 2023. The remaining funding appropriated from Senate Bill 170 will reopen in CORE during the first quarter of 2025. These CORE vouchers reduce the purchase price of qualifying zero-emission professional landscape equipment. CORE vouchers provide a point-of-sale discount for professional landscapers purchasing new zero-emission landscape equipment powered by a battery-electric powertrain. **CORE does not require scrappage of existing internal combustion equipment as a condition of program participation.**

How to Participate:

Criteria for Eligibility:

Eligible purchasers include small businesses or sole proprietors who provide professional landscape services as defined below.

Professional Landscape Service

A landscape contractor constructs, maintains, repairs, installs, or subcontracts the development of landscape systems and facilities for public and private gardens and other areas which are designed to aesthetically, architecturally, horticulturally, or functionally improve the grounds within or surrounding a structure or a tract or plot of land. In connection therewith, a landscape contractor prepares and grades plots and areas of land for the installation of any architectural, horticultural and decorative treatment or arrangement. ([Cal. Code Regs., tit. 16 § 832.27.](#))

Small Business and Microbusiness

A small business means an independently owned and operated business that is not dominant in its field of operation, the principal office of which is located in California, the officers of which are domiciled in California, and which, together with affiliates, has 100 or fewer employees, and average annual gross receipts of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) or less over the previous three years, or is a manufacturer, as defined in subdivision (c), with 100 or fewer employees.

Commencing January 1, 2019, the average annual gross receipts threshold shall be fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000). ([Gov. Code § 14837\(d\)\(1\)\(A\)](#))

Microbusiness is a small business which, together with affiliates, has average annual gross receipts of two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) or less over the previous three years, or is a manufacturer, as defined in subdivision (c), with 25 or fewer employees. Commencing January 1, 2019, the average annual gross receipts threshold shall be five million dollars (\$5,000,000). ([Gov. Code § 14837\(d\)\(2\)](#))

