

Producer Responsibility in CO

June 2, 2026



The Recycling Partnership is the U.S. nonprofit solving recycling's toughest challenges, together.

**Producer
Responsibility**



**Extended
Producer
Responsibility**

PRODUCERS

Coke, Nestle, etc.



PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORGANIZATION

Circular Action Alliance



RECYCLING

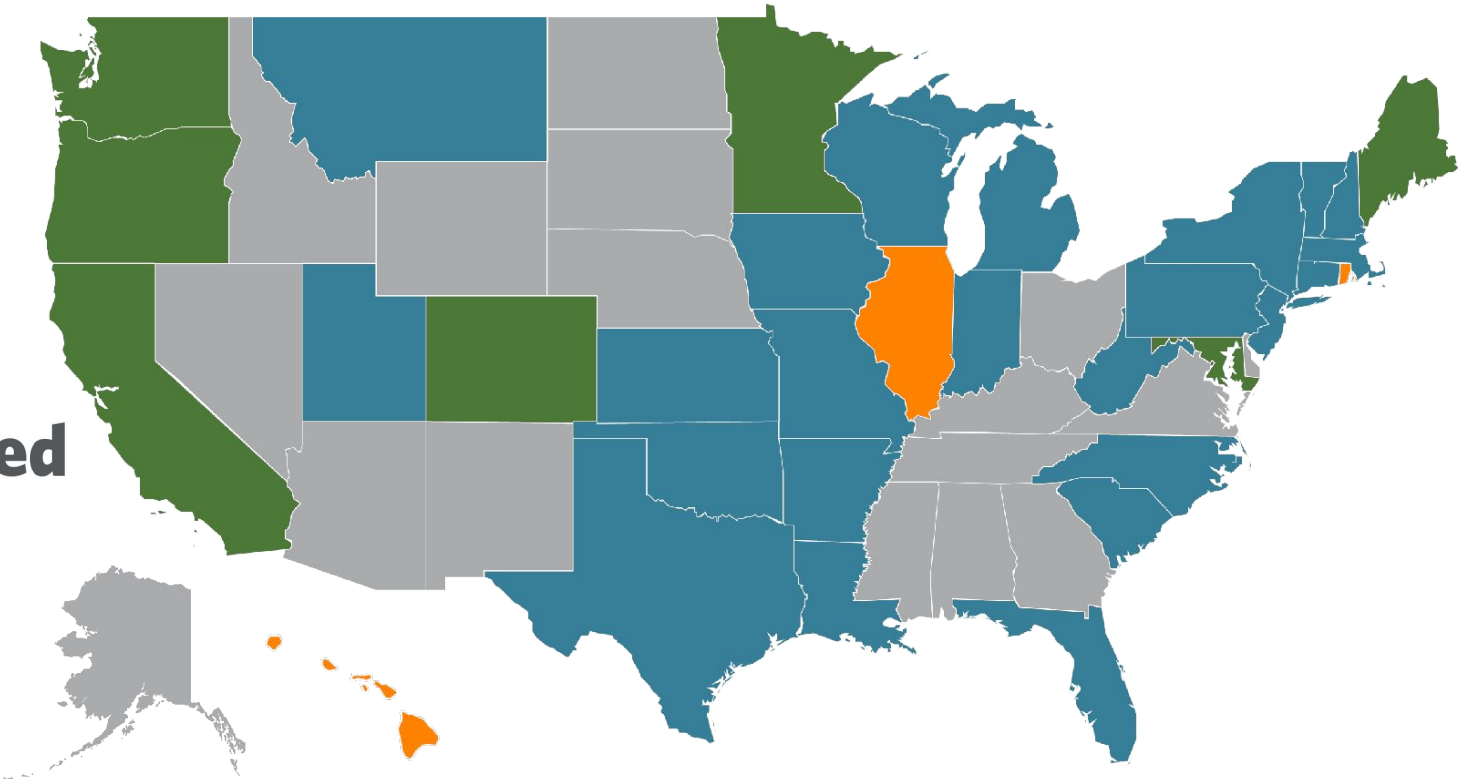
Collection, Processing, and Education

EPR Status in the U.S.

