

Dry Cleaner Equipment Replacement Reimbursement Program

Questions and Answers

1. **Question:** Facility is replacing a perchloroethylene (perc) machine over 15 years old and is eligible for a minimal reimbursement for the removal of the old perc machine, are they also eligible for the \$15,000 if they install professional wet cleaning?
In other words, can a facility apply for the grant for removal of the old perc equipment and also be eligible for the wet cleaning bonus money?
Answer: They can get funding for new professional wet cleaning equipment in addition to the reimbursement for the removal of the perc equipment.

2. **Question:** A Facility made the switch from perc to non-hap in 2006 and wants to now install a wet cleaning system. Are they entitled to the \$15,000 grant even though no perchloroethylene equipment is being removed?
Answer: They can get funding for a new professional wet cleaning equipment installation even if there is no current removal of perc equipment.

3. **Question:** In regard to the Dry Cleaner Equipment Replacement Program, does Green Earth qualify as a non-perc replacement system? Also, does Glycol Ether (Rynex, GenX) qualify?
Answer: Yes, we would consider them all hydrocarbon. New equipment using n-Propyl Bromide would not qualify. Installation of a Carbon Dioxide (CO2) system will also qualify.

4. **Question:** Can removal of any non-perc equipment, such as equipment using n-Propyl Bromide, qualify for the reimbursement grant?
Answer: No. Both the application and Grant 069MG forms specifically say "perchloroethylene dry cleaning system" in the eligibility section for a reimbursement grant.

5. **Question:** Can owners of 3rd gen machines which were converted to n-propyl bromide re-permit for perc and switch back so they would or may be eligible for grant money?
Answer: No. Both the application and Grant 069MG forms specifically say "perchloroethylene dry cleaning system" in the eligibility section. Re-permitting can not be used to change eligibility.

6. **Question:** Will any of the grants be issued on a retroactive basis? A few cleaners have already switched, or will be switching shortly?
Example: I just replaced 2 perc machines with an alternative solvent machine in September 2009. This was a considerable investment and I want to know if I would be eligible to apply for a grant. Please let me know if there is anything that I can do to participate.
Answer: Based on availability of funds, the Department may consider approving reimbursement grants for equipment installed after January 1, 2009 on a retroactive basis.

7. **Question:** If a professional wet system was recently installed, is it eligible for the \$15,000 reimbursement?
Answer: Based on availability of funds, the Department may consider approving reimbursement

grants for equipment installed after January 1, 2009 on a retroactive basis.

8. **Question:** Will there be any grants in 2009?

Answer: No, the time required for the grant approval process would not allow any approvals prior to January 2010.

9. **Question:** Will there be any preference for co-residential dry cleaners or dry cleaners located near day care facilities?

Answer: Yes, applications for co-residential dry cleaners or dry cleaners located within 50 feet of a day care facility will get priority in the application review process. Only these applications will be approved during the first six months of the grant program. No applications for dry cleaning facilities that are not co-residential dry cleaners or dry cleaners located within 50 feet of a day care will be approved prior to July 1, 2010.

10. **Question:** Without being in a co-located residential facility, can a Drycleaner receive a reimbursement grant for just removing a perc machine?

Answer: No.

11. **Question:** If the machine to be removed has been shut down for some time, but is still installed and permitted, would it be eligible for the grant program?

Answer: Yes, if the equipment is still properly permitted and has not been removed prior to the application approval it could be eligible.

12. **Question:** What if a Drycleaner replaced two, 5-year old 4th Generation perc machines with one Greearth machine. Does he make an application for each machine?

Answer: Each perc machine removed would be eligible. Include all equipment to be removed on one application. Use an attachment if necessary. The reimbursement amount can not exceed the cost of the new equipment; therefore, you must include documentation for the purchase/installation cost for the new equipment.

