

# Materials Guide

2024 Schedule  
of Contributions

## Introduction

Éco Entreprises Québec (ÉEQ) presents its Materials Guide, which is designed to help contributing companies classify the containers, packaging and printed matter (CP&PM) they place on the Québec market when submitting a detailed report for the 2024 Schedule of Contributions (reference period: 2023 calendar year).

In addition to providing useful information on the reporting principles, the guide includes information sheets for every material covered by the Schedule of Contributions (SoC). Each one includes a description of the designated material, examples of CP&PM that should or should not be associated with it and additional precisions.

The materials subject to a fee fall into two categories: printed matter and containers and packaging.

This guide was developed based on the 2024 SoC, in accordance with the [Regulation respecting a system of selective collection of certain residual materials](#) (The Regulation).

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### Important note

While this guide may be used to classify CP&PM under previous SoCs, it is important to remember that materials may vary from one SoC to another. Furthermore, this guide is not a contribution calculation tool or a worksheet. Contributing companies that require a calculation tool should use our template file to gather their data.

# 2024 Schedule of Contributions: key changes

## The 2024 SoC includes the following changes:

### Refundable materials

As mentioned in the 2023 Materials Guide, some of the containers and packaging that are currently subject to a fee are included in the broadening of Québec's deposit-refund system. These containers and packaging are those that are sealed, 100 ml to 2 L and meant to contain liquid intended for human consumption that, at the time of purchase, is ready to drink<sup>1</sup>.

Are excluded: concentrate, broth, infant formula, yogurt or drinkable yogurt, any similar product that contains more than 50% milk permeate, flexible plastic pouches, bag-in-box containers (e.g., for wine), and unsealed containers such as those added at a retail outlet.

As of the 2023 SoC and until the expanded deposit-refund system is fully implemented, the containers and packaging included in the broadening must be reported separately in the reporting portal. They are:

- Cork and wood
- PET bottles
- HDPE bottles, any formats and HDPE containers < 5 L
- Food and beverages aluminum containers
- Other steel containers
- Clear glass
- Coloured glass
- Ceramic and porcelain
- Aseptic containers
- Gable-top containers

To help contributing companies accurately classify materials, examples of products included in the broadened deposit-refund system were added.

It should be noted that aluminum containers that accompany ready to drink beverages put on the market after November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, must be excluded from the report to ÉÉQ, as the extended deposit-refund system came into effect on this date for this subcategory of material.

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation respecting the development, implementation and financial support of a deposit-refund system for certain containers, section 2, definition of "product".

# 2024 Schedule of Contributions: key changes

## (follow up)

### De-amalgamation of alternative fibers

Alternative fibers have been de-amalgamated from Boxboard and other paper packaging to allow for a better assessment of their deposit. Alternative fibers include all annual plant fibers that are not derived from wood, such as bamboo, bagasse and wheat straw. For the SoC, the rate will be the same as for the boxboard, but it could change over the next few years, depending on the outcome of studies currently underway to better understand the compatibility of these materials with the paper and cardboard recycling stream.

### De-amalgamation of aluminum aerosol containers

Aluminum aerosol containers have been de-amalgamated from the Other aluminum packaging category. This measure is intended to promote better modeling of the cost of this material in the system, considering that the behavior of aerosol containers is different from the Other aluminum packaging materials. The 2024 SoC rate will remain the same as the Other aluminum packaging materials.

### Introduction of the malus for two materials

The malus on polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and polylactic acid (PLA) and other degradable plastics, as announced since the 2022 Schedule of Contributions consultation, has been introduced in the 2024 Schedule of Contributions. The aim of this measure is to discourage the use of these two materials, targeted in particular because they have no recycling stream and their presence in the system contaminates the other materials, thereby reducing their quality.

### Exemptions and flat fees

To ensure that companies take greater responsibility for the materials they put on the market, the flat fee based on the revenue has been eliminated.

However, the notion of revenue eligible for the exemption of payment has been maintained, but extended to all revenues in Quebec in order to keep its original intent of reducing the administrative burden on small businesses. In addition, to take into account the particular reality of small businesses, the revenue-based exemption threshold has been raised to \$1.3 million. Other exemption and flat fee criteria remain unchanged.

# Reporting principles for contributing companies

## Schedule of Contributions

The Schedule of Contributions (SoC) is the legal document that governs compensation for the costs of curbside recycling services for containers, packaging and printed matter placed on the market in Québec. It is developed annually using a formula based on studies and verifiable data and accounts for environmental criteria. The SoC enables companies to understand their legal obligations and consult the applicable rate for every material.

### Calculating the contribution

A company's contribution is calculated for each CP&PM by multiplying the quantity of materials in kilograms placed on the market in Québec by the rate indicated in the contribution table of the SoC in effect.

FOR EACH CP&PM MARKETED IN QUEBEC

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{Total} & & & & & & \\
 \text{contribution} & = & \text{QTY. CP\&PM} & \times & \text{UNIT} & \times & \text{RATE PER} \\
 & & \text{GENERATED} & & \text{WEIGHT} & & \text{MATERIAL} \\
 & & \text{QTY. CP\&PM} & & \text{UNIT} & & \text{RATE PER} \\
 & & \text{GENERATED} & & \text{WEIGHT} & & \text{MATERIAL}
 \end{array}$$



## Filing your first company report

If you're filing a company report for the first time or want to better understand your legal obligations under the compensation plan and EPR, go to ÉEQ's [Start-up Kit](#).

## Eco-modulation of the Schedule of Contributions

Eco-modulation aims to move from a fee structure in which the weight and type of materials are predominant to one that is more closely linked to a material's impact along the value chain. Although the fee structure has long taken into account the principles of eco-modulation (notably by promoting source reduction and rewarding good practices), the performance of curbside recycling depends, among other things, on better decisions in the design of packaging and clear guidelines on what practices to avoid.

