



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

**Washington Cap-and-Invest Program**  
**2023 Auction Notice #1**

Issued on December 20, 2022

**Auction of greenhouse gas allowances on February 28, 2023**

**Auction Summary**

This document is the official notification for the February 28, 2023, greenhouse gas allowance auction. The February 28, 2023, auction will offer year 2023 vintage allowances (Current Allowances). Future year vintage allowances will not be offered. This auction will be referred to as “Auction #1 February 2023” or “Auction #1” in the Compliance Instrument Tracking System Service (CITSS) and on the Auction Platform.

Additional information and instructions relating to participating in this auction are on the Climate Commitment Act [Auctions Trainings and Resources webpage](#). Links to the *Introduction to the Auction Platform* and *Bidding Instructions* documents, as well as recording of training webinars, are on this webpage as a resource for auction participants.

The *Auction Examples* document provides information and examples of how to determine the amount of a bid guarantee, bid evaluation procedures, purchase limits, holding limits, and examples of auction bid fulfillment.

**Date and Time of Auction**

Auction #1 is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, from 10:00 AM Pacific Time until 1:00 PM Pacific Time.

Auction #1 will be conducted through Washington’s internet-based Auction Platform. The Auction Platform can be accessed at [www.wci-auction.org](http://www.wci-auction.org).

**Allowances Offered for Sale**

The auction of allowances from the current year (2023) is known as the Current Auction. No future vintages will be offered in Auction #1, but future vintage allowances will be offered in auctions later in 2023. The number of allowances available for sale in the Current Auction are provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Allowances Offered for Sale at Auction #1

Auction	Number of Allowances
Current Auction (2023 vintage)	6,185,222
Advance Auction (2026 vintage)	N/A

### Annual Auction Floor Price

The Annual Auction Floor Price refers to the price for allowances below which bids at auction are not eligible to be accepted. The Annual Auction Floor Price is set on the first business day in December and applies to each auction in the following year.

Table 2. Annual Auction Floor Price

Auction	Annual Auction Floor Price
Current Auction (2023 vintage)	\$22.20
Advance Auction (2026 vintage)	N/A

### Auction Eligibility

Entities eligible to participate in an auction under the Washington Climate Commitment Act Cap-and-Invest Program include Washington covered entities, opt-in entities, and general market participants with an approved account in CITSS, and an auction application submitted at least 30 days prior to the auction date.

An entity must be registered under the Washington Cap-and-Invest Program and have an active CITSS General Holding Account to be eligible for approval to participate in an auction. Ecology must have approved your CITSS User Registration and Entity Account Application before entities will be able to apply to participate in an auction. Instructions and guidance on how to obtain an active account are available on [Ecology's Auctions Trainings and Resources](#) webpage.

### Submitting an Auction Application

A registered entity must apply in CITSS to participate in each auction. Auction applicants must submit information at least 30 days before the day of the auction. CITSS can be accessed at [www.wci-citss.org](http://www.wci-citss.org).

Information submitted in the auction application process includes the following:

- Name, contact information, and holding account number of the registered entity
- Name and contact information for all designated account representatives and any consultant that provides advice related to the participant's bidding strategy, and the name of the consultant's employer
- Information on the form of bid guarantee and return instructions
- Completion of attestation

After entering the information listed above, auction applications are then confirmed and submitted in CITSS.

Auction eligibility information also includes information submitted in the process of obtaining a CITSS account:

- Corporate identity, ownership, and capital structure of the applicant
- The existence of any direct or indirect corporate associations
- An allocation of the purchase limit and holding limit among the associated entities

Auction eligibility is described in further detail in the *Detailed Auction Requirements and Instructions* document.

### **Auction Schedule**

Table 3, on the following page, presents the current schedule for activities associated with Auction #1 February 2023 (Auction Schedule). Any changes to the Auction Schedule will be communicated through an updated Auction Notice and by email to the Primary Account Representative (PAR) and Alternative Account Representatives (AARs) of Washington registered entities that have applied to participate in an upcoming auction.

