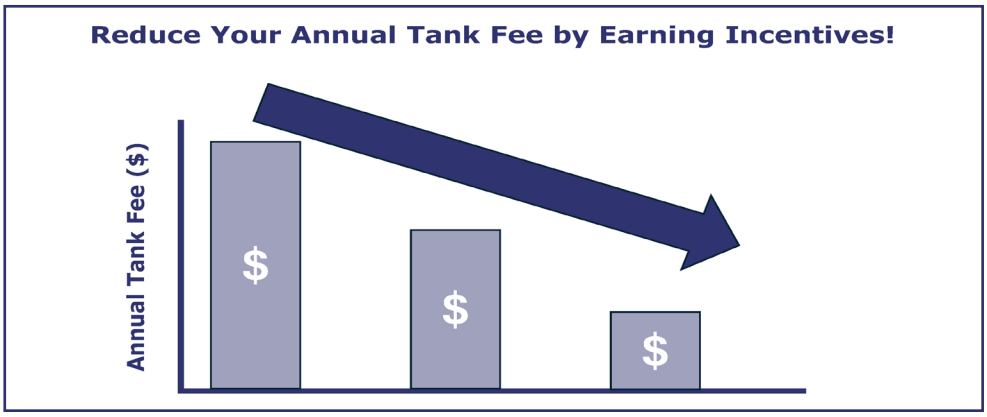
Washington State Pollution Liability Insurance Agency

Financial Assurance Program Enrollment Fee Discounts

The Washington State Pollution Liability Insurance Agency (PLIA) offers incentives to Financial Assurance (FA) Program participants in the form of annual enrollment fee discounts. Incentives promote best practices to reduce the likelihood and severity of accidental petroleum leaks.



PLIA will review the following items to determine if you meet the requirements to earn an incentive:

- Documents that you submit to the agency.
- Data from Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) inspections.
- Information that PLIA staff collect during facility assessments.

You may lose discounts if your facility is out of compliance[1] or if you fail to submit required documents.

You must submit an Incentive Form through PLIA's Online Community no later than 90 calendar days before your enrollment renewal date. The Incentive Form must be filled out for each tank and include appropriate information to determine if you have earned the incentive. If you have questions while filling out the Incentive Form, contact your PLIA facility assessor.

If you earn incentives, PLIA will apply the discount to annual fees for the next year of program enrollment. In your renewal notice, PLIA will provide a list of any discounts you earned during the previous years. Discounts are not available during the first year of enrollment and PLIA will not apply discounts to previous yearly fees and reimburse for previous payments. If you believe you qualify for discounts not included in your renewal notice, contact your PLIA facility assessor.

You can earn multiple discounts each year. By earning discounts, you have the potential to reduce annual tank fees by up to 75%. However, the minimum annual tank fee must be paid regardless of how many incentive the tank is qualified for.

The table below shows the range of annual fees for 2025-2026 based on tank age and the minimum fee that must be paid regardless of how many incentives the tank is qualified for.

Annual Tank Fee Ranges for 2025-2026				
Tank Age (Years)	0-10	11-20	21-30	30+
Maximum Fee per UST With No Incentive Applied	$1,000	$1,500	$2,000	$2,500
Minimum Fee per UST After the Maximum Amount of Incentives Applied	$250	$375	$500	$625

[1]To be in compliance, a UST facility must meet the standards outlined in Chapter 173-360 WAC, Underground Storage Tank Regulations and PLIA's FA Program Guidance.

PLIA offers four specific discount amounts depending on the type of incentive. These amounts are $500, $200, $100, and $50.

$500 Tank Fee Discount

1. Automatic Tank Gauge (ATG) Release Detection System
   - **Requirements:** A tank may be eligible for this incentive if its release detection system meets the following conditions (this incentive is applied only for tanks that have an ATG):
     i. The release detection system is an ATG with compatible components, sensors, and dispensers.
     ii. The ATG meets the tank release detection standards outlined in WAC 173-360A-0480.
     iii. The ATG has the ability to send PLIA monthly electronic release detection records and tests.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** If your release detection system meets the requirements listed above:
     i. Submit installation records for the ATG to PLIA at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal.
     ii. Submit the past nine months of release detection records to PLIA 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal.

