

# Solar power your new home

Eligible Victorians can claim a discount on the cost of solar panels (PV), up to a maximum rebate of \$1,400 for homes under construction.



## Why install solar panels (PV) on your new home during construction?



Save up to \$1,073 per year on your energy bills

(based on a typical household)



Save up to \$1,400 upfront on your solar PV system



Start saving with solar as soon as you move in



Tackle climate change

## About the solar panel (PV) rebate for new homes

The Solar Homes Program is helping eligible Victorians who are building their new home by providing up to \$2,800 off the upfront cost of installing a solar panel (PV) system. Rebates of up to \$1,400, plus the option of an interest-free loan up to \$1,400 are available, so householders can take charge of their power bills and start saving as soon as they move in.

The eligibility application process for householders is quick and easy through the Solar Victoria Portal (the Portal).

Talk to your builder early in the planning phase about your preference for solar. Discuss when and how solar products can be installed by an authorised solar retailer. You will need your builder's consent for the installation to occur during the build.

Your solar retailer will claim the rebate on your behalf and the rebate amount will be deducted from the cost of your overall system and installation. You are responsible for paying any outstanding balance directly to your solar retailer once installed.

## Want to add an interest-free loan?

To further reduce costs, you can apply for an interest-free loan, for an amount equivalent to the rebate amount for most solar panel (PV) applications. In line with the existing rebate, the new interest-free loan can be applied up to an amount of \$1,400.

If your total system cost is less than \$2,800, there will be no upfront cost. The loan is required to be repaid over four years, or can be repaid sooner in one lump sum

## Am I eligible?

Customers building a new house can apply for the solar PV rebate and interest-free loan if:

- » They are the owner of the property
- » They have a combined household taxable income of less than \$180,000 per year (based on their Australian Tax Office Notice of Assessment)
- » They do not have an existing solar PV system
- » The value of the property will be under \$3 million at the time of completion
- » The property address has never received a solar battery or PV rebate.
- » They have not already received a solar battery or PV rebate as an owner-occupier under the Solar Homes Program

Demonstrate property ownership with a Council Rates Notice, a copy of their Certificate of Title (available through [Landata](https://www.landata.vic.gov.au/)<sup>1</sup>).

Other documents may be accepted as proof of ownership where a copy of the Certificate of Title or a Council Rates Notice are not available.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.landata.vic.gov.au/>

# How to apply

## Step 1

### Do your planning and research

Be sure that you understand the process and eligibility criteria.

Once you're confident that your property fits the eligibility criteria, talk to your builder as early as possible during the planning phase about your preference for solar and discuss when and how solar products can be installed by an authorised solar retailer under the Solar Homes Program. This will help you to know when you are at the right stage of construction to submit your rebate application.

Read our [Solar Panel PV Buyers Guide](#) and speak to an authorised solar retailer about which products will best suit your new roof and home. The builder will have to advise you of the date for installation which you should confirm with your solar retailer.

## Step 2

### Get a written quote from an authorised solar retailer

Your authorised solar retailer will need to provide you with a written quote that contains the information you need to make an informed decision. They will also upload your quote into the Solar Victoria Portal (the Portal) so you can start the online eligibility process.

You will receive an email notification from the Portal informing you that your quote has been uploaded.

Solar Victoria does not recommend signing a quote acceptance or paying a deposit prior to receiving your rebate eligibility confirmation. As a minimum you should confirm with your retailer that any deposit is fully refundable.

## Step 3

### Get pre-approval from the Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP)

While it's not part of the eligibility criteria for the solar panel (PV) rebate, if customers are interested in connecting and exporting to the grid it's a good idea to make sure that your installation has Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) pre-approval.

Retailers agree to obtain approval from the DNSP when they upload a quote and complete the Provider Statement on the Portal.

DNSPs are the organisations that affect whether your solar panels or solar battery can be connected to the grid.

Applicants should check with their retailer that pre-approval has been given and whether any solar export constraints have been imposed. Solar export constraints can change the amount of savings available to you, so it is important to be informed about this.

## Step 4

### Get your eligibility number and QR code

To start your application for eligibility, you can access your quote via the notification email from the Portal. Once you have accessed the Portal, you can select the quote provided to us by your retailer and use that as the starting point to assess your eligibility.

Once you are confirmed as eligible, Solar Victoria will provide you a unique eligibility number and QR code that must be scanned by your installer in order to proceed with your installation. You can send this to your retailer electronically if you unable to attend the site on the day that installation starts.

There is no maximum/minimum size for solar PV systems eligible for the rebate.

### Documentation required to prove eligibility

You will need to provide proof of identity, income and property ownership when you apply via the Solar Victoria Portal.

#### Proof of identity

You will need to enter the details from any 2 forms of ID. These can be a:

- » Driver's licence
- » Medicare card
- » Australian passport
- » Australian birth certificate
- » Australian citizenship certificate\*
- » Foreign passport. This should be a foreign passport with a valid Australian Visa.
- » Immicard

You'll need to make sure the names on both documents are the same.

\*You can find out more about your Australian citizenship by visiting the Australian Government Dept. of Home Affairs/Citizenship website.

#### Proof of property ownership

We require evidence of property ownership. This is provided via your Council Rates Notice.

Visit [Landata Victoria](#) for a copy of your Certificate of Title if you do not have a Council Rates Notice for your application.

### Proof of income

We require proof of income documentation for each person named as an owner.

For instance, if there is more than one owner of the property, we require proof of income for all listed owners.

Depending on your financial situation, proof of income documents may include:

- » Australian Tax Office Notice of Assessment (NOA) confirming annual taxable income
- » Centrelink Payment Summary showing dates, reference number and confirming pension income for the financial year
- » Centrelink PAYG Payment Summary
- » Completed and signed Statutory Declaration if you are a self-funded retiree (i.e. don't receive any payments from Centrelink). Please complete a Statutory Declaration and include your total income including any Superannuation for the financial year
- » Any one of the following Centrelink Concession Cards:
  - » Health Care Card\* or Low Income Health Care Card
  - » Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
  - » Pensioner Concession Card

\*Foster Child Health Care Card and Ex-Carer Allowance (Child) Health Care Card are not eligible.

If you didn't receive a taxable income, we still need you to complete a signed Statutory Declaration that states your income amount (e.g. \$0) for the financial year.

### Contact us

You can find more information on the program at [www.solar.vic.gov.au](http://www.solar.vic.gov.au) or call our Customer Service team on 1300 376 393 (during business hours).



If you'd like to speak to us in your language you can access free phone translation services by calling the National Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450.

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