





PERFORMANCE



THE 2024 CHEVROLET

# BLAZER EV

PowerUp Chargers Provide a Boost Instructor Keeps It Face-to-Face Hood-Vent Kits Simplify Repairs

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The only foolish question is the one that isn't asked."

 Jerry Tempel, ACDelco Regiona Instructor





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Four generations have helped shape prosperous auto repair business in Arkansas

## partner**perks**

#### **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

Pro Auto Collision, Inc.

OWNER: **Neal Ross** 

LOCATION: Conway, Arkansas

> **Employees** in main collision shop;

in all auto locations

#### **FAVORITE BENEFIT:**

Training made available through the program has helped technicians stay up to date on their repair knowledge and reinforced that they're valued members of the team.

#### It must be in the DNA.

In his earliest memories, Neal Ross recalls working on auto bodies with his father, Harold, a technician and estimator by trade whose early career had him in the "scratch and dent department" at the end of the assembly line for GM's Truck and Coach Division.

The two of them went on to work side by side for years in a small shop Harold built in 1980 behind his home near Conway, Arkansas. Harold passed away in 1996, and Neal, now the owner of **Pro Auto Collision** Inc., moved the business into the city of Conway. He grew it to include two auto repair shops (including one specialty shop for heavy-duty and commercial vehicles), a wrecker service, parts distribution warehouse, standalone calibration center, paint shop and refurbishing facility. The family

also owns and operates an area escape room business.

"I grew up shadowing my dad, and my children have kind of done the same with me," says Neal, a father of eight. "To be honest, we are a close family and if they wanted to be with dad, they had to go where dad was

- which was the shop. Really, it's kind of been the cement, the central hub, you might say, the dynamic of our family." Three of Neal's sons - Matthew, T.J. and Austin - and a granddaughter, Brianna, are a few of those working

We use the program for a number of things.

#### Continuing education -

the InShop training and virtual training — has been very, very important to us."

- Neal Ross, Pro Auto Collision, Inc. in the family business. Matthew, Neal's eldest son, now serves as the CEO of the entire organization and has been responsible for most of the growth in the past 7 years. He has a master's degree in collaborative business design.



#### Loyalty & Learning

The Pro Auto family is a multimillion-dollar business that has found success through quality repairs and auto services, as well as the excellent reputation it's earned in the community. Of course, loyalty – both from customers and to the GM brand - plays a big role too.

Neal says the business became a member of the my GM

Partner Perks parts loyalty program in 2021, and it's made a difference, especially when it comes to training. The program rewards shops for purchasing GM Genuine Parts and ACDelco products, along with Chevrolet Performance Parts and brand accessories for Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet

Continued on next page >



#### **Family Bond**

Far left: The Ross family, including General Manager Austin Ross and Owner Neal Ross, run a successful collision business in Conway. Arkansas (right). Above: Quality repairs are a priority for the entire team.

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# Family ATMOSPHERE

#### (continued)

and GMC, by offering a range of benefits. These include everything from rewards and incentives to marketing support and resources such as training to help increase productivity and profitability.

"We use the program for a number of things," Neal says. "Continuing education - the InShop training and virtual training, especially – has been very, very important to us. We'll have all our technicians come over to receive GM training and they enjoy that. There are some types of auto training that people aren't favorable to, but they like to attend and participate in these."

The my GM Partner Perks program offers a variety of training styles and subjects to members, from Web-Based Training and Video on Demand courses, which allow technicians to review previously recorded content at their convenience, to Instructor-Led Training and InShop Training for in-person instruction.

"Our guys love it and want to grow their

See the my GM Partner

Visit the mygmpartnerperks.com website and select "Body Shop"

at the top of the page. The

program guide is available for

download by scrolling to the

bottom of that page.

Perks Program Guide

knowledge," Neal says. "It helps us invest in our future as well, and shows that we care about our employees."

Some of the most valuable training Pro Auto techs have received through the program has

covered electric vehicles and new technology, as well as basic repair, structural and electrical repair, air conditioning and driver-assistance features, to name a few.

#### Points, Purchasing Power & More

Another way Pro Auto uses the my GM Partner Perks program is saving and



redeeming points. Members receive award points for parts purchases, where 1 point can be redeemed to receive \$1 in purchasing value.

