

Solar Victoria Notice to Market 2021–22

Published June 2021



Table 1: Notice to Market 2021–22 – Record of updates to this edition

In consultation with industry, Solar Victoria will periodically review requirements in this edition of the Notice to Market and publish updates.

Published date	Updates / additions	Section
18/06/2021	First release	

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ISBN 978-1-76105-514-0 (pdf/online/MS word)

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Accessibility

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Minister's Foreword



As the transition to renewable energy continues to gather pace, our state is at the forefront, with the Victorian Government

committed to ensuring all Victorians benefit now, and into the future.

Since 2018, the Solar Homes Program has supported over 140,000 Victorian households to reduce energy costs through the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV), hot water and battery systems.

Victorians have embraced the program, with Solar Victoria providing more than \$250 million in rebates to households while encouraging industry innovation and adopting new technologies to benefit customers into the future. Now, the government has broadened its ambition to support small businesses through the new Solar for Business Program.

This Notice to Market covers both the Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs delivered by Solar Victoria and outlines mandatory as well as recommended requirements. It includes approved products and the minimum industry training for all installers, and requirements for retailers who participate in our programs.

To ensure the safety and quality of solar installations continues to exceed national industry standards, Solar Victoria works closely with industry stakeholders including peak bodies and its Industry and Consumer Reference Group. And through an \$11 million investment in training and workforce development, the Victorian Government is upskilling existing solar workers and creating pathways for new jobs. Underpinning this training is our absolute commitment to safety, which is our number one priority.

Solar Victoria's initiatives are helping to build and maintain a safe, sustainable solar industry that benefits customers, energy users and industry members across Victoria, and builds community confidence in our programs. Our initiatives also look ahead to optimise the integration of solar systems with the grid and maximise the benefits of renewable generation through innovation.

By raising industry benchmarks and encouraging innovation, Solar Victoria is maximising the benefits of solar generation and setting the standard for our renewable future.

We are creating thousands of jobs and sustainable, affordable and energy-efficient solutions that are helping to lead the renewable revolution, for the benefit of all Victorians.

Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, Environment and
Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



1.0 Overview

This Notice to Market provides industry with a clear overview of all rules and expectations for participation in the Solar Homes Program from 1 July 2021 and Solar for Business Program from 1 May 2021.

1.1 About the Notice to Market

The requirements for participants, systems and products outlined in this Notice to Market will help ensure the ongoing improvement of the solar industry. They focus on worker and customer safety, fit for purpose and future-proofed product installations and ensuring all Victorians benefit from clean and affordable solar energy.

Participation in Solar Victoria's Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs is governed by the requirements set out in this Notice to Market, as well as Solar Victoria's terms and conditions. Participants must comply with the requirements in this notice for rebates to apply to solar PV, solar battery and solar hot water systems.

This Notice to Market replaces and builds on all previous versions. Solar Victoria will periodically review requirements in consultation with industry and publish updates to this notice.

1.2 About Solar Victoria's programs

The Solar Homes Program is one of several Victorian Government initiatives aimed at supporting Victorians to reduce their energy costs and decreasing Victoria's reliance on non-renewable sources of electricity.

The 10-year, \$1.3 billion program will support 778,500 Victorian households to install solar PV, solar hot water or solar battery systems at home, saving on their energy costs and reducing emissions. The program contributes to the Victorian Renewable Energy Targets of 40 per cent renewable energy by 2025 and 50 per cent by 2030¹, and the long-term Emissions Reduction Target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.² Over 10 years, the program will reduce Victoria's carbon emissions by almost 4 million tonnes – equivalent to taking one million of the state's 4.6 million cars off the road.

Since its launch in August 2018, the program has been driving a significant increase in residential PV installations in Victoria. In the 2019–20 financial year Victoria recorded an 87 per cent increase in residential PV installations compared to 2017–18, before the launch of the program. In 2020, approximately 80 per cent of all solar PV systems installed in Victoria were installed under the Solar Homes Program.