Thus, the objectives of the SoC's ÉEQ eco-modulation are to:

- Guide companies in their choices of materials, components and processes
- Recognize and support companies' ecodesign efforts
- Account for a material's performance and impact across the value chain
- Foster the increased recyclability of materials from a circular economy perspective

Eco-modulation is implemented in several ways, specifically by determining a **contribution table for designated materials** and implementing **financial incentives and disincentives** (e.g., credits, bonuses and penalties).

Click the following link to go to ÉEQ's eco-modulation roadmap: [2021–2025 Eco-modulation Roadmap](#).

### Contribution table for designated materials

The rate for each designated material is established based on a formula that considers the alignment between the nature of a material and the specific characteristics of its recycling stream.

Indeed, CP&PM follow a path from marketing to recycling. At the end of their useful life, they will be recycled, provided that there is an established recycling stream in place: they must be accepted under curbside recycling programs, collected, sorted and conditioned to be recycled into new CP&PM or products.

The key determinants of the material rates are the total curbside recycling costs, the recovery rates by material, the net cost for each material and the quantities of CP&PM reported by all contributing companies.

The contribution table is therefore intended to encourage companies to use materials for which there is an established recycling stream and discourage the use of materials that has none or which disrupt other recycling streams.

For more information on the process to develop the SoC, visit the [dedicated page on ÉEQ's website](#).

### KEY DETERMINANTS OF THE RATES FOR EACH MATERIAL SUBJECT TO A FEE



TOTAL COSTS OF CURBSIDE RECYCLING



NET COST FOR EACH MATERIAL



QTY. OF CP&PM REPORTED



RECOVERY RATE OF EACH MATERIAL

## Credit for post-consumer recycled content

Launched in 2009 for printed material and updated in 2013 to include selected containers and packaging, the credit for post-consumer recycled content is available to contributing companies that market CP&PM that **meet or exceed established post-consumer recycled content thresholds**. The following table outlines the materials that are eligible for a credit and the thresholds that must be met in order to apply for it.

Eligible companies may receive a **credit of 20%** based on the quantities of materials for which the credit application is approved.

Click [here](#) for more details.

Printed matter	Threshold
Inserts and circulars	80%
Magazines	50%
Catalogues and publications	50%
Telephone books	80%
Paper for general use	80%
Other printed matter	80%

Containers and packaging	Threshold
Kraft paper bags	100%
Kraft paper packaging	100%
Paper laminants	100%
PET bottles	100%
HDPE bottles	100%
PET containers	100%
HDPE containers	100%



### Did you know?

ÉÉQ is working to implement a set of CP&PM ecodesign and recycling guidelines. Based on internationally recognized standards, they will establish a common basis to optimize CP&PM in the Québec context.

In the meantime, to use the tools at your disposal and be inspired by concrete case studies to better understand ecodesign strategies, visit the [Ecodesign and Circular Economy Portal](#).

## Ecodesign incentive bonus

Launched as a pilot project with the 2021 SoC, the ecodesign incentive bonus was renewed for a third year. It aims to **recognize and support** companies committed to container and packaging ecodesign processes by granting a credit applicable to their contribution balance.

The bonus is based on **ten ecodesign actions** under four themes, and an additional bonus may be granted to conduct a case study that will be featured on the [Ecodesign Portal](#). Bonuses are cumulative up to a maximum of 50% for quantities of materials covered by this process. The ten ecodesign actions eligible for the bonus are detailed below.

Each application may be granted **up to \$25,000**, and companies may submit more than one application to receive **up to \$60,000**. A **minimum bonus of \$5,000** per company or a bonus equal to the company's total contribution (when it is less than \$5,000) may be granted if the application(s) are deemed eligible by ÉEQ.

Go to the [Ecodesign Incentive Bonus](#) page for more information.

## Malus

The malus is a financial measure designed to discourage the choice of materials that do not have recycling streams or that interfere with the collection, sorting, conditioning or recycling of other materials by imposing a malus on the payable contribution. As announced since consultations on the 2022 SoC two, materials will be subject to penalties as of the **2024 SoC**: Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and Polylactic acid (PLA) and other degradable plastics.

The financial malus for the 2024 SoC will be in the order of 20% of the amount of the contribution related to these materials. It is important to note that the malus rate will be subject to change, and may be revised upwards by ÉEQ over the next few years.

ÉEQ will pursue its studies on the materials that are difficult to recycle, and more penalties may be imposed in the future.

For full details, consult the [malus guide](#).





# Classifying materials

1

First, identify all CP&PM that accompany your products on the market or that are sold as products.

2

Then, identify the materials that make up your CP&PM. Your suppliers may be able to help you by providing technical sheets.

3

Look at the information sheets in this guide. Read the descriptions and product examples carefully to identify the material that best corresponds to each CP&PM.

4

Pay particular attention to the precisions and adjust your classification as needed.



## CP&PM to include in your company report

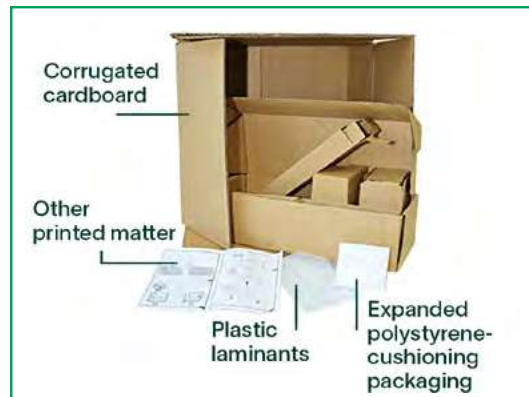
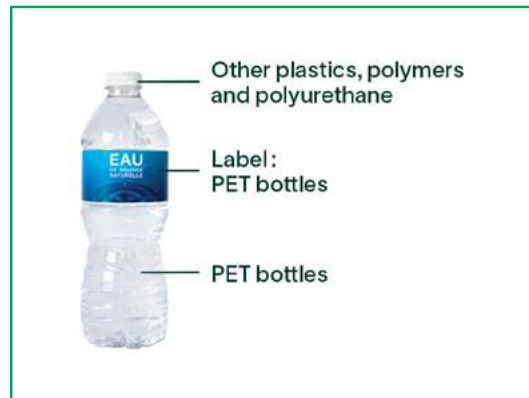
- CP&PM sold with a product
- CP&PM sold as products (e.g., notepad, paper plate)
- Containers and packaging added at the retail outlet (e.g., shopping bag, butcher paper)
- Advertising, information and transactional printed matter
- Shipping CP&PM for online sales