Points can be redeemed for a wide array of awards, including business-expense reimbursement; merchandise from a catalog with more than 3,000 items, including electronics, sporting goods, travel, gift cards and more; the ability to transfer a balance to an Exclusively Yours® reward card that will be honored by 150 merchants, such as stores, restaurants and

> Another great way to use points? Redeem them toward the purchase of a new GM vehicle, which is exactly what Pro Auto is planning to do, Neal says.

> They want to buy a new

travel companies.

delivery truck to transport items from their parts warehouse to their other facilities.

Other program benefits the company appreciates include the Collision Estimating Subsidy Credit it receives through their Pro Perks++ membership level, and discounts on subscriptions and tools.



Part of the Team

Pro Auto Collision Inc. promotes a family atmosphere, including (from left) receptionist Amber; Neal's granddaughter, Brianna, who is pursuing a career in the auto body business and attending Ranken Technical College; and Isaiah, a rising star at the shop.

Johnny Hurt, Pro Auto's compliance officer, says that GM has the best parts loyalty available today. "We're OEM-certified with 12 manufacturers and GM goes way beyond any other manufacturer out there," he says. "GM is on top of their game with this, particularly with training support. We train within our business, and grow and promote within our business, and what GM has to offer is the perfect fit for that. Our technicians can request training and take classes on their own with virtual classes as well as the onsite courses."

#### **Community Matters**

The Pro Auto family environment not only extends to its employees, but also to customers and the community. The company, which was named Small Business of the Year from the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce, stays involved in many ways,

making a priority to support local law enforcement and public safety professionals.

They also sponsor several events for residents of Conway and beyond. Pro Auto hosts a monthly Friday Night Cruisin' car show throughout the summer at a local college. And, once a year, they host a unique music concert, Pro Auto Bash. "We'll pull every car out of the shop and put up Christmas lights," Neal says. "Then, we set the band up on the frame machine and park a few hotrods in there, have a chili or spaghetti cookoff. It's a lot of fun."

Johnny Hurt says it's that kind of atmosphere that stands out to customers and employees and leads to business success with very little turnover.

"The people here want to be here," he says. "It's always nice working in this kind of environment. It's a family-oriented business and the owner's very compassionate. They all care about their employees."

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As electric vehicles become more prevalent, where their power comes from will become top of mind to owners.

General Motors Customer Care and Aftersales (CCA) understands this and makes available to consumers two highly capable and competitively priced home chargers. The GM PowerUp and PowerUp+ units offer convenience, flexibility and, as their names surely suggest, noteworthy power.

With 90 percent of all EV charging taking place at home, having a productive and reliable unit would be attractive to these vehicle owners. Both PowerUp and

PowerUp+ can be installed indoors or outdoors, come with a 25-foot charge cable, offer Bluetooth/ Wi-Fi connectivity through a GM vehicle mobile app, and are backed by a 3-year of all EV manufacturer's charging takes warranty and an place at home. optional 2-year extended protection

plan through GM Financial.

The PowerUp charger (Part No. 84922762) boasts efficient Level 2 charging with a power capability of 11.5 kW (48 amps), when hardwired, and can charge up to 39 miles per hour to an EV. That is up to a 50-percent improvement in charging capability compared

with the standard 7.7 kW portable cord set.

The PowerUp+ charger (Part No. 85642869)

cranks up the
power to a
potential
19.2kW (80
amps), with
a charge rate
that could go
as high as 52

miles per hour. The
PowerUp+ can be attractive
not only to EV customers,
but repair facilities that
could install the unit and
instantly become a desired
destination for those in
need of a charge.

The PowerUp chargers have several competitive advantages. Along with the aforementioned, optional 2-year extended protection plan offered by GM Financial that
Tesla and Ford don't offer,
PowerUp and PowerUp+
come with a complete turnkey installation program, provided by preferred supplier Qmerit. In addition, both chargers feature an attractive price point, coming in less expensive than competitors Ford, Rivian, VW and Porsche.

With this portfolio of products, GM can work to meet all its customers' EV charging needs. And, if a facility has a charger installed at its location, customers can power up their vehicle as it's being serviced.

## **POWER**BAR

Just as the PowerUp chargers provide power to EVs looking to go places, the EVs, in turn, can be a source of power — thanks to new products from the GM charging lineup.

