



# Aggregated Incentives Program (AIP) Pilot Guidelines

## I. Program Overview

The NASRC Aggregated Incentives Program (AIP) Pilot is a free platform designed to maximize funding for natural refrigerant projects in supermarket and food retail applications. The program will streamline the incentive application process by coordinating and securing funding across multiple sources. AIP will be piloted first in California in conjunction with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) [F-gas Reduction Incentive Program \(FRIP\)](#), launching summer of 2020. The AIP pilot goals are as follows:

- Accelerate and increase funding resources for natural refrigerants
- Demonstrate the need for funding support to renew and expand existing programs
- Compile and share key project data to inform industry best practices

More information on the AIP pilot is available at [www.nasrc.org/aggregated-incentives-program](http://www.nasrc.org/aggregated-incentives-program).

## II. AIP Pilot Duration

Preliminary applications will be accepted from May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 until August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Project applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The pilot will close at the end of the [CARB FRIP](#) solicitation period.

## III. Eligibility

### a. Participants

Eligible applications will be limited to supermarket and food retail projects within the state of California. Applications can either be submitted by the retailer or by a project partner authorized by the retailer.

Applications must be submitted to NASRC by August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Due to the volume of applications, we cannot guarantee that applications received after August 7th will be processed before the CARB FRIP deadline.

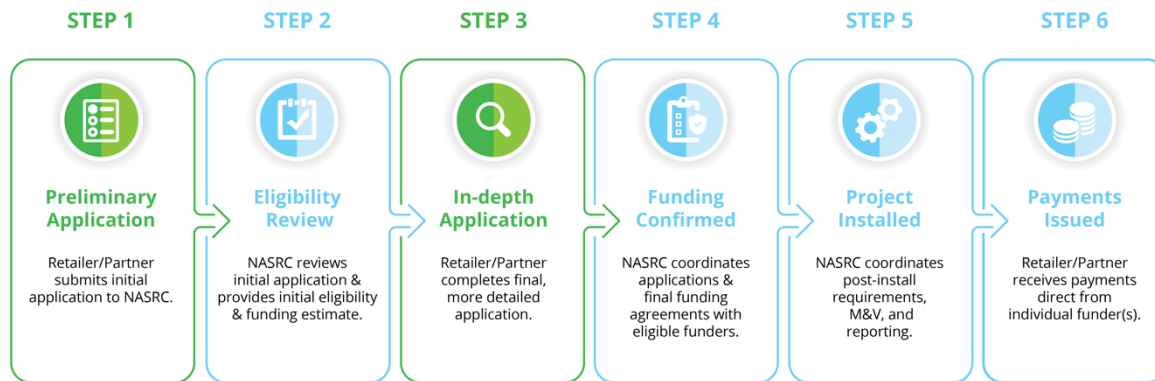
### b. Projects

Eligible applications must meet the following criteria:

- Project must incorporate refrigerants natural refrigerants (CO<sub>2</sub>, Ammonia, Propane) in new construction or existing stores
- Project must not be installed before funding is confirmed (see Step 4 in Process section below)
- Preliminary project application must be submitted prior to the start of the [CARB FRIP](#) solicitation period

## IV. Process

The figure below outlines the AIP pilot process from the submission of the preliminary application through the issuing of the payment. Each step is further detailed below.



- **Step 1: Preliminary Application**

The retailer or partner will submit a preliminary application to NASRC by August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The preliminary application is the first step to determine project eligibility and does not require any commitment from the retailer. The application can be completed online here: <http://nasrc.org/aip-preliminary-application>

- **Step 2: Eligibility Review**

NASRC will review the preliminary application to confirm pilot program eligibility and determine which funding sources (see section 5 below) may be applicable. Within 10 business days of receiving the preliminary application, NASRC will provide an Eligibility Report, detailing the estimated funding support and requirements of eligible funding source(s). NASRC will use its best efforts to estimate potential funding support. Actual funding support is determined by third parties and NASRC cannot guarantee actual support that may be available. The retailer will use this information to determine whether to continue to Step 3.

- **Step 3: In-Depth Application**

Following the review of the AIP Eligibility Report, the retailer or project partner will submit a detailed application providing the necessary information and documentation to confirm funding with each of the eligible funders. The retailer will submit the signed the AIP Participation Agreement with the application (see participation requirements below).

- **Step 4: Funding Confirmation**

NASRC will use the information provided in the in-depth application to prepare applications for each funder. Once applications have been approved by the funder(s), NASRC will support the processing and execution of funding agreement(s) between the funder(s) and retailer. All funding sources are separate from NASRC. The retailer will be solely responsible for determining if requirements imposed by funding sources are acceptable.

- **Step 5: Project Installation**

Once funding agreements have been signed, projects may proceed with installation. Projects must not be installed prior to funding confirmation. When possible, NASRC will support coordination of post-installation requirements, including site visits, data collection, measurement and verification, and other reporting requirements. The retailer is solely responsible for complying with all requirements imposed by funding sources agreed to by retailer.

- **Step 6: Payment Issued**

After installation, payments will be issued directly from the funder to the retailer. No project payment will pass through NASRC unless otherwise specified by the retailer or funder. Funding is not guaranteed until individual funding agreement(s) have been signed with funder(s). NASRC is not responsible for funding disbursement or project installation.

## V. Funding Sources

The AIP pilot will evaluate project eligibility across multiple funding sources, including state, utility, lending, pilot, grant, and other sources. The funding sources are further defined here: <http://nasrc.org/aggregated-incentives-program#Funding>

#### **VI. Participation Requirements**

Prior to funding confirmation (Step 4 above), pilot participants will be required to sign the AIP Participation Agreement, in which the retailer agrees to do the following:

- Permit NASRC to submit project funding applications on their behalf
- Provide NASRC any relevant project documents needed to submit the funding application(s) and final invoice(s) to coordinate payment disbursement
- Provide NASRC any relevant energy performance data, including utility bills, outputs of data collection instrumentation, submetering, or other M&V data gathered as part of the project scope