$200 Tank Fee Discounts

1. Passing Helium Detection Test
   - **Requirements:** Perform a helium leak detection test on your enrolled UST at least once a year. This discount will only apply to the tank on which the test has been performed.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit documentation of helium leak detection test to PLIA at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal. The test must show that the tank does not allow helium to escape.
2. Electric Vehicle (EV) Station (If you have a charger that meets these incentive requirements, up to two USTs at your facility will be eligible for a $200 tank fee discount.)
   - **Requirements:** If you have EV stations at your facility, you must meet the following conditions:
     i. Charger is either a Level 2 Charger or DC Fast Charger.
     ii. Charger is operational 97% of the time for the past nine months before record submission deadline.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit the past nine months of EV charging records to PLIA 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal. Records must show EV stations meet the 97% up-time requirement.

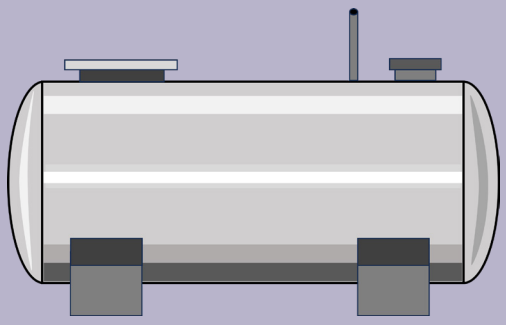
$100 Tank Fee Discounts

1. Rubber Mats
   - **Requirements:** Install rubber mats over tank sumps, spill buckets, and fill ports. This incentive is calculated per tank (i.e., if you have a rubber mat over one UST's sump, spill bucket, and fill port but no mats for other USTs at the facility, the $100 fee discount only applies to the one UST with the mat).
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit photos of your facility's rubber mats to PLIA at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal. Include a sign of your business in the photo.
2. No Surface Cracks at Facility
   - **Requirements:** Concrete or asphalt surfaces at your facility must not contain visible cracks.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Upload photos of facility surfaces at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal. Include a sign of your business in each photo. If you meet the requirements for this incentive, a $100 discount will be applied to the tank fees for all enrolled USTs at the facility.
3. Corrosion Protection Testing Records
   - **Requirements:** Provide **annual** corrosion protection records for your UST.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit most recent passing testing record completed within the last calendar year to PLIA at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal.
4. Clean Spill Buckets and Sumps
   - **Requirements:** Ensure that spill buckets and sumps at your facility are free of liquid.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Upload pictures of spill buckets and sumps each month of the enrollment period. As with the Rubber Mat incentive, this incentive is also calculated per tank.

$50 Tank Fee Discounts

1. Records Best Management
   - **Requirements:** Incorporate best management practices for recordkeeping at your facility.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Schedule an in-person review or virtual assessment with PLIA once a year, at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal.
2. 100% Trained Operators
   - **Requirements:** All staff at your facility must successfully complete UST Class C operator training. Additionally, at least one staff member must complete Class A or B operator training.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit A/B operator and current Operator C Training Log sheet to PLIA three months after enrollment and then again nine months after enrollment.
3. Rectifier Log Sheets
   - **Requirements:** Record rectifier readings on rectifier log sheet.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit photos of rectifier log sheet to PLIA each month of enrollment period.
4. Release Detection Testing Records
   - **Requirements:** Maintain facility release detection testing records every year for the past three years.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Submit release detection testing records to PLIA at least 95 calendar days before enrollment renewal.
5. Completed Walkthrough Checklists
   - **Requirements:** Complete and submit Department of Ecology UST Walkthrough Inspections Checklist.
   - **How to Earn Incentive:** Complete and submit checklist to PLIA each month of enrollment period.

Incentive Example



A UST owner in Washington State enrolls one UST in the FA Program on January 1, 2025. The age of their UST is three years old. As part of their enrollment, they pay the tank fee of $1,000 to PLIA.

Over the course of their first year of enrollment the owner takes the following actions:

- The owner installs a new ATG at their facility to earn a fee discount of $500.
- The owner performs a helium leak detection test on their UST to earn a fee discount of $200.
- The owner installs rubber mats over sumps, spill buckets, and fill ports at the facility to earn a fee discount of $100.

The owner submits required documents to PLIA through PLIA's Online Community three months before their enrollment renewal date (January 1, 2026).

After reviewing the submitted documents, PLIA approves all incentives. The total value of the owner's earned discounts is $800.

Without the discounts from these incentives, the owner would pay $1,000 to enroll in the FA Program for a second year. Subtracting the full $800 discount value from their annual tank fee brings the amount to $200.

However, since the minimum annual tank fee is $250 for tanks that are 0-10 years old, the amount that the owner needs to pay to enroll their tank for a second year in the FA Program is that minimum $250 fee.

Washington State
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