The PowerBar and PowerBar+, which currently are being rolled out in anticipation of the launch the new GMC Sierra EV Denali Edition 1, allow an EV to act as a mini-generator of sorts for a variety of devices, boasting up to 3kW of charging capability.

The PowerBar works with four standard outlets and features a 15-foot cord, while the PowerBar+, working with two standard outlets, adds a 25-foot cord and a TT30 plug. Both can run a laptop, electric kettle, hot plate, TV, electric pump and even a portable A/C unit.

The PowerBar products will join a GM EV Charging portfolio that includes a Vehicle-to-Vehicle adapter (6kW) that transfers power from one EV to another, a Charge Cord Dock and a Charge Cord Adapter.

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## POWER MOVE

**Style and performance** have long been at the center of the Chevrolet Blazer's legacy, but the recent addition of an electric model introduces even more possibilities for customers.



## 2024 Blazer EV brings new energy to classic nameplate

The all-new Blazer EV SUV offers the same great looks and features as its gas-powered counterpart with multiple trim levels and the latest features, along with several available range<sup>1</sup> options and drive configurations to suit every lifestyle and need.

Current trims that are available include the 2LT and RS, with the first-ever electric SS performance model arriving Spring 2024. A Police Pursuit Vehicle (PPV) is also available for law enforcement.

The exciting introduction of the Blazer EV underscores Chevy's dedication to growing its electric portfolio and making EV ownership accessible to more people.

Here's a look at what it brings to the midsize electric-crossover segment.

Preproduction model shown. Actual production model may vary. 1. On a full charge based on development testing and/or analytical projection consistent with SAE J1634 revision 2017 - MCT. Range subject to change prior to production. Actual range may vary based on several factors, including ambient temperature, terrain, battery age and condition, loading, and how you use and maintain your vehicle. 2. On a closed course only. Based on initial vehicle movement. 3. Feature may be limited when the battery temperatures are extremely cold or hot, or when battery is near full charge. See Owner's Manual for details.

#### **Command Performance**

Blazer EV is unquestionably the performance vehicle of Chevy's electric lineup. It's powered by the innovative Ultium battery platform, a modular system that gives the SUV power, range and performance with its flexible components. And, the vehicle's all-new body architecture opens the door for an impressive offering of range options and three available drive systems: frontwheel drive, all-wheel drive and rearwheel drive. Because of the low and wide proportions of the Ultium platform and the placement of the battery pack, Blazer EV has a low center of gravity for enhanced driving stability. Its independent front and rear suspensions also offer amazing responsiveness and comfort in every seat.

Staying true to its performance roots, there's definitely no shortage of power, as the Blazer EV SS model will have an exclusive performance AWD propulsion configuration that, with the Wide Open Watts (WOW) mode, helps it reach 0-60 in under four seconds<sup>2</sup> and churn out 557 horsepower and up to 648 lb-ft of torque, according to GM estimates.

#### Wide-Ranging Capability

Blazer EV customers will appreciate the vehicle's excellent range as well as GM's support via the many resources available to help with charging. Depending on trim level and configuration, Blazer EV can reach an EPA-estimated electric range of up to 324 miles (RWD model).¹ Some of the vehicle's technology helps maximize that range. Regen on Demand³ and One-Pedal Driving⁴ work together to convert kinetic energy from the vehicle's forward momentum into electricity to add to the driving range.

Charging the Blazer EV is a simple process, as owners simply have to plug in, charge and go. They can charge at home, or access more than 100,000 publicly available charging stations in the U.S. and Canada, including some DC Fast Chargers that offer quick charge when needed. Using Google built-in,<sup>5</sup> owners can also locate charging stations and plan routes to the stations through a Charging Locator.

Continued on next page >



Scan the QR Code

to learn more about the

2024 Chevrolet Blazer EV.

4. Feature may be limited when the battery temperatures are extremely hot or extremely cold of when battery is near full charge. Always use the brake pedal when you need to stop immediately. See Owner's Manual for details. 5. Google built-in services are subject to limitations and availability may vary by vehicle, infotainment system and location. Select service plan required. Certain Google actions and functionality may require account linking. User terms and privacy statements apply. Google, Android Auto, Google Play, and Google Maps are trademarks of Google LLC.