## CP&PM to exclude from your company report

- CP&PM ultimately intended for consumers outside Québec
- CP&PM for which the final consumer is a company or an institution
- Transport CP&PM that is not given to consumers (discarded on site)
- Containers and packaging covered by a recognized deposit-refund system (excluding secondary CP&PM)
- Books and identification documents

## Components of containers and packaging that are difficult to remove

When the components of a container, packaging or printed matter (CP&PM) are partially or entirely glued or affixed and are not easily detachable by the final consumer, they must be reported in the predominant material category, and the reported weight must be that of all components. For example:



### Important note

Biodegradable and compostable packaging placed on the market is subject to a fee and must be reported in the same way as other types of packaging.

The Regulation aims to make companies responsible for the products they market by requiring the costs of managing them at the end of their useful life, whether or not they are compatible with the curbside recycling system. The fact that certain CP&PM are compostable or incompatible with the curbside recycling system does not imply any exemption from reporting and from the payment of a contribution. This position is in line with a notice issued by the

Direction des Matières Résiduelles of the ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP<sup>2</sup>).

This applies to biodegradable and compostable packaging sold as products or added at the retail outlet (e.g. fruit and vegetable packaging).

<sup>2</sup> MELCCFP (2019). Opinion request pertaining to the Regulation on the compensation for municipal services [Letter sent by the MELCCFP to ÉEQ, on August 2, 2019, Québec].

Materials category	Materials sub-category	Materials	Eco-modulation measures		
			Credit	Bonus	Malus*
Printed matter		Newsprint inserts and circulars	●	●	●
		Catalogues and publications	●	●	●
		Magazines	●	●	●
		Telephone books	●	●	●
		Paper for general use	●	●	●
		Other printed matter	●	●	●
Containers and packaging	Paperboard	Corrugated cardboard	●	●	●
		Kraft paper shopping bags	●	●	●
		Kraft paper packaging	●	●	●
		Boxboard and other paper packaging	●	●	●
		Gable-top containers	●	●	●
		Paper laminants	●	●	●
		Aseptic containers	●	●	●
		Cork and wood	●	●	●
	Alternative fibers	●	●	●	
	Plastics	PET bottles	●	●	●
		HDPE bottles, any formats and HDPE containers <5 L	●	●	●
		Plastic laminants	●	●	●
		Plastic HDPE and LDPE plastic films	●	●	●
		HDPE, LDPE plastic shopping bags	●	●	●
		Expanded polystyrene – food packaging	●	●	●
		Expanded polystyrene – cushioning packaging	●	●	●
		Non-expanded polystyrene	●	●	●
		PET containers	●	●	●
		Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)	●	●	●
		Polylactic acid (PLA) and other degradable plastics	●	●	●
		Polypropylene (PP)	●	●	●
		Other plastics, polymers and polyurethane	●	●	●
	Aluminum	Food and beverages aluminum containers	●	●	●
		Other aluminium packaging	●	●	●
		Aluminum aerosols containers	●	●	●
	Steel	Steel aerosols containers	●	●	●
		Other steel containers	●	●	●
	Glass	Clear glass	●	●	●
Coloured glass		●	●	●	
Ceramic and porcelain		●	●	●	



## Important note

\*Penalties for PVC and PLA and other degradable plastics will come into effect with the 2024 SoC.

# Printed matter

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## Definition

Paper and other cellulose fibers used to support a text or an image or not, excluding newspapers.

## Materials

- Newsprint inserts and circulars
- Catalogues and publications
- Magazines
- Telephone books
- Paper for general use
- Other printed matter

# Newsprint inserts and circulars

## Description

All newsprint materials, stapled or not, and distributed in a bag or directly to consumers.

## Examples

- Inserts
- Circulars and flyers
- Tourist guides
- Newsprint publications with or without a glossy cover (e.g., automobile or real estate weekly) published to promote a product or service

## Precisions

- Laminated newsprint, which may appear glossy, must be reported in this category.
- Non-newsprint circulars must be reported as other printed matter.
- Newsprint used to package a product must be reported as boxboard and other paper packaging.
- Newspapers must be reported to RecycleMédias and are therefore excluded from the report companies submit to Éco Entreprises Québec.
- Your printing service will likely be able to provide you with information on the quantities and types of paper used.

## Eco-modulation

- Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 80%)
- Not eligible for a bonus



# Catalogues and publications

## Description

Publications, catalogues and other bound products printed on glossy paper whose main purpose is to promote or sell products or services.

## Examples

- Retailer's seasonal catalogues
- Brochures
- Promotional guides
- Magazines intended for professional groups bound and printed on glossy paper

## Precisions

- Catalogues printed on newsprint must be reported as newsprint inserts and circulars.

## Eco-modulation

- Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 50%)
- Not eligible for a bonus



# Magazines

## Description

Publications (bound periodicals printed on glossy paper or not) sold or otherwise provided to consumers and which express opinions or comments or provide information on various topics.

## Examples

- Business magazines
- Specialized magazines: beauty, health and wellness, cooking, decoration, children, family, culture, etc.

