



Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) Exemption Phase-Out for Medical Baseline (MBL)

Direct Access (DA) and Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Customers

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the PCIA?

- The purpose of the PCIA charge is to ensure that both PG&E customers and those who have left PG&E service to purchase electricity from other providers pay for the above market costs for electric generation resources that were procured by PG&E on their behalf. "Above market" refers to the difference between what the utility pays for electric generation and current market prices for the sale of those resources.
- All of PG&E's bundled service customers pay the PCIA, including customers who are enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. Some CCA and DA customers on the Medical Baseline program have historically been exempt from the PCIA charge.

What is a CCA?

- CCAs buy or generate electricity for residents and businesses within their communities. PG&E partners with each CCA to deliver the electricity through PG&E's transmission and distribution system. PG&E also provides meter-reading, billing, maintenance, and outage response services for the CCAs.
- Please visit pge.com/cca to learn more about CCA programs.

What is a DA?

- DA is an option that allows eligible customers to purchase their electricity directly from third party providers known as **Electric Service Provider** (ESPs). Under this service option, PG&E will continue to deliver electricity regardless of which ESP the customer chooses.
- Please visit pge.com/directaccess to learn more about Direct Access. DA is no longer available to residential customers.

Why don't I pay this charge today and why is this changing?

- The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the state agency that regulates California's utilities, previously exempted PG&E CCA and DA customers on the Medical Baseline program from paying the PCIA.
- In September 2018, the CPUC authorized PG&E to eliminate the PCIA exemption for CCA and DA Medical Baseline customers according to a "Phase-Out" schedule. This would allow all customers enrolled in the Medical Baseline program to be treated equally regardless of their choice of electric provider.

What is the PCIA Exemption Phase-Out schedule?

PG&E will phase-out the PCIA exemption over four years until it reaches the full charge. Starting January 1, 2022, the PCIA will be 25% of the full value. Each January thereafter, the PCIA will increase by 25%: 50% in the second year (2023), 75% in the third year (2024), and 100% in the fourth year (2025).

How will the Phase-Out of the PCIA Exemption show up on my bill?

You will continue to see the full charge of the PCIA, discounted by the "Cost Responsibility Surcharge Exemption" line-item, on the PG&E portion of your energy statement.

Will this change have any impact on my California Alternate Rates for Energy Program (CARE), Family Electric Rate Assistance Program (FERA), or Medical Baseline program status?

No, this change will not have any impact on your CARE, FERA or Medical Baseline status or program benefits.

I am a current PG&E customer enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. What happens if I start receiving service from a CCA that is already operating in my county after the start of the PCIA Exemption Phase-Out?

When you start purchasing electricity from a CCA that is already operating as of January 1, 2022, you will begin paying the PCIA that is currently in effect in that year of the Phase-Out.

I am a current CCA customer enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. What happens if I unenroll from the Medical Baseline program during the PCIA Exemption Phase-Out?

Upon your unenrollment from the Medical Baseline program, you will start paying the full PCIA.

I am a current CCA customer enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. If I choose to return to PG&E as my electric provider, will I be exempt from the PCIA?

No. All of PG&E's bundled service customers pay the full PCIA through PG&E's generation rates, including bundled service customers who are enrolled in the Medical Baseline program.

I am a current CCA customer NOT enrolled in the Medical Baseline program. What happens if I enroll in the Medical Baseline program after the start of the PCIA Exemption Phase-Out?

As a current CCA customer, you are already paying the full PCIA. Upon your enrollment in the Medical Baseline program, you will begin paying the PCIA that is currently in effect in that year of the Phase-Out.

I recently received a letter notifying me that I have been automatically enrolled in "COVID-19 Relief Payment Plan". How is that payment plan related to the Medical Baseline PCIA Exemption Phase-Out?

The two notifications are different and unrelated. The Medical Baseline PCIA Exemption Phase-Out will begin on January 1, 2022, regardless of and separate from enrollment in the COVID-19 Relief Payment Plan. The COVID-19 Relief Payment Plan automatically provides eligible residential customers two years over which to pay off their energy bill debt, with an opt-out provision. Please visit [pge.com/covid19](https://www.pge.com/covid19) for more information on the COVID-19 Relief Payment Plan.