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### POWER MOVE Continued

#### A Unique Look

Blazer EV reflects a sporty appearance with an athletic aesthetic that makes it stand out from other EVs. Exterior cues now boast performance elements influenced by the Corvette and Camaro. A muscular profile with converging body lines conveys the agile motion of a race vehicle. Its design is 100 percent Chevy, with front-fender extractor vents tipping a hat to the brand's motorsports legacy.

Each trim level of the Blazer EV brings

a unique look to market. The LT wears a monochromatic color scheme with standard 19-inch wheels; the RS takes on a sportier appearance with a black grille/ accent details and standard 21-inch wheels; SS has an aggressive demeanor highlighting an exclusive front grille, a black roof and A-pillars to complement exterior paint as well as standard 22-inch multi-finish wheels. Lighting is an essential aspect of the exterior design as well. RS and SS models feature signature dualelement LED lighting and choreographed lighting sequences, including a full light bar and illuminated Chevy Bowtie emblem that activate when the driver is approaching or walking away. Front lights also convey the EV's state of charge — the light sequence increases in speed and intensity as the battery charge gets stronger.

#### **Customized Comfort**

Sitting in the driver's seat of the Blazer EV is sure to make an owner feel like a pilot with a command center within easy reach, plus plenty of space and soft-touch materials for comfort. The Blazer EV's modern cabin

is outfitted with details that, like the

exterior, are influenced by Chevy's rich performance history. RS and SS trims feature

a flat-bottom steering wheel. Sueded microfiber seating in the Adrenaline Red interior on RS and the Gray/Argon interior on SS reflect the spirited driving experience to come.

Uplevel models also include heated and ventilated front seats with heated rear outboard seating standard on SS and available on RS. Both also come with standard ambient lighting and personalization functions. All models feature customizable displays, including a large, intuitive 17.7-inch diagonal color touchscreen, showcasing the infotainment system<sup>6</sup> in standout style, and an 11-inch driver information screen for easily accessed vehicle data. And, with two rows, plus a flat floor enabled by the placement of the Ultium platform, there's more than enough space for passengers and storage.

#### **Tech Savvy**

While the electric vehicle itself is a great example of the latest automotive technology, Blazer EV is loaded with the tech features that bring customers the comfort, convenience and confidence they need to enjoy the ride. The key to many of Blazer

EV's technologies lies with Ultifi,<sup>7</sup> an end-toend vehicle software program that separates vehicle software from hardware to enable frequent and seamless delivery of features, apps and services to customers over the air.

Just starting the Blazer EV is innovative, thanks to its hands-free start. Just a push of the brake pedal is all that's needed to get going — no button push is necessary, just a nearby key fob. There's also a powered-opening charge port door and an available presence-based hands-free liftgate that activates when rear sensors recognize the key fob. And, Blazer EV's available Super Cruise<sup>8</sup> hands-free driver-assistance technology makes long drives and commutes more enjoyable and convenient on more than 400,000 miles of compatible roads in the U.S. and Canada.

Enhanced Automatic Parking Assist<sup>9</sup> is another driver-assistance feature available on Blazer EV that makes parking easier. It automatically steers, brakes and shifts gears to park in a detected parallel or perpendicular space.

Preproduction model shown. Actual production model may vary.

6. Functionality varies by model. Full functionality requires compatible Bluetooth and smartphone, and USB connectivity for some devices. 7. Ultifi is preproduction and is subject to change. Actual features, functionality, and product limitations may vary. 8. Always pay attention while driving and when using Super Cruise. Do not use a handheld device. Requires active Super Cruise plan or trial. Terms apply. Visit chevroletsupercruise.com for compatible roads and full details.

9. Safety or driver-assistance features are no substitute for the driver's responsibility to operate the vehicle in a safe manner. The driver should remain attentive to traffic, surroundings and road conditions at all times. Visibility, weather and road conditions may affect feature performance. Read the vehicle Owner's Manual for more important feature limitations and information.

