

Washington Clean Energy Testbeds Battery Fabrication Lab Rate Structure (Effective 09/01/2025)

The Washington Clean Energy Testbeds (WCET) is a non-profit business unit within the University of Washington (UW). WCET is mandated to charge time and materials on a cost reimbursement basis. Academic pricing is achieved through state subsidies. Industrial rates are set for cost recovery. Cost basis for rates is based on cost of operation divided by utilization.

User Classifications:

The following user classifications determine eligibility for specific rate plans:

University of Washington and Affiliates: University of Washington researchers or affiliate-sponsored researchers (e.g. UW APL) qualify for **Tier 1** pricing. Candidates eligible for **Tier 1** Rates are not assessed an overhead rate as the UW overhead rates are already applied to the research grant or other internal UW funding. These users must pay with a UW budget number.

Non-Profit: Researchers employed by or with appointments at non-UW academic institutions, government organizations, or other non-profit organizations qualify for **Tier 2** pricing. These candidates are charged **Tier 2** rates plus an overhead charge.

Industry: Any employees of non-academic and non-government organizations who intend on using the WCET facility for self-directed work qualify for **Tier 3** pricing. These candidates are charged **Tier 3** rates plus an overhead charge.

Remote: Entities that solely seek to pursue limited scope process work that is to be conducted by WCET staff provided on a best-effort, time and materials, cost reimbursement basis that includes the pro-rated hourly equipment plus the staff engineering rate (\$150/HR) and overhead. Due to the experimental nature of work, WCET cannot guarantee quality assurance in meeting all remote work specifications, but will use best-effort methods to attempt to obtain a satisfactory result for the client.

Multiple Affiliations: Users with multiple affiliations and projects may be classified into multiple rate structures, but all plan charges, caps, and restrictions will be addressed individually for each organization/project/user combination.

Overhead

Current overhead for all fees accrued by all non-UW users is 6.85%. The overhead rate is determined by UW, not WCET, and is subject to change.

Off-Campus Overhead Option for UW User Grants

Grant proposals of UW investigators whose primary site of research is WCET may be eligible for the off-campus overhead rate (26%). WCET has established a procedure for supporting grant applicants seeking an off-campus rate based on their use of the facility. Our screening is based on the following evidence of substantial use.

All proposals must meet the following two criteria:

1. Centrality of WCET to proposal: The Facilities and Resources section for the proposal must clearly indicate that WCET facilities are central to the proposal.
2. Budget must include a “Facility Access Fee” to demonstrate to UW that the work is primarily being done at WCET and warrants the off-campus overhead rate. Users paying this fee are given access to a “hot desk” and use of all shared spaces (classroom, meeting rooms). Users can upgrade to reserved desks and offices (if available) at the standard price less the cost of a hot desk, which will have been covered by the initial fee. This fee will be charged as object code 03-80 and will show up in UW’s MyFD as “RENTALS-BLDGS & SPACE.” The PIs will be responsible for ensuring that this charge is allowed by their funding agency. WCET can provide reasonable support/justification for the charge. Access fees are REQUIRED for all new proposals seeking to use the off-campus overhead rate and access privileges will be assigned to specific individuals on that grant. Access fees cover single FTEs (faculty, staff, postdocs) and 0.5 FTEs (grad students). No other subdivisions are allowed. The access fee is \$500/month for 1.0 FTEs and \$250/month for 0.5 FTEs.

If your proposal meets the two criteria listed above, we will provide a letter supporting the request for an Off-Campus Rate.

Please contact Michael Pomfret at mpomfret@uw.edu for more details.

Industry Memberships

Memberships are offered to users qualifying for the Industry rate at a cost of \$2500 per month. Intended for long-term, heavy users, memberships provide a fee schedule that reduces costs once the client has reached a certain amount of facilities usage. The membership fee provides the Industry user with \$200 toward desk or office space (if available), \$200 toward reserved lab bench space (if available), use of the classroom and meeting room at no charge, and **Tier 2** instrument usage fees.