## Precisions

- The plastic film that protects magazines must be reported as Plastic HDPE and LDPE plastic films or as Plastic laminants, as appropriate.
- Catalogues must be reported as catalogues and publications.

## Eco-modulation

- Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 50%)
- Not eligible for a bonus



# Telephone books

## Description

Printed residential and business directories generally bound with glue and containing private or business telephone numbers, postal codes and websites.

## Examples

- Telephone books
- Neighborhood directories

## Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 80%)
- ✗ Not eligible for a bonus





# Paper for general use

## Description

White or coloured paper for general or specific use sold as a product or otherwise provided to consumers.

## Examples

- Printer paper
- Photographic paper
- Loose-leaf and graph paper
- Notepads
- Notebooks (with or without spiral)
- Construction and crafting paper
- Poster paper and cardboard
- Pre-printed thematic paper (graduation, anniversary, etc.)

## Precisions

- Paper used to print material intended for consumers (e.g., invoices and contracts) must be reported as other printed matter.
- Paper for general use consumed within a company is excluded as it is not ultimately intended for consumers.

## Eco-modulation

- Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 80%)
- Not eligible for a bonus



# Other printed matter

## Description

All printed matter distributed or provided to consumers but not included in the previous categories.

## Examples

- Mailings and invoices
- Non-addressed mailings (generally promotional)
- Paper mailings and return envelopes
- Inserts and circulars printed on glossy paper with or without printed discount coupons
- Printed matter included in packaged products such as assembly instructions, warranty cards, coupons and directions for use
- Annual information on insurance policies including insurance policy documents and statements
- Monthly, quarterly and annual statements, investment reports and prospectuses
- Calendars
- Cash register receipts
- Geographic maps and roadmaps
- Agendas and planners
- Greeting cards
- Colouring books, activity books (e.g., sudoku, crossword puzzles, etc.), workbooks (ABCs, math, etc.)
- Scrapbooking material

## Precisions

- Hangtags on clothing are considered to be part of the packaging and must be reported as boxboard and other paper packaging.
- Documents consumers return to your company (e.g., signed contracts, used coupons, etc.) must be deducted from your report.
- Documents sent to end users that are industrial, commercial or institutional establishments (e.g., commercial account statements) are excluded.
- Cheque slips sent to consumers must be reported in this category, but the cheque itself (often detachable) is excluded since it is ultimately intended to be returned to a financial institution.
- Books and textbooks, personal medical records and identification documents are excluded.

## Eco-modulation

- Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 80%)
- Not eligible for a bonus



# Containers and packaging

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## Definition

All types of flexible or rigid materials, for example paper, carton, plastic, glass or metal, and any combination of such materials that, as the case may be:

- Is used to contain, protect or wrap the products during any stage from the producer to the ultimate consumer, notably for the presentation;
- Is intended for a single or short-term use and designed to contain, protect or wrap products, such as storage bags, wrapping paper and paper or styrofoam cups.

It should be noted that all assimilable components that accompany the marketing of a product, from the producer to the final consumer, must be reported when the material is subject to a fee (e.g. "popsicle" or lollipop stick, hang tag on a garment).

## Paperboard

- Corrugated cardboard
- Kraft paper shopping bags
- Kraft paper packaging
- Boxboard and other paper packaging
- Gable-top containers
- Paper laminants
- Aseptic containers
- Cork and wood
- Alternative fibers

## Plastic

- PET bottles
- HDPE bottles, any formats and HDPE containers < 5 L
- Plastic laminants
- Plastic HDPE and LDPE films
- HDPE, LDPE plastic shopping bags
- Expanded polystyrene – food packaging
- Expanded polystyrene – cushioning packaging
- Non-expanded polystyrene
- PET containers
- Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
- Polylactic acid (PLA) and otherdegradable plastics
- Polypropylene (PP)
- Other plastics, polymers and polyurethane

## Aluminum

- Food and beverages aluminum containers
- Other aluminium packaging
- Aluminum aerosol containers

## Steel

- Steel aerosol containers
- Other steel containers

## Glass

- Clear glass
- Coloured glass
- Ceramic and porcelain

# Corrugated cardboard

## Description

All corrugated cardboard containers and packaging, including packaging components.

## Examples

- Delivery boxes for products purchased online
- Boxes for electronic devices
- Pizza delivery boxes
- Beer bottle carriers (12 and 24 bottles)
- Storage and moving boxes including those sold as products
- Boxes that protect ready-to-assemble furniture
- Boxes added at the retail outlet
- Corner and edge protectors for furniture and frames
- Cardboard citrus boxes

## Precisions

- The adhesive tape and labels on corrugated boxes must be included in the boxes' weight.
- Corrugated boxes with aluminum lamination must be reported as paper laminants.
- Corrugated boxes that are not delivered to consumers are excluded.

## Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



# Kraft paper shopping bags

## Description

All kraft paper bags (brown bags) provided at a retail outlet or register to contain items purchased at the location, whether sold or otherwise provided.

## Examples

- Grocery bags
- Drive-thru and deliver order bags
- Grocery bags
- Brown prescription bags
- Fruit and vegetable bags (fresh/organic baskets) added at the retail outlet
- Bread and pastry bags
- French fry pouches (grocery ready-to-eat, fast food)

## Precisions

- Non-laminated paper bags (e.g., white paper bags) that are not kraft paper bags must be reported as boxboard and other paper packaging.
- Bags that are laminated must be reported as paper laminants.
- Kraft paper packaging for products that is not given to consumers at the retail outlet must be reported as kraft paper packaging.

## Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 100%)
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



# Kraft paper packaging

## Description

All non-laminated kraft paper packaging (brown) used to contain, protect or wrap a product or group of products and kraft paper bags not added at the retail outlet.

This material also includes brown kraft paper packaging on which glue dots or other adhesive dots are affixed when no other laminants are applied.