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# Person to Person

## **Jerry Tempel finds that** live interaction, instruction provide a clear path to understanding

#### For ACDelco Regional Instructor Jerry Tempel,

there's nothing like in-person training, whether it's for nine people during an instructor-



led session or 100 at a seminar. "Even if a student doesn't get everything from

the class content, they can discuss subjects with their peers that spark a conversation leading to a better understanding," he says. "There's nothing like hearing the perspective of someone who is in the same position as you."

Tempel has seen the benefits of in-person training from both the student and trainer perspectives. In high school, he studied small-engine repair before entering trade school. Then, he enlisted in the U.S. Army to work on high-voltage generators, before starting a long and successful career in automotive retail, as a

technician, service manager and fixed operations manager at dealerships in and around his hometown of Freeport, Illinois.

#### TRAIN TO SUCCEED

In these management roles, Tempel appreciated the impact that training could have on personnel. "I would pay them 50 percent of their labor rate to take courses, and would see a corresponding increase in efficiency," he says.

handles the Northeast Region and parts of the Pacific Northwest, teaching three to four in-person seminars every week as well as two to three InShop sessions for service and body facilities mixing in an occasional all-day Instructor-Led course at a local community college. The subjects he addresses will vary from how to glue on body panels and perform spot-welds on the repair side, to data bus diagnostics and hybrid-repair safety on the

There's nothing like hearing the perspective of someone who is in the same position as you."

When a position opened up as a market area product specialist, Tempel decided on a career change. In this role, he held evening seminars, presented technical information and conducted warranty inspections at various ACDelco warehouses.

This eventually led to his current position as a regional instructor. Tempel service side.

In fact, it was a recent hybrid class that reminded Tempel why he enjoyed the spontaneity of in-person training. "We were discussing how Auto Stop/Start worked in vehicles when one of the students remarked how it wears out a starter," he remembers. "This allowed me to go off script and dispel



that misconception for the students while illustrating the real effectiveness of this fuel-saving feature."

#### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

Tempel encourages students to explore the vast curriculum available in the ACDelco Course Catalog. He estimates having taken about 600 classes himself and maintains that the content remains relevant and applicable to real-world situations. "I especially recommend that students take as many electrical courses as possible, as it crosses over into every area of the vehicle," he says. "Also, with EVs emerging on the market, technicians must be versed in AC voltage as well as DC voltage."

Course materials such as participant guides can prove to be important tools in learning, "I used to love to write notes on

them when they came in a paper format, but even as PDFs. I tell students to mark key messages with the highlighter tool and store them in a folder on their desktop as a digital resource file," Tempel says.

During the in-person sessions, Tempel understands that his students are coming from a variety of backgrounds and that they

learn in different ways, but he's there to make sure there's as little confusion as possible. Most of all, he encourages his students to take advantage of the group dynamic they are immersed in. "The only foolish question is the one that isn't asked." he notes. "If I don't know the answer, someone in the class may very well."

Jerry Tempel suggests one in-person course that both service and body shop techs should take to better understand how their repairs could potentially affect the communication networks in a vehicle.

#### S-EL06-74.01SEM

**Diagnosing Multiplexed Data Bus Networks** 

**Description:** Diagnosing complex network system failures is a challenge, even for experienced technicians. In this seminar, technicians will focus on diagnostic strategy to hone their problemsolving skills for serial data-failure modes in multiplex networks. Included network protocols CAN, LIN, GMLAN and MOST® as well as repair

لبا methods will be covered.

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### New kit simplifies the process of repairing truck hood vents

he process of repairing damaged hood vents on GM HD 2020-2023 model trucks has been made more efficient with the introduction of a new service kit (Part No. 85057001 for gasengine models; Part No. 85057002 for diesels) that dramatically reduces inventory needs. "We were addressing hood-vent repair with a variety of pre-painted assemblies [upward of 16 in number] to match the particular body color of the model," says Randy Prusaitis of Body Exterior & Closures SIE (Service Integration Engineering) for CCA. "As a result, shops were required to have a lot of different stock on hand. Now, with one hood-vent assembly available as part of the kit, we're working with only one part number and that allows for more room on the shelf."

A hood-vent kit includes the hood vent itself, an adhesive promotor and dispenser gun, applicator tip and Fusor 703 cleaner. The suggested adhesive, Fusor 153, is sold separately.

The following steps will outline how to complete a hoodvent repair using the new service kit:

#### Step 1

Prep and finish the hood vent as required.



