

Energy Trust of Oregon Trade Ally Forum Solar Program Updates

Patricia Phillips October 26, 2023



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Leading Oregon to a safe, equitable, clean, and sustainable energy future.



The Oregon Department of Energy helps Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. We advance solutions to shape an equitable clean energy transition, protect the environment and public health, and responsibly balance energy needs and impacts for current and future generations.

What We Do On behalf of Oregonians across the state, the Oregon Department of Energy achieves its mission by providing:

- A Central Repository of Energy Data, Information, and Analysis
- A Venue for Problem-Solving Oregon's Energy Challenges
- Energy Education and Technical Assistance
- Regulation and Oversight
- Energy Programs and Activities



Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program

- Non-Restricted Income Residential customers across Oregon can save up to \$5,000 (or 40%) for solar and up to \$2,500 for battery storage paired with solar
- Low-Moderate Income Residential customers across Oregon can save up to \$5,000 (or 60%) for solar and up to \$2,500 for battery storage paired with solar
- Low-income service providers (LISP) can save up to \$30,000 for solar and up to \$15,000 for battery storage paired with solar

How it Works

Rebates are issued to ODOE-approved contractors who install the systems, and the full rebate amount will be passed on to the customer as savings on the net cost of the system.

Background

- HB 2618 passed in 2019
 - An additional \$10 million was provided by the legislature in 2023
- This program has completed 5,365 projects:
 - Non-Income Restricted projects: 4,122
 - Low- and moderate- income projects: 1,076
 - Low-income service provider projects: 167
- Program extended to January 2, 2029





How to qualify for Low-and moderate- Income (LMI)

- 1) The homeowner is determined eligible for certain Oregon Housing and Community Services programs (OHCS).
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
 - Oregon Energy Assistance Program
 - Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program
- 2) The homeowner is determined eligible for certain Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) or Oregon Health Authority programs (OHA).
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Oregon Health Plan (OHP) (Medicaid)
 - Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- 3) The homeowner can prove qualifying household income with an IRS or Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR) **tax transcript**.
 - Demonstrates their household income is less than or equal to 100 percent of state median income adjusted for household size.

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What is a Low-income Service Provider

- 1) A developer or owner of affordable multifamily housing eligible to receive public assistance.
- 2) The owner of a solar electric system or paired solar and storage system that is located on, and generates electrical energy for, a dwelling that has received public assistance and offsets electric utility expenses incurred by one or more low- and moderate-income tenants.
- 3) A community service organization, which is a public or tribal entity, or a private entity organized under section 501(c) of the federal tax code, whose primary purpose is to offer health, dental, social, financial, energy conservation, or other assistive services to individuals or households with incomes at or below 100 percent of the state median income by household size.
- 4) A tribal or local government entity such as a city, county or school district which uses public buildings to provide social services to low- or moderate-income individuals, or to provide emergency shelter and/or communications in disaster situations.



How to qualify as a Low-income Service Provider

Rebates may cover up to 50% of the net system cost

Organizations eligible as "low-income service providers" include:

- Developers/owners of affordable multifamily housing that are eligible for public assistance administered by Oregon Housing & Community Services.
- A community service organization (public, tribal, or a 501(c) nonprofit) whose primary purpose is to offer health, dental, social, financial, energy conservation, or other assistive services to households below 100 percent of the state median income by household size.
- A tribal or local government entity, such as a city, county, or school district that uses public buildings to provide services to low- or moderate-income individuals, or to provide emergency shelter and/or communications in disaster situations.



Contact the OSSRP program with specific questions at <u>ODOE.SolarRebates@oregon.gov</u> or call 503.378.4040.

The Process

- Contractors apply for the rebate on **behalf of their customer**.
- The contractor must submit a reservation application **before** starting construction
- In case of a paired solar and storage system, they must be purchased together by the same approved contractor
- Rebates are **paid to the ODOE-approved contractor** who installs the system.
- The **rebate amount is passed on** to the residential customer or Low-Income Service provider as savings on the net cost of the system.
- 20 Reservation Limit per customer/rebate type (Non-LMI or LMI/LISP)



How to Become an Approved Contractor

Apply through OSSRP Contractor page at

https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Incentives/Pages/O SSRP-For-Contractors.aspx

You will need:

CCB license Certification or membership (next slide) W-9 (with accurate mailing address)





How Do I Become an Approved Contractor?

Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) Solar Trade Ally

OR

PV installation Professional (PVIP) Certification administered by (NABCEP)

OR

PV Installer Specialist (PVIS) certified by NABCEP <u>and</u> a person with a NABCEP PV Technical Sales (PVTS) certification



Questions/Contact

Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program

https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Incentives/Pag es/Solar-Storage-Rebate-Program.aspx

Oregon Solar + Storage Rebate Program: Contractors

https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Incentives/Pag es/OSSRP-For-Contractors.aspx

Program Contact Information

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503-378-4040 ODOE.SolarRebates@oregon.gov