Since 2018, over 140,000 households have taken up rebates to install solar PV, batteries and solar hot water systems. As well as contributing to renewable energy targets, these systems have a direct financial benefit. A typical Victorian household with a rooftop solar PV panel system can save up to \$890 a year on average annual energy bills.³

From May 2021, eligible Victorian small businesses have for the first time been able to apply for a rebate to install solar PV at their work premises through a new three-year Solar for Business Program. This program will support up to 15,000 small businesses to reduce their energy costs as the Victorian economy recovers from the impact of COVID-19.

We're committed to ensuring customers are treated fairly and receive the highest standards of consumer protections when purchasing solar. We are setting nation-leading standards to protect customers who purchase a solar system under the Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs.

From 1 September 2021, consumer rights will be further protected through the introduction of a ban on unsolicited door-to-door sales for the Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs.

For more information, see solar.vic.gov.au or contact us: solar.vic.gov.au/contact

1 Victorian Government Energy: energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/victorias-renewable-energy-targets

2 Victorian Government Climate Change: climatechange.vic.gov.au/reducing-emissions/emissions-targets

3 St Vincent de Paul Society 'An Update Report on the Victorian Tariff Tracking Project': vinnies.org.au/icms_docs/282472_Victorian_Energy_Prices_January_2018.pdf

2.0

About rebates

This section provides a brief overview of all rebate streams available under the Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs.



2.1 All solar PV rebate streams

2.1.1 Solar for owner-occupiers

The Solar Homes Program provides a rebate on the cost of an eligible solar panel (PV) system, up to a maximum listed on table 3, in section 2.6. To further reduce the upfront cost of solar PV, eligible Victorian property owners can apply for an interest-free loan equal to the rebate amount at the same time as they apply for the rebate (see 2.7).

Over the 10-year program, Solar Homes will support 650,000 owner-occupier households to install solar PV systems, helping households to reduce their energy costs, generate clean, renewable energy and reduce their household emissions.

For more information, including eligibility criteria, see solar.vic.gov.au/solar-panel-rebate

2.1.2 Solar for rentals

The Solar Homes solar for rentals rebate stream offers eligible rental providers a rebate up to a maximum listed on table 3, in section 2.6 for the installation of an eligible solar PV system on their rental property.

Eligible rental providers can also opt to take up an interest-free loan equal to the value of their rebate, to further decrease the upfront cost of installation. rental providers can choose to repay the loan themselves or seek a contribution of up to 50 per cent of the cost of the loan repayment from the renter, over a four-year period.

Renter contributions can only occur with the renter's consent and the arrangement must be confirmed in an Agreement between Rental Provider and Renter.

The solar for rentals rebate stream will support 50,000 renter households over the 10-year Solar Homes Program.

For more information, including eligibility criteria, see solar.vic.gov.au/solar-rental-properties

2.1.3 Solar for community housing

The solar for community housing rebate stream boosts access to affordable energy for those who need it most, by supporting community housing providers to install solar panels and reducing the cost of energy for their renters.

Not-for-profit housing providers that own or manage housing assets owned by third parties can apply for solar and hot water rebates of up to a maximum listed on table 3, in section 2.6 per tenancy.

By March 2021, the Solar Homes Program had supported over 750 community housing properties to install solar panels. Solar Victoria has seen an increase in interest for solar PV rebates from housing providers with the recent Victorian Government \$2.7 billion Building Works package to support maintenance and upgrades of social housing properties, including energy efficiency.

For more information, including eligibility criteria, see solar.vic.gov.au/solar-community-housing

2.1.4 Small business rebates

Solar Victoria is supporting Victorian small businesses to reduce their energy costs through a new Solar for Business Program, which will offer rebates to eligible small businesses who want to install solar PV at their work premises.

From May 2021, eligible businesses have been able to apply for a small business rebate of up to a maximum listed on table 4, in section 2.6. Rebates will cover up to 50 per cent of the cost of an approved rooftop solar system up to 30 kW, reducing the upfront cost of installing solar on their business premises.

This new program will support up to 15,000 small businesses over the next three years.

For more information, including eligibility criteria, see solar.vic.gov.au/solar-small-business

2.2 Solar battery rebate stream

The Solar Homes battery rebate stream offers eligible households a rebate of up to a maximum listed on table 3, in section 2.6 on the cost of an eligible solar battery.

