Innovation Program





Gazifère provides subsidies to help its customers reduce their natural gas consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through energy efficiency programs. This guide is for customers who would like to receive an energy innovation subsidy. This guide outlines the required steps to follow when you apply. You are encouraged to submit your applications and supporting documents electronically.

PURPOSE:

The subsidy for the Innovation program aims to support customers wishing to try out new approaches that will lead to improved energy efficiency for natural gas consumers. Gazifère is offering subsidies of up to \$25,000 or 75% of project costs to support research and demonstration projects designed to reduce energy consumption or GHG emissions. This program also aims to explore the potential of certain measures or initiatives that could eventually be commercialized on a larger scale. The financial assistance is divided into two equal instalments: the first one is paid when the project is approved, and the second when the project is completed.

ELIGIBLE CUSTOMERS:

This program is for Gazifère's Rate 1 commercial, institutional and industrial customers.

In the case of a new building, Gazifère only pays the second instalment once the meter has been opened.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To obtain financial assistance under the Innovation program, the following eligibility criteria must be met:

- A. The energy efficiency measures must focus on the consumption of natural gas.
- B. Measures focused on renewable energy must aim for a post-intervention natural gas consumption threshold equivalent to at least 30% of the volume of natural gas that would have been consumed in the absence of those renewable energies.
- C. The project must not be eligible for any other subsidy program under Gazifère's global energy efficiency plan. Also, the sum total of all financial assistance provided may not exceed 75% of the total eligible costs.
- D. The measures must be reproducible and promise energy efficiency potential.



- E. One of the following aspects of the measure has not yet been tested in Quebec:
 - · energy performance;
 - profitability; or
 - applicability.
- F. The purpose of the proposed project is to assess at least one aspect of innovation, that is to say the efficiency, profitability or commercial acceptability of the new eco-energy solution.
- G. The applicant and its partners have the capacity to carry out the project.

At the start of the project, Gazifère will determine how often progress reports are to be provided, and the applicant will have to submit those reports in accordance with the established timeline. A final report will be requested by Gazifère once the project has been completed.

H. Eligible and non-eligible expenses

Project expenses are eligible if they can be justified and attributed to the project. These include (non exhaustive list):

- salaries of the participant's staff and partners working directly on the project;
- fees for required professional services;
- costs, equipment rental, and supplies; and
- professional validation and verification service fees and costs.

The following are not eligible expenses (non exhaustive list):

- production losses, rejects or other losses due to project-related activities;
- · land purchases;
- non-essential and non-justifiable project expenses, such as executive salaries, or expenses that do not represent an incremental cost for the participant; and
- any other expense not directly related to the project.



STEPS TO FOLLOW TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

STEP 1: CONSULT THE PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

STEP 2: SUBMIT YOUR INDICATION OF INTEREST

STEP 3: SUBMIT YOUR PRE-ADMISSION APPLICATION AND THE PROJECT DETAILS

STEP 4: WAIT FOR GAZIFÈRE'S APPROVAL AND THE FIRST FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INSTALMENT

STEP 5: ORGANIZE THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

STEP 6: SUBMIT THE PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS

STEP 7: SUBMIT YOUR FINAL REPORT UPON COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT

STEP 8: RECEIVE THE SECOND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INSTALMENT FROM GAZIFÈRE

For additional information about this program, write to Programmes.Efficacite.Energetique@gazifere.com or call 819-771-8321.

^{*} Program conditions may be modified without prior notice. Gazifère reserves the right to limit the number of projects approved under the program subject to available funds for this program.