#### Step 2

Utilize Fusor 703 cleaner to prep and clean the mounting surfaces.

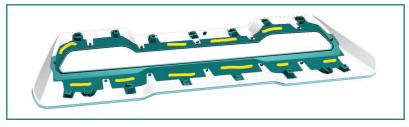


#### Step 3

Once clean, apply the adhesive promotor to the mounting surfaces.

#### Step 4

With the hood vent face down, attach the isolator to it; guide pins will assist with the proper alignment.



#### Step 5

With the hood vent still facing downward, apply the suggested adhesive to hood-vent surfaces (as shown above). Use the pull method when applying the adhesive.

#### Step 6

Attach the hood grille to the hood vent as illustrated at right. Ensure hood-vent assembly is face down while adhesive cures. Apply slight pressure with two hands. Allow 30 minutes for curing time.

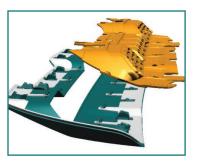




Image 2

#### Step 7

Install identified fasteners into correct

- > Four retainer clips need to be installed (Image 1).
- > Two short studs will need to be located in forward positions.
- > Two longer studs will need to be located in the rearward position.
- > Eleven W-type retainers need to go in the remaining locations (Image 2).

#### Step 8

Install the completed hood-vent assembly to the vehicle.



Refer to the vehicle service manual for additional questions or concerns.

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## **ENROLL WITH IT**

As the calendar turns and goals are set for the new year, ACDelco Training is prepared to help service and body shop personnel improve their skills and strengthen their knowledge with a series of new courses for 2024. The variety of content delivered through several formats spans subjects ranging from electrical components to gas engines to online sites. Here are three such courses.

Course #: BBC01021S (InShop) **Course Name: ACDelco Training Site Overview** 

This InShop training course provides shop owners, managers, technicians and other shop personnel with a familiarization of the ACDelco Learning Management System (LMS). An overview of the various features, benefits and functional characteristics of the site will be covered.

Course #: SEL0401IS (InShop) Course Name: **Batteries** 

This InShop seminar will focus on the ACDelco battery product line. Attending participants will be prepared to sell and support ACDelco-branded batteries. At a high level, discussion topics will include:

- Battery function, diagnostics, service and safe handling procedures
- ACDelco battery warranties
- Battery industry sales opportunities and tactics
- Marketing batteries

This Instructor-Led Training course provides an overview of Gasoline

2024 offers

new ACDelco

courses

and new

opportunities to learn.

Course #: SEL0301IL (ILT) Course Name: **Gasoline Direct** Injection

Direct Injection (GDI) Fuel System designs, operation and servicing. Diagnosing and servicing of GDI fuel systems require an understanding of fuel delivery systems. This course covers the operation of gasoline high-pressure systems and low-pressure systems as related to the GDI system. Direct fuel injectors, fuel control systems, and combined direct and port fuel injection systems are addressed. Hands-on diagnosis and service procedures using scan tools and special tools required for servicing GDI systems will be performed.

mv GM Partner Perks Exclusive Member Offers

## WINTER樂 **PRO** PACK



my GM Partner Perks members can take advantage of exclusive rebates\* in the amount of:

On the purchase of any GM Genuine Parts OE Radiator

On the purchase of any GM Genuine Parts OE Lock Actuator

On the purchase of any ACDelco Gold Battery

\$1.50 On the purchase of any ACDelco Antifreeze Gallon Container

On the purchase of any ACDelco Silver Battery

\$0.50 On the purchase of any ACDelco Oil Filter





on all purchases and streamlined. online rebate redemptions.

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\*Online or mail-in rebate available only to Independent Service Centers, Body Shops, or Commercial Fleets with a U.S. mailing address enrolled in my GM Partner Perks by 3/31/24. Limit 15 rebates per part per business. Not available with some other offers. Government and municipal fleets are excluded. Allow 6 to 8 weeks from promotion end date for delivery of Visa® Prepaid Card issued in the business name. Visit mygmpartnerperks.com or gmpartsrebates.com for complete details, eligible parts, and rebate form, which must be submitted by 4/15/24. Offers end 3/31/24. \*\*Not available to Fleet members. Rebate amount depends on membership level and average monthly purchases during program period.



