#### Solar battery rebate Fact sheet

# Lead the charge... install a battery

Eligible households can claim a discount on the cost of a solar battery, up to a maximum rebate of \$4,838.



#### About the battery rebate

The Solar Homes Program is supporting eligible Victorian households to install a solar battery, by providing a point of sale discount up to a maximum of \$4,838.

Interest-free loans are not available under the solar battery rebate.

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.

## Before you begin: Understand the program eligibility.

The battery program targets designated postcodes with high PV penetration and population growth.

For an area to be considered a designated postcode it must:

- be a high growth suburb; and
- have high PV penetration.

Based on these criteria, the following postcodes are eligible to take part in the Solar Homes battery program.

#### **Designated postcodes (November 2019)**

3023	3027	3029	3030	3024	3048	3038	3059
3064	3063	3106	3116	3140	3173	3179	3180
3211	3212	3216	3217	3218	3222	3223	3224
3225	3226	3227	3228	3321	3328	3329	3330
3331	3332	3333	3335	3337	3338	3340	3351
3352	3377	3427	3428	3429	3430	3431	3432
3433	3434	3435	3437	3438	3442	3467	3515
3551	3556	3658	3690	3750	3752	3753	3754
3755	3756	3757	3758	3762	3764	3807	3809
3810	3812	3813	3814	3815	3816	3818	3820
3821	3822	3878	3880	3922	3923	3925	3936
3939	3941	3942	3943	3944	3975	3977	3978
3979	3981	3984	3990	3991	3992	3995	3996

#### Eligibility criteria

Victorians eligible to receive a battery rebate if they meet all of the following criteria:

- the property is within a designated postcode and already has solar PV panels with a capacity equal to or greater than 5kW
- pre-approval is obtained from your Distributed Network Service Provider (DNSP) to safety connect a battery to the grid
- the energy storage solution is listed on Solar Victoria's Approved Battery List and the property does not have an existing energy storage system
- they are the owner-occupier of the property where the system is to be installed
- the combined household taxable income of all owners is less than \$180,000 a year (based on your Australian Tax Office Notice of Assessment)
- it is an existing property, valued at under \$3 million based on the current council rates notice
- the property address has not previously taken part in the Solar Homes Program
- the owner/s agrees to receive information from their Distribution Network Service Provider about taking part in battery trials to maximise the value households get from them
- owner/s agree to receive a free safety inspection and/or audit under the Solar Victoria Audit Program, if selected.

Once you're confident that your property fits the eligibility criteria, you should start researching solar retailers who are authorised to take part in the program and can meet your energy needs.

Batteries installed before 1 July 2019 are not eligible for a rebate.





#### Why install a solar battery?



Save up to \$640 per year on your energy bills (based on a typical household)



Save up to \$4,838 upfront on your battery system





### How to apply

#### Step 1: Inform yourself

Before you sign a contract for solar, you should be sure that you understand the rebate process and eligibility criteria.

When you have researched the different types of batteries on Solar Victoria's approved products list (www.solar.vic.gov.au/approved-products) and identified the authorised solar retailer you want to use, contact them to obtain a quote.

## 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) which will enable you to start the online eligibility process.

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

Applicants must be aware that the retailer must obtain approval from the Distribution Network Service Provider (DSNP) before they can upload a quote and complete the Provider Statement on the Portal. This approval may take some time to obtain.

Solar Victoria does not recommend signing a quote acceptance or paying a deposit before receiving your rebate eligibility confirmation.

As a minimum, you should confirm with your retailer that any deposit is fully refundable.

## Step 3: Get your eligibility number and QR code

As the customer, you will need to apply for eligibility via the Solar Victoria Portal. **Your solar retailer cannot apply for an eligibility number on your behalf.** 

Battery rebates for 2019-20 will be released on 1 July, 1 November and 1 March. The portal will be open to eligible applicants until the rebate allocation is exhausted. 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 with a unique eligibility number and QR code that must be scanned by your installer in order to proceed with your installation.

Without the eligibility number and QR code, the installation cannot proceed.

#### Documentation needed to prove eligibility

You need to provide proof of income and property ownership when you apply via the Solar Victoria Portal, so be sure that you have your paperwork handy when you're ready to apply.

You will need to provide the pre-approval number or reference that has been provided by your DNSP.

We require evidence of property ownership, for example your local council rates notice.

We require proof of income documentation for each person named as an owner on your local council rates notice. For instance, if there is more than one owner of the property, we require proof of income for all listed owners. If there is more than one listed owner, you will need to provide proof of income documents for each person from the same financial year.

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

For a list of accepted proof of income documents visit www.solar.vic.gov.au/how-to-apply.

#### **Contact us**

You can find more information on the program at <a href="www.solar.vic.gov.au">www.solar.vic.gov.au</a> 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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