

PENNSYLVANIA COMPRESSED AIR ENERGY REBATES

If your facility uses compressed air, you may be leaving money on the table. Pennsylvania utility programs often offer incentives for projects that reduce energy use and demand. That can mean money back for improvements like leak detection and repair, pressure optimization, controls, and efficiency upgrades.

This guide covers:

- What PA rebate programs are and how they work
- What compressed air projects often qualify
- The fastest way to confirm eligibility
- What to gather before you apply
- Official program resources by utility territory

Quick takeaway

Most plants see the best ROI by reducing wasted demand first, then right sizing and optimizing. Incentives can improve payback and help justify projects internally.

Want a fast eligibility screen?

Share your facility ZIP and utility territory to confirm which program applies.

HOW REBATES WORK IN PENNSYLVANIA

Many Pennsylvania utility incentive programs are delivered through **Act 129**, which sets energy efficiency targets for major electric distribution companies. Programs vary by territory and utility. Your eligibility depends on where your electric meter is located and the specific program rules.

Important

Rules can require or strongly recommend pre-approval before purchase and installation. Always confirm requirements first.

WHAT COMPRESSED AIR PROJECTS MAY QUALIFY

Eligibility depends on the program, but incentives often align with projects that reduce demand and wasted load.

Common qualifying categories:

- **Leak detection and repair** initiatives that reduce wasted flow

- **Pressure optimization** when stable operation is maintained at lower setpoints
- **Controls and sequencing** reduce running time and improve efficiency
- **System right sizing** to match capacity to real demand
- **High efficiency compressor upgrades** with verifiable savings
- **Supporting equipment upgrades** when tied to documented savings outcomes

Why utilities like these projects

They reduce kW demand and total energy consumption in measurable ways.

PRESCRIPTIVE VS CUSTOM INCENTIVES

Prescriptive

Set incentive amounts for common measures. Faster and simpler when your project fits the catalog.

Custom

Used when the measure is not on a standard list or savings must be calculated site by site. Compressed air often falls here because results depend on load profile, controls, leakage, and operating hours.

What this means for you

If you are planning a compressor upgrade or system changes, a custom path may produce better incentive value when savings can be documented.

THE SIMPLEST PROCESS TO PURSUE A REBATE

Step 1: Confirm your utility territory

Identify the electric utility serving your facility. This determines which program and requirements apply.

Step 2: Identify the project type

Leak repair, pressure optimization, controls, right sizing, or equipment upgrade.

Step 3: Confirm pre approval requirements

Some programs require approval before purchase and installation. Avoid doing work first and finding out later it is not eligible.

Step 4: Implement and document

Plan for baseline and post conditions where required. Keep invoices, equipment specs, and scope details organized.

Step 5: Submit and verify

Submit required forms, calculators, and supporting documents. Some programs include verification steps.

WHAT TO GATHER BEFORE YOU START

This checklist makes internal approvals and incentive processing easier.

Facility basics

- Facility address(es) and ZIP
- Utility name and account details
- Primary contacts for maintenance and finance

Compressed air snapshot

- Number of compressors and horsepower
- Operating schedule and estimated run hours
- Current system pressure setpoint
- Known issues: pressure drops, leaks, moisture, capacity constraints

Project scope

- What you want to do and when
- Budget range and approval timeline
- Any quotes or equipment specs you already have

COMMON MISTAKES THAT DELAY OR REDUCE INCENTIVES

- Purchasing equipment before confirming program requirements
- Assuming incentives apply without validating utility territory
- Weak baseline documentation for custom projects
- Upgrading equipment without addressing leaks and demand reduction first

PROGRAM RESOURCES BY PENNSYLVANIA UTILITY TERRITORY

Use these official links to start based on where your facility is located.

PPL Electric

[Compressed air incentives overview and program details.](#)

PECO

[Business equipment incentives, including compressed air systems.](#)

Duquesne Light

[Custom incentives for industrial projects, including compressed air.](#)

FirstEnergy Pennsylvania utilities

[Commercial compressed air program plus calculators and forms.](#)

NEED HELP CONFIRMING WHAT APPLIES TO YOUR FACILITY

If you share your facility ZIP and a quick snapshot of your compressed air setup, we can help you:

- Confirm which PA program you fall under
- Identify the best path, prescriptive or custom
- Recommend the fastest first step
- Clarify what documentation to gather

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