



## Frequently Asked Questions for Retailers

Over 340 million pounds of carpet are discarded in California landfills every year—carpet that could be recycled into useful new products. In 2010, the California legislature passed AB 2398. Under the law, an assessment is charged on every square yard of carpet sold or shipped to California. All California carpet retailers are responsible for charging and reporting the Carpet Stewardship Assessment on all carpet sold in California.

### ***How much is the assessment? How is it collected?***

As of January 1, 2019, the assessment is \$0.35 (35 cents) per square yard on all forms of carpet and carpet tile. (Area rugs are not included.)

All retailers who sell carpet in California must:

- Collect the assessment from the customer.
- Label the assessment clearly and correctly on the customer's invoice. Learn more here: [CarpetRecovery.org/CA-retailers](http://CarpetRecovery.org/CA-retailers)
- Remit the assessment funds to your distributor or carpet manufacturer.

Note: Paying the assessment to the carpet manufacturers without charging the customer is a violation of California law AB 2398.

### ***How is recycled carpet used?***

In 2017 alone, processors recycled 47 million pounds of carpet collected from California homes and businesses.

Processed, post-consumer carpet is recycled by processors into fibers, broadloom and carpet tiles and plastic pellets, which can be used to make a range of products for industries including: automotive, transportation, construction and home and garden.

### ***Who has received the assessment funds?***

Assessment funds go to post-consumer carpet processors. In addition, collector/sorter entrepreneurs and secondary product manufacturers are eligible to receive reuse incentive funds. In 2017, \$11 million was dispensed to processors and CSEs from the California program. Additional information may be found in the AB 2398 Annual Report, posted here: [CarpetRecovery.org/California-ab-2398/](http://CarpetRecovery.org/California-ab-2398/)

## How Are the Assessment Funds Used?

Consistent with AB 2398, assessment funds are invested into efforts to increase the diversion and recycling of carpet in California. This requires expanding the existing infrastructure for collection and recycling of used carpet as well as product and market development. Assessment funds support:

### Incentives

Assessment funds go to qualified post-consumer carpet Processors, Collector/Sorter Entrepreneurs (CSEs), and Secondary Product Manufacturers. In 2017, \$11 million was dispensed to incentive recipients from the California program. Additional information may be found in the AB 2398 Annual Report, posted here: [CarpetRecovery.org/California-ab-2398/](http://CarpetRecovery.org/California-ab-2398/)

### Drop-Off Sites

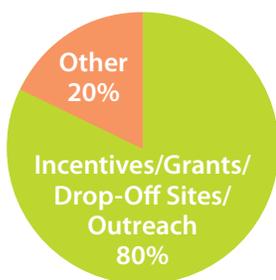
Assessment funds support public drop-off sites by paying for the rental of collection containers (trailers and cargo bins) and for transporting them to participating processors for recycling. A map of drop-off sites can be found here: [CarpetRecovery.org/CA](http://CarpetRecovery.org/CA).

### Grants

CARE has awarded \$2.3 million in grant funding for capital investment, product testing, market development and collection projects to establish and expand recycling of California post-consumer carpet. Approximately 90% of those funds were awarded to California-based projects. CARE has approved an additional \$5 million in capital investment, new product testing, and collection projects for 2018-19.

### Outreach

CARE's California Carpet Stewardship Program conducts multiple outreach efforts, including in-person visits to carpet retailers and drop-off sites, presentations and a robust digital communication effort.



In 2017, over 80% of assessment funds went directly to incentives, grants, marketing/outreach and the drop-off site program. As our efforts grow, so does the need for funding.

## Who is CARE?

Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance market-based solutions that increase landfill diversion and recycling of post-consumer carpet and encourage design for recyclability.

CARE administers the California Carpet Stewardship Program, which is charged with meeting the requirements for carpet recycling set by the California law AB 2398 and managed by CalRecycle.