## Examples

- Protective kraft paper (shoe boxes, postal boxes, etc.)
- Non-laminated flour, sugar, potato and oatmeal bags
- Kraft paper bags sold as products (lunches, candy, etc.)
- Kraft paper rolls sold as products
- Prepackaged baguette and loaf bags
- Bags for food contained in meal kits
- Shipping envelopes with glue or other adhesive dots between two layers of kraft paper

## Precisions

- Labels on kraft paper packaging must be included in the package weight.
- Kraft paper bags given to consumers at a retail outlet must be reported as kraft paper shopping bags.
- Non-laminated paper bags other than kraft (e.g., white paper bags) must be reported as boxboard and other paper packaging.
- Paper laminants bags must be reported as paper laminants.
- Kraft paper in delivery or shipping boxes whose end-user is an industrial, commercial or Institutional establishment are excluded.

## Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 100%)
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



# Boxboard and other paper packaging

## Description

Boxboard boxes, molded pulp packaging, and any paper packaging not included in the other paperboard categories.

## Examples

- Cereal boxes
- Egg cartons
- Molded trays (ex: to transport coffee cups)
- Tissue boxes
- Clothing hangtags
- Newsprint used for packaging (e.g., to wrap shoes or gifts)
- Bread bags made of paper other than non-laminated brown paper
- Silk paper sold as a product
- Toilet paper and hand towel paper cores
- Boxboard beer bottle carriers
- Non-laminated flat paper plates and bowls including those sold as products
- Boxes for pastries and baked goods
- Non-laminated gift bags and boxes
- Paper lollipop sticks
- Non-laminated wrapping paper including wrapping paper sold as a product
- Pinatas and confetti poppers sold as products and otherwise provided

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus

## Precisions

- Non-laminated paper bags that are not made from kraft paper must be reported in this category.
- Plastic windows on flat cardboard boxes must be included in the weight of the boxboard box.
- Kraft paper packaging must be reported as kraft paper packaging.
- Blister packs on which the cardboard and plastic are difficult to separate must be reported as paper laminants.
- Most fibre packaging used to pack individual portions at fast food restaurants (glasses, bowls, sandwich paper, etc.) must be reported as paper laminants.
- Folding boxboard boxes with aluminum lamination must be reported as paper laminants.
- Packaging made from annual plants (e.g. bamboo, bagasse, wheat straw, hemp, eucalyptus, etc.) must be reported as alternative fibers.



# Gable-top containers

## Description

Multilayer gable top containers made of cardboard and polyethylene.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Molasses cartons
- Liquid egg cartons

## Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

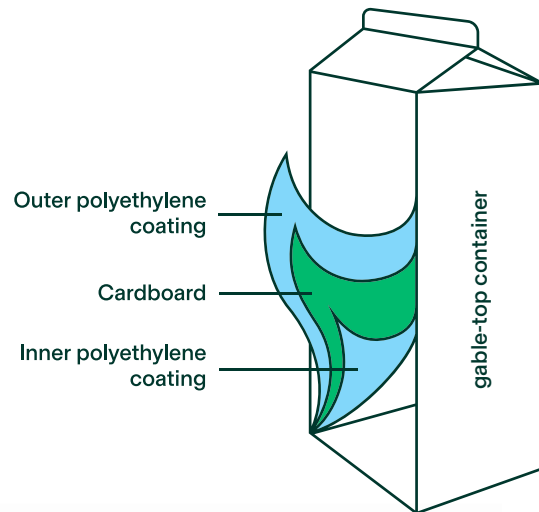
- Milk cartons
- Juice cartons
- Tetrahedral packaging

## Precisions

- Plastic caps and lids must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- Multilayer containers with an aluminum layer must be reported as aseptic containers.

## Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus





# Paper laminants

## Description

Paper laminants containers and packaging whose main component is paper and is not included with other materials in the paperboard subcategory, including combinations of paper or cardboard with aluminum, plastic and other materials.

## Examples

- Fibre containers with metal or plastic bottoms and lids (e.g., chips, cocoa powder, frozen juice, breadcrumbs, etc.)
- Cereal bar wrappers
- Blister packs for batteries
- Ice cream cartons
- Bubble wrap
- Paper laminants bags for cookies or coffee
- Instant oatmeal wrappers
- Frozen food containers
- Laminated bags of flour or dessert mixes
- Popcorn bags
- Paper cups for hot beverages (e.g., coffee) and other single-use beverages including those sold as products
- Plates, bowls and all paper laminants containers including those sold as products
- Sandwich and hamburger wrappers
- Muffin tins including those sold as products
- Butcher paper
- Bread bags made of paper laminants or with windows, paper packaging in cigarette packs, jewellery boxes with fabric or other materials on the inside
- Waxed cardboard packaging and waxed paper including those sold as products
- Laminated wrapping paper and parchment paper including those sold as products

## Precisions

- Blister packs on which the cardboard and plastic are difficult to separate must be reported as paper laminants.
- Most fibre packaging used to package individual portions of fast food (glasses, bowls, sandwich paper, etc.) must be reported in this category.
- Boxes made of boxboard or corrugated cardboard with aluminum lamination must be reported in this category.
- Where the main component of the laminate is paper or paperboard, the container or packaging must be reported in this category. However, if the main component is plastic, the container or package must be reported as plastic laminants.
- Brown kraft paper packaging on which glue dots or other adhesive dots are affixed must be reported under kraft paper packaging when no other laminants are applied.

## Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 100%)
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



## Did you know?

During the process to repulp the laminated paper fibre, the plastic, aluminum and other material components are removed and often sent to landfill or used in energy recovery.

# Aseptic containers

## Description

Multilayer containers with an inner aluminum lining (Tetra Pak®).

