EFFICIENCY MAINE

COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL PRESCRIPTIVE INITIATIVES

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NOTICE (FON)

Compressed Air Systems
CIPI FON-024-2026

Opening: November 20, 2025

Application Deadline: June 30, 2026
Project Completion Deadline: August 31, 2026

CONTENTS:

Section 1: Overview and Instructions

Section 2: Project Eligibility

Section 3: Application Requirements

Section 4: Submittal Instructions

Section 5: Project Approval and Incentive Offer Process

Section 6: Project Completion Process

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS:

1) **Attachment A: FON Project Application and Commitment Form**
2) **Qualified Partner Price Quote**
3) **Supplier Material Quote**

SECTION 1: OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONS

1.1 Purpose

Through this Funding Opportunity Notice (FON or "opportunity") Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for energy efficiency projects involving compressed air systems in Maine businesses. This initiative falls under Efficiency Maine's Commercial and Industrial Prescriptive Initiatives (CIPI) and is referred to as the Compressed Air Systems Funding Opportunity Notice, FON-024-2026. This initiative offers incentives 30% higher than typically provided under the CIPI, with the intent of accelerating the conversion to efficient compressed air systems in Maine businesses.

1.2 Funding Description

This FON provides incentives that are 30% higher than prescriptive measures for qualifying projects to upgrade and install efficient compressed air systems. The chart below has incentive information on the qualifying equipment and see section 2.2 for a description of the criteria used to determine which equipment (or "measures") qualifies for these incentives. See the incentive considerations below.

Air Compressors	
Size	**FON Incentive per HP**
≤15HP	$105
16HP – 30HP	$115
31HP – 60HP	$130
>60HP	$145
Incentives are capped at 80% of measure costs.	

High Efficiency Dryers	
Dryer Capacity	**FON Incentive per Unit**
75	$325
100	$455
150	$650
200	$845
250	$1,040
300	$1,300
400	$1,690
Incentives are capped at 80% of measure costs.	

Compressor Control Codes & Storage Requirements			
Compressor Type	**Control Code**	**Minimum Gallons per CFM**	**Maximum Gallons per CFM**
Load/No Load	L/NL	4	5
Variable Frequency Drive	VFD	2	3
Variable Displacement	VD	2	3

Receivers	
Receiver Capacity to be Added (Gallons)	**FON Incentive per Unit**
60	$235
80	$455
120	$650
200	$975
240	$975
400	$1,300
660	$3,250
1,060	$4,550
Receiver capacity must meet requirements in Compressor Control Codes & Storage Requirements table. Incentives are capped at 80% of measure costs.	

Low Pressure Drop Filters	
System Compressor Size (HP)	**FON Incentive**
≤15 HP	$50
16 HP – 25 HP	$100
26 HP – 50 HP	$195
>50 HP	$230
Incentives are capped at 80% of measure costs.	

Air-Entraining Nozzles
FON Incentive per Nozzle
$10
Incentives are capped at 80% of measure costs.

Incentive Considerations:

- Only VFD and Load/No Load Compressors are eligible for prescriptive incentives.
- Compressor must operate for a minimum of 1,000 hours/year to be eligible for prescriptive incentives.
- CAGI sheets for the proposed equipment must be submitted when applying for the incentive.
- Receiver capacity must meet requirements in Compressor Control Codes & Storage Requirements table.
- Pre-approval is required for all projects.

1.3 FON Schedule

Efficiency Maine will accept applications for the Compressed Air Systems FON from November 20, 2025, through **June 30, 2026**, or until funding has been exhausted. The CIPI team will review the applications and issue incentive offers in the form of a pre-approval offer email to applicants who meet the criteria within this FON, and as funding allows.

FON Schedule	
FON Issue Date:	November 20, 2025
Rolling Application Period:	November 20, 2025 - June 30, 2026
Project Completion Deadline:	August 31, 2026

*Or until funding has been exhausted

1.4 FON Informational Webinars

Efficiency Maine will conduct one webinar presentation to inform interested parties on the specifics of this FON. It is not mandatory, but recommended, that applicants attend. The webinar schedule appears below. To participate in a webinar presentation, register using the link for your desired date.

- Wednesday December 10, 2025, at 8:00 AM - TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE

SECTION 2: PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Eligible Projects

An eligible project includes only the compressed air solutions listed in section 2.2. Only VFD and Load/No Load Compressors are eligible for prescriptive incentives. Compressor must operate for a minimum of 1,000 hrs/year in order to be eligible for prescriptive incentives. CAGI sheets for proposed equipment must be submitted when applying for the incentive. Receiver capacity must meet requirements in table found in the Measure Code Reference Guide (Compressor Control Codes & Storage Requirements). Projects must be completed by a QP or identified self-installer on the business's staff; a list of Qualified Partners can be found by using the locator at https://www.efficiencymaine.com/at-work/qualified-partners/. To use the locator simply put in your ZIP code and desired radius before selecting "Compressed Air Solutions" in the "Services" menu. The QP installer or product supplier will be able to complete the calculator.