13. **Question:** I have a facility that currently has "wet cleaning" equipment and a 3rd generation perc machine greater than 15 years old. The majority of my cleaning is done via the professional wet cleaning process. I do not want to install an additional wet cleaning machine since there are garments that cannot be "wet" cleaned. Can I get any funds if I install a new 4th generation machine? How about a non-HAP machine?

Answer: Even if the 3rd gen machine is greater than 15 years old, it is eligible for the grant for a minimal reimbursement amount in accordance with Attachment I in the application package.

14. **Question:** If a facility's approved application, and signed grant agreement, had one type of Non-HAP machine, then the facility replaced the original equipment with a different Non-HAP machine, whether it was due to availability/ cost etc., would it still be eligible for the grant? Example, application has Multimatic HC machine listed as the replacement equipment, and they actually install a Fibramatic HC machine.

Answer: If there is any change to the information on your application, such as the purchase of a non-perc machine that is different than listed on your application, you must submit a modified application to:

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
 MSCI Air Compliance & Enforcement
 Mail Code 22-03A
 PO Box 420
 Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

This application modification must be submitted prior to the installation of the equipment to

ensure that it still qualifies for the reimbursement grant. Such a change, if acceptable, will be approved in writing by the Department and that approval will be attached to the grant agreement. There can be no assurance that any changes from the grant application will be eligible for a reimbursement without prior approval.

15. **Question:** How will the age of the machine be determined, by manufacture date or installation date?

Answer: The age of the machine will be based on the year of installation for new equipment. If the equipment was purchased used, the age will be determined by the date of manufacture.

16. **Question:** Will the table in Attachment I of the application package be used even if the original purchase price is different than the amounts used in the table?

Answer: Yes, regardless of the original purchase price, the values in the table will prevail.

17. **Question:** Is the equipment to be installed required to comply with all state and local safety standards, rules and regulations?

Answer: The equipment to be installed must comply with all NJ Air Pollution regulations and requirements to be eligible for the reimbursement grant. Compliance with all other rules, regulations and requirements are the obligation of the applicant. For example, it is the applicants responsibility to be in compliance with all state and local fire, building and electrical codes.

18. **Question:** Can I submit an application now if I plan to replace my equipment in 2013?

Answer: The contract you will be required to sign as part of the grant process requires that the equipment must be installed within 90 days of signing the contract. Therefore, you should not submit an application unless you are planning to replace your equipment within the next 6 months. Any applications received which have a replacement date more than 6 months in the future may be denied and require re-submission closer to the intended replacement date.

19. **Question:** What is the definition of a "Professional Wetcleaning System"? For example are there specific features, capacities, etc. required. What features must the dryer have?

Answer: Professional Wetcleaning System is a common term for a computerized operation which allows for precise mechanical control in order to gently wash, dry, and finish garments using water based technology. A good description of what is included can be found on the USEPA's web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/dfe/pubs/garment/wsgc/wetclean.htm>

A Professional Wetcleaning System is machine wetcleaning, an environmentally-preferable, high volume method of professionally cleaning clothes using state-of-the-art technologies. The Department will accept equipment which meets the description on this web site as a Professional Wetcleaning System. Systems which were originally designed to use solvents are not eligible for the additional grant amount, even if the equipment can also now be used for wet cleaning.

20. **Question:** If I install a combination machine which does both non-hap dycleaning and water based cleaning would it qualify for the extra \$15,000.00 in grant money.

Answer: While these machines may be installed and must be permitted as non-hap dry cleaners in the State of NJ they will not be entitled to the additional funds available for installing a wetcleaning system. Only dedicated wetcleaning systems will be entitled to the additional grant allowance of \$15000.

21. **Question:** Can any cleaner get a \$15,000.00 grant if they buy a professional wetcleaning system regardless of whether or not they remove perc equipment.

Answer: Yes, the Department will issue grants for wetcleaning even if no perc equipment is

being removed.