## Examples (curbside recycling)

→ Containers for soup and broth

## Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

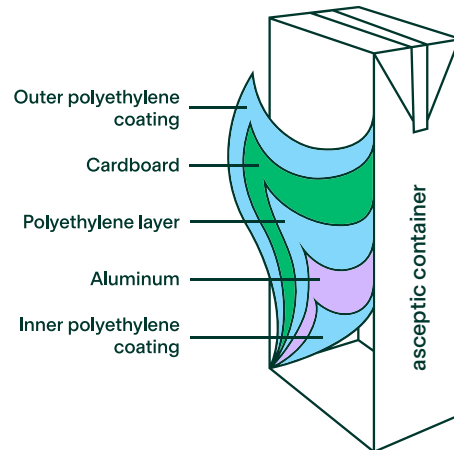
→ Juice boxes (minimum 100 ml)  
→ Juice and wine cartons

## Precisions

- The cap on aseptic containers must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- Gable-top containers with no aluminum must be reported under “Gable-top containers”.
- Straws provided with a container are currently not a designated material and must therefore be excluded. The plastic sheath that protects the straw must be reported as Plastic laminants.

## Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



## Cork and wood

### Description

All cork and wood containers and packaging.

### Examples (curbside recycling)

- Cork lids (e.g. mustard and salt containers)
- Citrus boxes (excluding cardboard boxes)
- Cheese boxes
- Wicker gift baskets
- "Popsicle" sticks

### Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Cork caps (ex: wine)

### Precisions

- Synthetic foam stoppers must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- Wooden utensils are not currently designated materials and must therefore be excluded.

### Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ⊗ Not eligible for a bonus



### Did you know?

There is no recycling stream for cork and wood, which can in addition contaminate other streams. These materials should therefore be avoided.

# Alternative fibers

## Description

Packaging made from annual plants (e.g. bamboo, bagasse, wheat straw, hemp, eucalyptus, etc.) in substitution of fibers made of wood.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Plates
- Trays
- Bowls and lids
- Cups and lids
- Hinged packaging
- Other food recipients

## Precisions

- Moulded fiber packaging (ex: egg trays) made from wood must be reported as Boxboard and other paper packaging.

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus





# PET Bottles

## Description

Transparent clear, transparent light green or transparent light blue bottles, jugs and jars made of no.1 plastic (PET or polyethylene terephthalate).

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Salad dressings
- Cooking oils
- Peanut butter
- Hand or dish soaps
- Mouthwashes

## Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Still or carbonated water
- Juices and other sweetened drinks

## Precisions

- Non-detachable caps must be reported in this category.
- Recycled PET (rPET) bottles that are clear, transparent light green or transparent light blue must be reported in this category.
- Plastic rings that remain attached to bottles after they are opened must be included in the weight of the bottles.
- Fully or partially glued labels and non-removable labels must be included in the weight of the bottle.
- PET bottles that are opaque or coloured (other than light green or light blue) must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- Detachable caps and lids must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.

## Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 100%)
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus





## HDPE bottles, any formats and HDPE containers < 5 L

### Description

No.2 plastic (HDPE or high-density polyethylene) bottles, jugs and jars of any size and clear or coloured no.2 plastic containers of less than 5 litres.

### Examples (curbside recycling)

- Laundry soaps
- Bleaches
- Vinegars
- Window cleaners
- Shampoos
- Ice creams
- Chlorine or cleaning products of less than 5 litres

### Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Milk jugs
- Juice jugs
- Water jugs

### Precisions

- Non-detachable caps must be reported in this category.
- Detachable caps and lids must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- All HDPE containers of 5 litres or more must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- Some HDPE bottles are similar in appearance to opaque PET bottles. Check the identification code of the plastic resin to classify them.

### Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 100%)
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



# Plastic laminants

## Description

Multilayer flexible plastic films and bags whose main component is plastic and which are not reported as other materials in the plastic subcategory. These products include combinations of plastic with aluminum, paperboard, Plastic laminants and other materials.

## Examples

- Pouches to package fresh or dry pasta
- Pouches to package candy
- Metallized bags to package coffee or cookies
- Cheese packaging
- Cereal box liner bags
- Pouches for prepackaged cold cuts
- Yogurt tubes
- Vacuum packaging including packaging sold as products
- Potato chip bags
- Protective bubble packaging including packaging sold as products
- Multilayer stand-up pouches
- Plastic cigarette pack packaging
- Individual sanitary pad wrappers
- Plastic wine box wrapper
- Pet food and litter bags and pouches

## Precisions

- Films composed of different types of plastics or an amalgam of several materials including plastics must be reported in this category.
- When the predominant material of the laminate is paper or cardboard, the container or packaging must be reported as paper laminant.
- Single-material plastic films made of LDPE, HDPE, PVC, PP, PLA (polylactic acid) and other degradable plastics must be reported in their respective material categories.

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus





## Plastic HDPE and LDPE films

### Description

No.2 and no.4 plastic films (high- and low-density polyethylene) other than shopping bags. They are generally stretchy and more porous than other types of films.

### Examples

- Clear bags for fresh produce (e.g., celery, carrots, apples)
- Sandwich and freezer bags including those sold as products
- Milk bags and pouches
- Clear bags for bread, bagels, pita, hamburger buns, etc.
- Shrink wraps (e.g., around a tray of 24 water bottles)
- Dry cleaning films
- Gardening soil bags
- Diaper bags
- Sanitary pad bags
- Woven polyethylene bags for feed and rice
- Recycling bags
- Hardware bags with ready-to-assemble furniture
- Packaging films (food or other) sold as a product
- Self-supporting single-material polyethylene bags and pouches

### Precisions

- HDPE and LDPE household garbage bags are excluded. However, the containers, packaging and printed matter they are sold with must be reported in their respective material.
- LDPE and HDPE plastic films used to facilitate the handling and transport of a certain number of units to the retail outlet and which are not passed on to consumers are excluded.

### Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus



### Did you know?

There are few options for flexible plastics, but the recycling stream is under development.