2.2 Eligible Solutions

Compressed Air Systems	
Efficiency Maine Measure Code	**Description**
C1 – C4	**High-Efficiency Compressor Systems** • Multiple stage compressors vary their speed to match load. Switching to a variable speed compressor can result in significant energy savings. Only VFD and Load/No Load Compressors are eligible for prescriptive incentives. Compressor must operate for a minimum of 1,000 hrs/year in order to be eligible for prescriptive incentives.
C10 – C16	**High-Efficiency Dryers** • Dryers help remove the moisture in the air, increasing the efficiency of compressed air production and reducing energy load. Select the drying technology that gives you the maximum allowable pressure at dew point.
C20 – C27	**Air Compressor Receivers (compressor control)** • Air receivers are designed to provide a buffer capacity between the supply and the demand sides of a compressed air system. Having enough storage capacity near the compressor plant protects the compressors and dryers from sudden shifts in demand. They also prevent false loading of the compressors.

C30 – C33	**Low-Pressure Drop Filters (compressor control)** • The filter is a typical place where the air distribution system loses pressure; pressure drops can significantly reduce system performance. If you lose more than 0.5 psig at the filter, consider replacing the filter.
C40	**Air-Entraining Nozzles (compressor control)** • Air-entraining air nozzles draw in (or entrain) surrounding atmospheric air, reducing compressed air use at the nozzle.

SECTION 3: APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Each applicant must submit the documentation listed below to be considered for incentives under this opportunity. This documentation must include a price quote obtained by the applicant from a Qualified Partner or from a licensed self-installer on the business's staff. Material quotes must include the make and model of each product used in the upgrade, the quantity of each, and the costs to the customer. list of required documentation follows:

Required Documents:

- ❑ Attachment A: FON Project Application and Commitment Form
- ❑ Qualified Partner Installation Price Quote to Customer
- ❑ Supplier Material Quote

  **Efficiency Maine reserves the right to request additional information as needed prior to project approval.*

Applications that are incomplete will not be accepted by Efficiency Maine and will be returned to the applicant via email.

SECTION 4: SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

Project applications must include all materials (appropriate attachments) as requested in Section 3 and are to be emailed to CIP@efficiencymaine.com by the program applicant. The email subject line must include "CIPI FON-024-2026".

For questions throughout the process, applicants are encouraged to speak with a Qualified Partner (using the locator tool described in section 2) or to contact the Program Team at (207) 213-6247 or CIP@efficiencymaine.com.

SECTION 5: PROJECT APPROVAL AND INCENTIVE OFFER PROCESS

The process to apply for a project incentive starts with obtaining pre-approval. This must be done prior to ordering, procuring, or installing any equipment or materials. By applying, the applicant is making a representation to Efficiency Maine that all information provided in connection with the application is complete and accurate at the time of submission. The intentional provision of any false or misleading information, or the intentional omission of material information, will result in the application being deemed ineligible. Efficiency Maine recognizes that, depending on the nature of a proposed project, third-party vendor, installer, or energy service companies (ESCOs) may assist in the preparation, submittal, and processing of an application on behalf of a customer. Notwithstanding the participation of a third-party vendor, installer or ESCO, Efficiency Maine considers the customer to be the FONs Applicant and requires the customer to be a direct party to the application. Efficiency Maine requires direct communication with the customer as necessary for review and evaluation of an application. Because no project approval or incentive award is guaranteed, no third-party vendor, installer or ESCO should make any firm commitment of incentive award funds in advance of a final notice of award to the customer.

For applications received and accepted by the deadline listed in section 1.3, Efficiency Maine will review the data submitted to ensure accuracy. ***Incomplete applications will not be accepted for review and the applicant will be notified in writing by email.*** Efficiency Maine reserves the right to conduct pre-inspections at project sites and/or to request additional information during the review process. A representative from Efficiency Maine may schedule site inspection visits through the point of contact listed in the FON Project Application and Commitment Form (Attachment A), during the pre-approval period.

Once Efficiency Maine completes its review, it will make a formal incentive pre-approval offer through an "Approved Scope of Work" emailed to the applicant and the installer. The Approved Scope of Work and Terms and Conditions will be sent to the applicant and will indicate the approved scope of work and project financials including costs and estimated payback and the approved project incentive pending project completion. Incentives received by the applicant may be taxable by the federal, state, and local government. A W9 will be sent with the Approved Scope of Work to ensure correct tax information of the applicant. If the applicant wishes to accept this incentive offer, the applicant, and the installer (QP) must sign the Approved Scope of Work and Terms and Conditions and return them with the completed W9 for the applicant via email.

SECTION 6: PROJECT COMPLETION PROCESS

Upon completion of all work as outlined in the Approved Scope of Work (see section 1.3 for project completion deadline), the applicant and the installing contractor must sign and return the Customer Project Acceptance Form along with any material and installation invoices to the email address listed in

Section 4. Efficiency Maine will conduct a final project review and process the applicant's incentive(s). Once the final project review has been completed, payment will be processed to the customer. Efficiency Maine reserves the right to conduct a post-installation inspection during the final project review. A representative from Efficiency Maine will schedule site inspection visits through the point of contact listed in the FON Project Application and Commitment Form (Attachment A). Efficiency Maine will conclude all approved incentive payments by September 15, 2026.