22. **Question:** Can I receive a wetcleaning grant if I add a professional wetcleaning operation to a "Drop Store" location?
Answer: Yes, The Department will process grants if the facility is currently a drop shop and wishes to install a professional wetcleaning system.
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23. **Question:** Will the DEP consider providing grant money for facilities who want to add professional wet cleaning equipment in their facility in addition to their current perchloroethylene equipment without the removal of the perchloroethylene equipment?
Answer: Yes, wetcleaning grants can be obtained without any perchlorethylene equipment removal.
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24. **Question:** Will I get any grant money if I add more wet cleaning equipment at my already wet cleaning only facility?
Answer: Yes
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25. **Question:** Will I get any grant money if I remove a perchloroethylene machine for one location and then open a non-perc shop in another location?
Answer: Yes
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26. **Question:** What if the definition of "licensed day care center"? Does this include schools?
Answer: The definition of Licensed Daycare facility can be found on the New Jersey Department of Children and Families website. A list of licensed daycare facilities can be found at <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/divisions/licensing/CCclist.pdf> . Schools are not considered licensed daycare centers.
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27. **Question:** If my grant application was already approved, can I now alter my application to add wet cleaning equipment?
Answer: If your original application has been approved you may submit another application for the wetcleaning grant. If your application has not been approved you may amend your application to include the additional wetcleaning grant.
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28. **Question:** Can I get \$15,000.00 just for opening a brand new wet cleaning shop?
Answer: Yes
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29. **Question:** If I have a dry-solv machine installed now, can I get \$15,000.00 for the installation of a wet cleaning system without removal of the dry-solv machine?
Answer: Yes
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30. **Question:** Will NJDEP issue checks directly to the equipment manufacturer? Will NJDEP issue "two party checks"?
Answer: The Department will only contract with the dry cleaning facility and will not issue checks to the equipment manufacturer or issue two party checks.
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31. **Question:** Does the dry cleaner have to specify the exact equipment they plan to install in the grant application?
Answer: The Department will accept multiple equipment proposal information and allow the applicant to make final decision based on the information in the contract. Only equipment specified within the contract is allowed to be installed to remain in compliance with the contract conditions.
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32. **Question:** What date is NJDEP using for grant matrix amount determination, the machine manufacture date or the date the machine was installed at that dry cleaning facility?
Answer: The Department will use the installation date of the equipment if the equipment was installed new. If used equipment was installed the Department will use the manufacture date.
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33. **Question:** Can a facility get a grant to add a wetcleaning system to an existing plant and another grant to add wetcleaning to a drop store or new facility?
Answer: Yes, The Department will process both applications.
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34. **Question:** Do I have to buy tensioning equipment to be eligible for the wetcleaning grant?
Answer: No, The Department strongly recommends that the facility purchase and use tensioning and finishing equipment in the wetcleaning process but will not require the purchase of tensioning and finishing equipment as a condition to receiving grant monies.
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35. **Question:** Is there a minimum wetcleaning capacity size required to be eligible for the grant?
Answer: There is currently no minimum size limit required to be eligible for the grant. However the Department will not issue monies in excess of the cost of the wetcleaning equipment installed. The grant allowance will be based on the actual cost of the equipment purchase and installation costs, if less than \$15,000.
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36. **Question:** Do domestic washing machines qualify as professional wetcleaning equipment?
Answer: No
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37. **Question:** Will the Department require a separate washer and dryer in the wetcleaning operation since some garments cannot be dried together without causing damage?
Answer: The Department will allow both a separate washer and dryer, or a combination unit, to qualify for the grant.
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38. **Question:** Can I, or someone else, re-use a 4th Generation Perc dry cleaning machine in a different location in New Jersey that was removed from service under the grant?
Answer: No, since the purpose of the grant is to reduce the perc emissions in NJ, the Department does not want the equipment that has been part of a grant approval to be re-installed at another location in NJ.
Therefore, any 4th generation perc machine that was removed from one location, due to approval of a Department grant, can not be sold or re-installed in another location or facility within the borders of NJ. As part of our inspection plan, the Department will be checking serial numbers of equipment that is being permitted in NJ to insure that dry cleaner grant perc equipment is not re-installed.