## HDPE and LDPE plastic shopping bags

### Description

No.2 and No.4 plastic (high- or low-density polyethylene) shopping bags provided at a retail outlet and meant to contain purchases made at there, whether the bags are sold or otherwise supplied.

### Examples

→ Grocery, pharmacy, clothing and other bags

### Precisions

- LDPE and HDPE bags that are not shopping bags must be reported as HDPE and LDPE films.
- Shopping bags made of plastic other than HDPE or LDPE must be reported as plastic laminants, except for shopping bags made of degradable or compostable plastics, which must be reported as PLA and other degradable plastics.

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



### Did you know?

There are few options for flexible plastics, but the recycling stream is under development.



## Expanded polystyrene – food packaging

### Description

All forms of no.6 Styrofoam plastic used in food packaging.

### Examples

- Meat trays
- Cups for hot beverages (e.g., coffee) including those sold as products
- Egg containers
- Styrofoam cups and dishes including those sold as products

### Precisions

- Non-expanded polystyrene containers and packaging used for food must be reported as Non-expanded polystyrene.

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



### Did you know?

There are few end markets for polystyrene, but the recycling stream is under development.



## Expanded polystyrene – cushioning packaging

### Description

All forms of rigid or flexible no.6 Styrofoam used as protective packaging.

### Examples

- Packing peanuts including those sold as products
- Protective polystyrene sheets
- Styrofoam blocks (e.g., to protect appliances and furniture)

### Precisions

- Expanded polystyrene packaging that is not used to distribute or sell of foods must be reported in this category.

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



### Did you know?

There are few end markets for polystyrene, but the recycling stream is under development.



## Non-expanded polystyrene

### Description

All forms of rigid unexpanded no.6 plastic including opaque and transparent general-purpose polystyrene (GPPS) and high-impact polystyrene (HIPS).

### Examples

- Single-serving yogurt containers
- Cookie trays
- Croissant containers
- Single-serving milk and cream containers
- Single-serving butter containers and coffee pods
- Soy sauce containers for sushi
- Plates, bowls and glasses including those sold as products
- Lids for cups (e.g., coffee) including those sold as products

### Precisions

- Labels that are glued or difficult to remove must be included in the weight of the container.
- Some Non-expanded polystyrene containers are similar in appearance to PLA or opaque PET containers (other plastics, polymers and polyurethane), so always check the identification code of the plastic resin to report them.
- Detachable seals (single-serving containers of yogurt, milk, butter, etc.) must be reported as paper laminants.

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



### Did you know?

There are few end markets for polystyrene, but the recycling stream is under development.



# PET containers

## Description

Transparent clear, light green or light blue no.1 plastic containers.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Hinged packaging for croissants, muffins, lettuce, berries, etc.
- Containers for prepared foods at the retail outlet (fruits, vegetables, ready-made meals, take-out dishes)
- Frozen meals containers
- Non-polystyrene egg cartons
- Blister packs for electronics, hardware and toys
- Plates, bowls and glasses including those sold as products
- Plastic cup dome lids including those sold as products

## Precisions

- Bottles, jugs and jars made of transparent clear, green or blue PET must be reported as PET bottles.
- Containers and packaging made of opaque PET or PET in colours other than light green or light blue must be reported as other plastics, polymers and polyurethane.
- Some PET containers are similar in appearance to Non-expanded polystyrene, polypropylene and PLA, so always check the identification code of the plastic resin to report them.

## Eco-modulation

- ✓ Eligible for a credit (minimum threshold 100%)
- ✓ Eligible for a bonus





# Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)

## Description

All no.3 plastics made of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and plastics with a similar chlorinated composition, such as polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC) including those that are rigid, flexible, transparent, opaque or coloured.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Blister packs for hardware and electronic products
- Blister packs for medicine or chewing gum
- Flexible packaging for bedding
- Commercial food packaging films
- Flexible food packaging with excellent barrier properties (e.g., cheese, cold cuts)
- Clear and coloured bottles and containers
- Sealing strips (e.g., medicine containers and mouthwash)

## Precisions

- Some PVC containers are similar in appearance to PET, PLA, polypropylene and Non-expanded polystyrene containers, so always check the identification code of the plastic resin to report them.
- Multi-layer flexible packaging must be reported as Plastic laminants

## Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ⊗ Not eligible for a bonus
- ⚠ Subject to a malus



## Did you know?

There are no recycling streams for PVC, which can in addition contaminate other streams. The material should therefore be avoided.



## Polylactic acid (PLA) and other degradable plastics

### Description

All no.7 plastics made from polylactic acid (PLA) or other degradable and/or compostable plastics including those that are rigid, flexible, transparent, opaque or coloured.

### Examples (curbside recycling)

- Hinged packaging for croissants or muffins
- Containers and lids provided with take-out meals
- Cups and lids for take-out beverages (e.g., coffee)
- Oxo-biodegradable and compostable shopping bags

### Precisions

- Some PLA containers are similar in appearance to PET, Non-expanded polystyrene and polypropylene containers, so always check the identification code of the plastic resin to report them.

### Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ⊗ Not eligible for a bonus
- ⚠ Subject to a malus



### Did you know?

There is no recycling stream for PLA or other degradable plastics (e.g., oxo-biodegradable, compostable), which can in addition contaminate other streams. The materials should therefore be avoided.



# Polypropylene (PP)

## Description

All no.5 polypropylene (PP) plastics including those that are rigid, flexible, transparent, opaque or coloured.

## Examples

- Margarine, yogurt and ice cream containers
- Tubes of hand cream
- Prescribed medication bottles
- Containers with in-mold labels (e.g., dips, salads, hummus)
- Black or clear take-out containers and lids
- Plastic trays (e.g. prepared foods, frozen meals)
- Bags with holes for fruit (e.g., grapes)
- Plastic body care containers
- Plastic take-out cups and lids

## Precisions

- Some polypropylene containers are similar in appearance to PET, PLA and PVC containers, so always check the identification code of the plastic resin to report them.