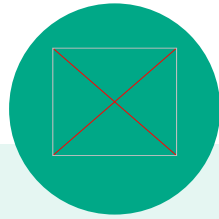
Non-packaging EPR enacted

EPR packaging enacted

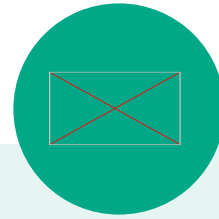
EPR packaging study bills enacted



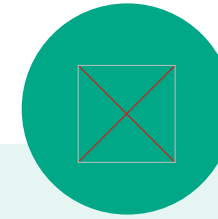
Elements that Vary



What percentage of the program is funded



Role of state agency / Producer Responsibility Organization



Timelines for key steps

- **Needs Assessment**
- **Program Plan**
- **Implementation**

Core Elements of Colorado's Program



Collection

- Single-unit
- Multi-unit



Processing

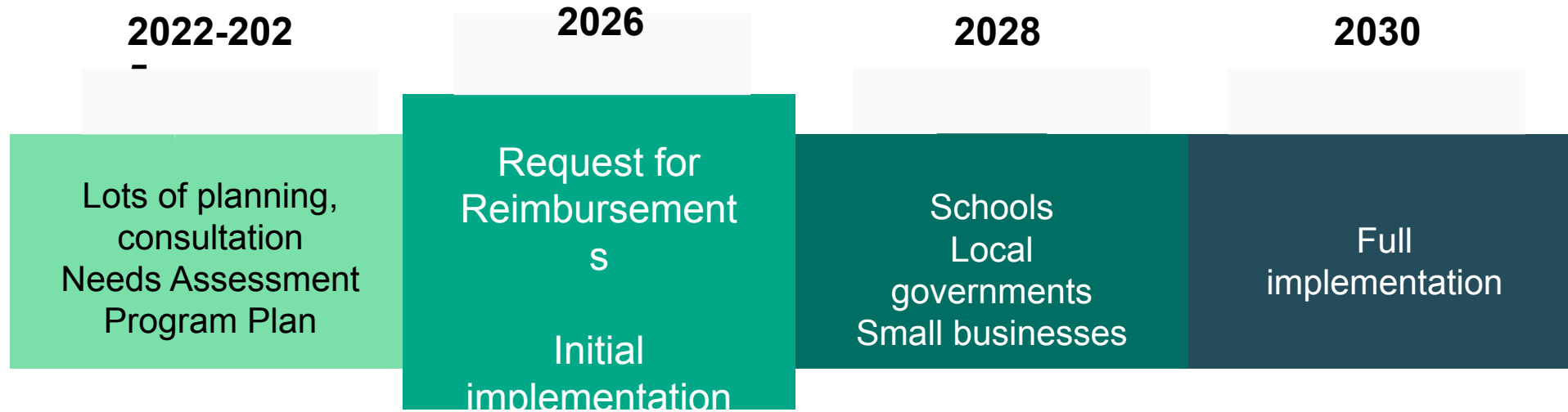
- Material Recovery Facilities
- Transfer Facilities



Education

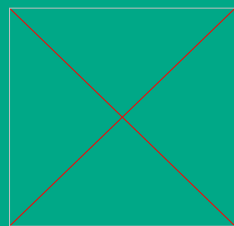
- Municipalities
- Non-profits
- Haulers
- Circular Action Alliance

Colorado's EPR Implementation Timeline



Big Deal #1

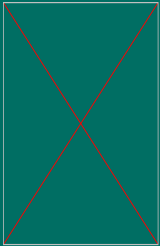
**Helps Address
Misalignments
in the Current
System**



- Producers' packaging decisions
- Funding for recycling collection
- Resources for education

Big Deal #2

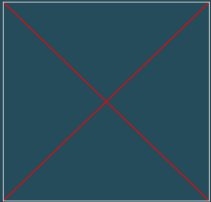
**Recycling will
be as
Convenient as
Trash Service**



If you have curbside trash collection, EPR will fund curbside recycling collection

Big Deal #3

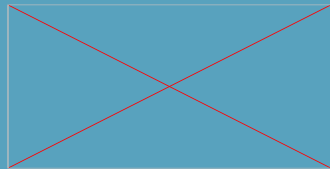
**So many more
Coloradans will
have access to
recycling**



Including residents of
multi-unit housing

Big Deal #4

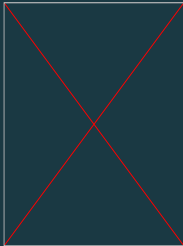
**Voluntary for
local
governments
and haulers**



You don't have to play if
you don't want to

Big Deal #5

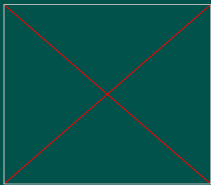
**All Coloradans
will be able to
recycle the
same materials**



Minimum Recyclables List

Big Deal #6

**EPR will pay for
100% of the cost
of recycling
collection,
processing, and
education**



Not an unfunded mandate

Reminder

Implementation will be like a dial, not a switch

What should I do now?

Complete a Request for Reimbursement

Already opened and closed

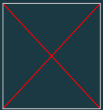
Municipality
Processor
Open market hauler

Currently open

Compost facility

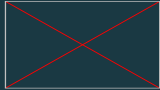
What should I do now?

Make your implementation plan



- Collection 
- Processing 
- Education 

Connect with partners

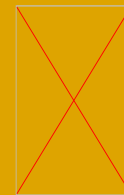


Other important things

How do residents sign up for recycling?

Will you have data for your community?

How can you make your system work well with EPR?

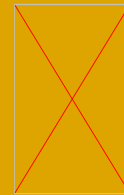


Other important things

Can you add yard trimmings or food scraps collection?

What can you do with the budget EPR will free up?

What other opportunities will be available to your community because of EPR?



Summary

Key Elements of Colorado's EPR

- **Voluntary** for haulers and local gov'ts
- Recycling **as accessible as** trash
- **100% funding** for collection, processing, education
- **Same guidelines** across the state
- Recycling for **no charge** for all

residents, **including multi-units**

What to Do Now

- **Submit** your Request for Reimbursement
- Make your **implementation plan**
- Connect with **partners**
- **Fill** local policy **gaps** if needed
- **Consider additional programs** when transition costs may be minimal

Get in Touch:

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The Recycling Partnership is the U.S. nonprofit solving recycling's toughest challenges, together.

Thank You to Our Partners!

