

# Policies for EV Charging

The information below addresses:

- [Fee requirements for EV charging](#)
- [EV charging models](#)
- [EV charging station policy](#)

## Fee requirements for EV charging

Nothing prohibits or requires state agencies to charge an EVSE use fee for visitor or employee charging. At the same time, [RCW 43.01.250](#) encourages EV use by expressly authorizing the purchase of power at state expense to allow charging by visitors and commuting employees. What is not clear is if “commute vehicles” refers only to vehicles enrolled in commute trip reduction programs, commute vehicles not enrolled in an official program but serving more than one employee, or any EV used for commuting by state employees.

The RCW is silent on the responsibilities of local governments to provide charging. Many local governments have decided that not charging a fee for employees or visitors is a “gifting” of public funds. Some allow free use of EVSE for an introductory period and others allow EV charging at no additional expense over standard parking fees.

The decision of whether to charge fees for employee or visitor use of EVSE may also involve considering carbon emission reduction goals, union positions, and the cost to collect and manage fees. For employees, providing charging in dedicating parking spots for a flat fee with an automatic payroll deduction may be the simplest approach.

## EV charging models

It remains to be seen how charging infrastructure will be provided and monetized in the long run. Each model will impact the fleet in different ways, as detailed in this table.

Model	Pros	Cons	Fleet Impact
No Cost	Easy to implement, especially when demand is fairly low	Employees may elect to only charge at work	Increases competition for charging during the day
Point-of-Sale Billing (flat fee or hourly)	Predictable; service provider can manage	More expensive hardware	Using system may make daily operations more complex
Memberships	Can be relatively simple; uses lower cost EVSE	Requires payment tracking and administration, often in advance; difficult for agencies	May be challenging to keep vehicles rotating on and off the chargers

## EV charging station policy

This [Sample EV Charging Station Policy](#) from the WA Dept. of Enterprise Services is a model for other public entities to consider.