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



## Did you know?

There are few end markets for polypropylene, but the recycling stream is under development.





PET



HDPE



LDPE

OTHER  
THAN PLA

## Other plastics, polymers and polyurethane

### Description

All plastics without a code and all the containers, packaging, caps and lids made of no.1, no.2, no.4 and no.7 plastics excluded from the other plastic categories, except no.2 HDPE containers of less than 5 litres. This category also includes polyurethane packaging components and all polymers except PP, PVC and PLA and other degradable plastics.

### Examples

- Nets for citrus and avocados
- HDPE caps
- Chlorine and cleaning product containers of 5 litres and more
- Microwaveable containers (e.g. prepared foods, frozen meals)
- Opaque PET bottles, containers and trays (e.g., cannabis, vitamins and natural products)
- Transparent coloured PET bottles (other than green or blue)
- Aseptic container lids and gable-top containers
- Deodorant containers
- Plates, bowls, cups and lids including those sold as products
- Opaque paint tray liners sold as products or otherwise supplied
- Plastic lipstick containers
- Nail polish brush caps
- Eyeshadow containers
- Mascara tubes

### Precisions

- All containers and packaging made of opaque PET (not transparent) or transparent coloured PET other than green or blue must be reported in this category.
- Containers and packaging made of non expanded polystyrene, PVC, PLA or other degradable plastics must be reported in their respective material categories.
- Multi-layer flexible packaging must be reported as Plastic laminants

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



# Food and beverages aluminum containers

## Description

All sealed Food and beverages aluminum containers.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Small cans of pet food
- Sardine cans

## Examples (targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Cans of juice
- Cans of unflavoured sparkling water

## Precisions

- Aluminum containers and packaging differ from steel

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



## Other aluminum packaging

### Description

All aluminum containers and packaging that are not included in the previous material.

### Examples

- Wrapping foils including foil sold as a product
- Pie plates including those sold as products
- Yogurt or sour cream foil seals for containers larger than 100 ml
- Trays (e.g., frozen lasagna) including those sold as products
- Aluminum aerosol containers (e.g., hairspray, deodorant, etc.)
- Aluminum candle jars
- Plates, bowls and aluminum containers including those sold as products
- Semi-rigid foil lids
- Crown caps for sparkling wine

### Precisions

- Aluminum containers and packaging differ from steel containers and packaging in that they are non-ferrous (non-magnetic).
- Aluminum aerosol containers must be reported in the aluminum aerosol containers category.

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



# Aluminum aerosols containers

## Description

Aerosol containers containing more than 50% aluminum by weight.

## Examples

→ Aluminum containers of: deodorant, sunscreen, etc.

## Precisions

- Steel aerosol containers must be reported as such.
- Aluminum containers and packaging differ from steel containers and packaging in that they are nonferrous (non-magnetic.)
- Steel aerosol containers have their bottoms welded to the body of the container, which distinguishes them from aluminum bottles, whose entire surface is continuous since it is moulded.

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Not eligible for a bonus



# Steel aerosols containers

## Description

All aerosols cans made of more than 50% steel by weight.

## Examples

- Aerosol cans of whipped cream, cooking oil, oven cleaner, etc.

## Precisions

- Aluminum aerosols containers must be reported as such.
- Steel containers differ from aluminum containers in that they are ferrous (ferromagnetic).
- Steel aerosol containers have their bottoms welded to the body of the container, which distinguishes them from aluminum bottles, whose entire surface is continuous since it is moulded.

## Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ⊗ Not eligible for a bonus



## Other steel containers

### Description

All other containers made of more than 50% steel and other metals by weight.

### Examples (curbside recycling)

- Metal food cans (e.g., soup, tuna)
- Lids and caps
- Cookie, coffee and tea cans
- Glass canning jar lids (disc and ring) including those sold as products

### Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Large cans of tomato juice

### Precisions

- Steel containers differ from aluminum containers in that they are ferrous (ferromagnetic).

### Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



# Clear glass

## Description

All transparent clear glass containers.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Sauce jars
- Condiment jars (e.g., pickles, spreads, etc.)
- Nail polish bottles
- Some foundation bottles
- Clear glass perfume bottles

## Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Transparent clear bottles of wine, cider or spirits
- Bottles of spring or sparkling water
- Bottles of juice

## Precisions

- Screen-printed clear glass bottles must be reported in this category.
- Detachable caps and lids must be reported in their respective material categories.

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus



# Coloured glass

## Description

All coloured (e.g., green, brown, blue) and opaque glass containers.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Bottles of imported olive oil
- Bottles of balsamic vinegar
- Perfume bottles (transparent or opaque glass)

## Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Red wine and spirits bottles
- Some white wine bottles
- Some sparkling water bottles

## Precisions

- Screen-printed coloured glass bottles must be reported in this category.
- Detachable caps and lids must be reported in their respective material categories.
- Containers made of Pyrex, crystal, earthenware, stoneware or terracotta are excluded.

## Eco-modulation

- Not eligible for a credit
- Eligible for a bonus





# Ceramic and porcelain

## Description

All ceramic and porcelain containers and packaging.

## Examples (curbside recycling)

- Mustard jars
- Containers for crème brûlée
- Ceramic perfume bottles
- Some cooking oil bottles

## Examples (eventually targeted by the expansion of the deposit-refund system)

- Mead bottles

## Precisions

- Detachable caps and lids must be reported in their respective material categories.
- Containers made of Pyrex, crystal, earthenware, stoneware or terracotta are excluded.

## Eco-modulation

- ⊗ Not eligible for a credit
- ⊗ Not eligible for a bonus



## Did you know?

There is no recycling stream for ceramic or porcelain, which can contaminate other streams. These materials should therefore be avoided.

# Contact us

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## To join us

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