Please contact Michael Pomfret at mpomfret@uw.edu for more details.

Private Equipment Access

Academic and industrial organizations may request to operate and maintain private equipment at WCET. Due to the wide range of equipment complexity and value to the laboratory and the resulting impact on the staff, workflow, and facilities these arrangements will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. No outside equipment will be placed in the dry room.

Materials

Supplies, chemicals, and materials are charged at cost. Overhead fees apply for all non-UW users.

Shipping

Remote users will be charged the shipping fees, a staff handling fee, and overhead for all shipped samples. The Testbeds are not permitted to ship hazardous materials. All shipments containing hazardous materials must be managed by the user organization.

Policy Clarifications:

Fees: Requests for billing changes must be submitted to wcet@uw.edu. Planned or equipment-related adjustments are complimentary. Adjustment requests due to user negligence will be assessed a change fee of \$30. Forgetting to log off prevents other users from utilizing tools.

Reservations: Reservations are **required** for all equipment in the battery fabrication laboratory. “Drop-in” users will be accommodated at staff discretion and may be refused access. Repeatedly making excessively long reservations will result in users being charged for the entire reservation time.

No Show: Users that habitually do not show up for appointments will be charged instrument and staff time for the entire time blocked out for the appointment.

Visitors: Visitor requests must be made via the Testbeds website. Visitors will be permitted at staff discretion and must be accommodated by staff for the entirety of the visit.

Cleans: Tools that require mandatory cleans are the responsibility of the user and should be factored in when considering the cost of operations. Users that do not follow the prescribed cleaning protocol will be assessed full tool plus staff time for running cleans.

Fee Schedule

Effective November 1, 2025. All rates are subject to change.

The dry room contains all of the necessary equipment to produce pouch cells and is reserved and used as an entire room. Any reservations or use of the dry room in excess of 6 hours per day will be billed at the daily rates listed below.

The FOM coater and calender are located in the dry room but may be reserved as individual pieces of equipment.

Rate Category	Term	Tier 1 UW	Tier 2 Non-Profit & Industry Members	Tier 3 Standard Industry
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Overhead Fee	month	0%	6.85%	6.85%
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Staff Fees

Engineering	hour	\$150	\$150	\$150
Training	hour	\$75	\$75	\$150

Battery Testing Equipment

Maccor Test Channels, set of 8 up to 5V, 5A	hour	\$1	\$2	\$2
	week	\$50	\$75	\$75
Arbin Cell Test Channel, 1 channel up to 5V, 60A	hour	\$1	\$2	\$2
	week	\$50	\$100	\$100
Arbin Module Test Channel, 1 channel, up to 60V, 50A	hour	\$3	\$6	\$6
	week	\$150	\$300	\$300
Arbin Coulombic Tester, set of 8 channels, up to 5V, 5A	hour	\$14	\$21	\$21
	week	\$700	\$1,050	\$1,050
Potentiostats	hour	\$8	\$12	\$12
	week	\$400	\$600	\$600

Pouch Cell Fabrication Equipment

Full Dry Room - includes staff support Glovebox not included	hour	\$300	\$400	\$500
	day	\$2,100	\$2,800	\$3,500
Digatron Cell Assembly Tools*	hour	\$67	\$100	\$200
FOM Coater*	hour	\$76	\$114	\$228
FOM & MTI Calenders*	hour	\$12	\$18	\$36
Primix Mixer Large*	hour	\$12	\$18	\$36
Primix Mixer Small*	hour	\$6	\$9	\$18
Glovebox	hour	\$10	\$15	\$30

*Staff assistance subject to Testbeds staff discretion.

Full Dry Room Rates include access to:

Primix Mixers

FOM Coater

FOM Calender

MTI Calender

Digatron Electrode Cutter

Digatron Z-Fold Stacker

Digatron Tab Ultrasonic Welder

Digatron Pouch Blister Former

Digatron Pouch Cell Sealer

Digatron Cell Filling and Degassing Unit