

1 October 2026

NSW Container Deposit Scheme supplier contribution pricing frequently asked questions (FAQs)

What is the current fixed price per container by material type?

Material type	Current pricing (cents) applied to invoices issued Feb 2026 to Jan 2027 (incl)	Future pricing (cents) applied to invoices issued Feb 2027 to Jan 2028 (incl)
Aluminium	13.60	No change – pricing held until January 2028 invoice.
Glass	14.03	
HDPE	9.28	
PET	13.14	
LPB (liquid paperboard)	4.70	
Steel	10.61	
Other plastics	1.94	
Other materials	12.17	

Why are the prices of some material types higher than others?

Scheme pricing by material type reflects the redemption rates and the actual costs of recovery for each material type. Aluminium, glass and PET are the most highly redeemed materials in NSW, which is reflected in the material pricing.

What timeframe does the current pricing continue until?

The current fixed price per material type applies up to the January 2028 invoice.

How are supplier invoices calculated?

Supplier invoices are calculated by multiplying actual historical container volumes supplied and declared by each supplier by the fixed price per material type:

Actual supply volumes (one month in arrears) x fixed price by material type = invoice issued on 21st of the month to fund the previous month's scheme costs.

For example, April volumes reported on 15 May x container price by material type = invoice issued on 21 May to fund April scheme costs.

Invoice month	May – issued 21 May
Based on actual monthly volume	April actual volumes reported on 15 May
Contribution for	April scheme costs



A supplier can therefore calculate in advance exactly how much their invoice will be before they receive it, as their invoice is based on their supply volumes as reported to EfC.

Is the scheme a cost recovery model?

Yes, the NSW scheme is a cost recovery model. This means that pricing covers the scheme's expected annual operating costs. The scheme does not generate any profit, and surplus or shortfalls in funds from one period are considered when setting pricing for future periods.

What do supplier contributions fund?

As the financial management of the scheme operates on a cost recovery model supplier contributions only cover the core scheme costs, which include:

- refunds – 10c (including GST) per container, paid to the network operator and passed on to consumers
- network fees – a fixed fee per container collected that is paid to the network operator based on the material type for each container collected through return points
- MRF refunds – 10c (including GST), paid to MRF operators for each container collected through kerbside recycling
- export rebates – to refund suppliers for beverage containers exported out of NSW
- scheme coordinator fee – fixed fee (regardless of volumes collected) for administration carried out by the scheme coordinator
- scheme compliance fee – fixed fee (regardless of volumes collected) paid to the NSW EPA to cover compliance costs.

What assumptions have been used to forecast scheme performance when setting pricing?

The fixed pricing was developed based on:

- historical supplier volumes and estimated growth in line with population growth
- historical and projected growth in redemptions through the network of return points
- historical and projected redemptions through MRF operators (kerbside collections)
- network operator handling and processing fees per container and for each material type
- fixed costs, including for scheme coordinator and government compliance fees
- maintaining scheme liquidity.

How are scheme performance and pricing tracked?

Suppliers can track scheme performance each month, including the rolling 12-month redemption rate and monthly supply and collection volumes, on the homepage of the [EfC website](http://exchangeforchange.com.au).

Will this pricing apply when scheme expansion commences in mid-2027?

Yes, the current pricing will be in effect until January 2028.

When will EfC announce the next price review?

EfC intends to announce pricing for the next period in October 2027. This pricing would take effect from the February 2028 invoice.

When will the Small Supplier and Micro Supplier programs commence?

Both programs will commence from 1 July 2027. More information on how current participating suppliers can join the programs will be shared closer to the implementation date.

I supply containers into NSW and ACT. What are the differences between the NSW Small and Micro Supplier programs and the ACT Small and Micro Supplier programs?

	ACT	NSW
Micro supplier	≤100,000 containers supplied into ACT per year • 7-day payment terms • annual reporting and invoicing • effective from 1 July 2027	≤100,000 containers supplied into NSW per year • 28-day payment terms • annual reporting and invoicing • effective from 1 July 2027
Small supplier	≤300,000 containers supplied into ACT per year • 7-day payment terms • quarterly reporting and invoicing • effective from 1 July 2027	≤1 million containers supplied into NSW per year • 28-day payment terms • quarterly reporting and invoicing • effective from 1 July 2027
Large supplier	300,000+ containers supplier into ACT per year • 7-day payment terms • Monthly reporting and invoicing	1 million+ containers supplied into NSW per year • 7-day payment terms • Monthly reporting and invoicing



Why isn't the threshold for the ACT CDS' Small Supplier Program the same as the NSW threshold?

The ACT scheme is a much smaller jurisdiction than NSW with significantly smaller supply volumes compared to NSW. We have set the threshold for the Small Supplier Program in each jurisdiction based on its unique conditions to ensure sufficient funding to cover scheme costs each month.

I'm a small/micro supplier but prefer monthly reporting and invoicing to manage my cash flow – can I opt out of the Small/Micro Supplier Program?

Yes, you will be able to opt out of the micro or small supplier program and choose monthly reporting and invoicing. More information on how to do so will be provided closer to the implementation date.

Are all Australian container deposit schemes still working to harmonise?

Yes – streamlining processes and reducing administrative burden for suppliers is a key focus for all schemes across Australia.

This includes a project currently in progress, led by NSW EPA, to develop a harmonised supplier portal for container approvals.

Get in touch

If you have any questions about pricing or the NSW scheme, please contact our Customer Service Team on **1800 813 887** or email customersupport@exchangeforchange.com.au.

If you are current supplier please have your Supplier Arrangement Number (RAE1XXXX) ready, so our friendly team can help with your enquiry efficiently.