Table 3. Auction Schedule

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Time</b> <i>Pacific Time (PT)</i>
Auction Notice released/ Auction application window opens	Tuesday, Dec 20, 2022	12:00 PM (Noon) PT
Deadline for entities intending to participate in the auction to submit entity information changes and disclosures*	Thursday, Jan 19, 2023	8:59 PM PT
Auction application window closes	Sunday, Jan 29, 2023	8:59 PM PT
All bid guarantees due to Financial Services Administrator	Thursday, Feb 16, 2023	<i>No later than</i> 3:00 PM PT
Auction participants approved and PAR and AARs notified	Friday, Feb 24, 2023	<i>No later than</i> 2:00 PM PT
<b>Auction held</b>	<b>Tuesday, Feb 28, 2023</b>	<b>Bidding window open 10:00 AM PT – 1:00 PM PT</b>
Auction Summary Results Report released	Tuesday, March 7, 2023	12:00 PM (Noon) PT
Auction certified / Results available to qualified bidders	Tuesday, March 7, 2023	12:00 PM (Noon) PT
Financial settlement in cash due to Financial Services Administrator	Wednesday, March 15, 2023	<i>No later than</i> 3:00 PM PT
Earliest date for bid guarantee expiration	Sunday, March 26, 2023	
Distribution of auction proceeds completed	Tuesday, March 28, 2023	
Transfer of allowances into CITSS Accounts	Tuesday, March 28, 2023	
Washington Auction Public Proceeds Report released	Tuesday, March 28, 2023	

\*See [Detailed Auction Requirements and Instructions](#) for relevant changes and disclosures.

## **Procedures for Conducting the Auction**

This auction will be conducted through the electronic, internet-based Auction Platform that bidders use to submit bids in a single-round, sealed-bid auction format.

Each participating entity must submit an auction application in CITSS. Financial Services Delivery Instructions will be available from CITSS, and all final bid guarantees must be received by the Financial Services Administrator no later than the date and time listed in the Auction Schedule (above). Ecology will approve or reject applications to participate in an auction within two (2) business days of the scheduled auction date.

Procedures for conducting the auction are described in [Chapter 173-446 WAC](#), Sections 300-390, and in the *Detailed Auction Requirements* and *Auction Examples* documents.

## **Form and Manner for Submitting Bids**

Auction participants will be able to submit bids manually and upload bid schedules in a pre-defined Excel template in the Auction Platform during the bidding window. Bid quantities can only be submitted in multiples of 1,000 allowances, i.e. 1 bid lot equals 1,000 allowances. Bids for the Current Auction will be accepted during the scheduled 3-hour bidding window. The form and manner for submitting bids are described in further detail in the *Detailed Auction Requirements* document with specific examples provided in the *Auction Examples* document. More information about these resources can be found below.

## **Auction Participant Training Materials**

The above-referenced auction participant resources are available on the Washington Climate Commitment Act [Auctions Training and Resources webpage](#), including the *Auction Participant Training* presentation for Washington entities. This presentation includes information on regulatory requirements for auction eligibility, the auction application process in CITSS, bid guarantee submission, bid submission, settlement price determination, and financial settlement processes for auctions.

Training materials will also be available from the Auction Platform, along with *Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)* and the *Auction Participant Training* presentation.

## **Contact Information**

If you have questions about the information in this auction notice, please contact:

Website: [cca.wa.gov/auctions-and-trading](http://cca.wa.gov/auctions-and-trading)

Email: [CCAAuctions@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:CCAAuctions@ecy.wa.gov)

Ecology CCA Help Desk: 360-407-6296

## **ADA Accessibility**

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188. To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6800 or email Melanie Forster at [melanie.forster@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:melanie.forster@ecy.wa.gov), or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877- 833 - 6341.