Households can save hundreds of dollars a year on their energy bills by installing a solar battery, in addition to savings made with solar PV.

We are also encouraging the aggregation of batteries to support the expansion and reach of the benefits of battery storage. Aggregation is the process of combining small-scale distributed energy technologies like household solar or storage to increase the overall capacity and impact of technology for the individual household and the wider Victorian community.

Aggregation is becoming a vital tool. It enables increased visibility of energy usage across the grid, so that technology can be deployed in areas where there may be already high penetration of solar PV and can result in increased reliability and security of the grid.

In encouraging aggregation programs to develop, we hope to see a reduction in the cost of electricity network upgrades – so customers aren't landed with unnecessary costs.

The Solar Homes battery rebate stream will support 18,500 households to install a battery over four years to June 2023.

For more information, including eligibility criteria, see solar.vic.gov.au/solar-battery-rebate

2.3 Solar hot water rebate stream

Over 10 years, the solar hot water rebate stream will assist 60,000 households to drive down their energy bills. Typical households can save hundreds of dollars per year on their bills.

The solar hot water rebate is suitable for households seeking to replace their old hot water system, and keen to take up solar where solar panels might not be suitable, or for households that already have solar panels installed.

We are providing a 50 per cent rebate up to \$1,000 on eligible solar hot water systems for 6,000 households each year.

The solar hot water rebate is available for installations that replace an existing hot water system which is at least three years old. The solar hot water rebate is not available to new build homes.

Solar Victoria has also established a process for emergency hot water installations, so Victorians don't have to wait if their system has broken down.

For more information, including eligibility criteria, see solar.vic.gov.au/solar-hot-water-rebate

2.4 Release dates and quantities

The Victorian Government has confirmed the number and value of Solar Homes Program rebates for the 2021–22 financial year, with a minimum of 5,400 solar PV rebates released each month.

Solar Victoria will work closely with stakeholders to communicate the availability of rebates and closely monitor their demand. Monthly or fortnightly releases may be considered to manage the availability of rebates to effectively support industry.

Any rebates uncommitted in 2020–21 will be carried over into 2021–22.

Table 2: Rebate quantities

Rebate type	Rebate quantity 2021–22
Solar PV systems for owner-occupiers and community housing	72,000
Solar for renters	3,000
Solar batteries (household and aggregation opportunities)	7,000
Solar hot water	6,000
Solar for Business	5,000

Rebate releases are published at solar.vic.gov.au/key-dates-solar-homes

2.5 Eligibility

Specific criteria must be met to receive a rebate in any stream. Eligibility criteria across all rebate streams may include, for example, income-based requirements, the value of the property, occupancy status, no prior participation in a Solar Victoria program for the same address, and products being on the list of approved products.

Additional criteria that can vary across each rebate may include, for example, specific system requirements needing to be met or in place, and the age of the system being replaced.

Full eligibility criteria are detailed under each rebate at solar.vic.gov.au/solar-rebates

2.6 Rebate values

We aim to provide Victoria’s solar industry with certainty on volumes, quality and rebate values. We expect participants in our programs to deliver value for money to customers, while maintaining or improving quality and customer experience.

While demand for solar is difficult to predict, we expect that by 30 June 2021 there will be rebates in a number of our rebate streams that have not been fully allocated in the 2020–21 financial year. To benefit customers, we will make a number of rebate streams available at their current values until fully committed.

This means Solar Victoria will continue to offer:

- Solar for Business rebates at the current value of \$3,500 until the first 5,000 rebates have been fully allocated.
- Solar battery rebates at the current value of \$4,174 until all rebates available in 2020–21 have been fully allocated.
- Solar hot water rebates at the current value of \$1,000 (depending on the cost of the system) throughout 2021–22.

We will monitor demand and uptake of rebates and communicate these via our website solar.vic.gov.au. In the 2021–22 financial year Solar Victoria will operate a monthly rebate release frequency. This will be monitored closely and adjusted to ensure smooth and timely supply to effectively support industry. We will continue our practice of displaying available rebate numbers on our website, and will provide advance notice of any reduction in rebate value.

2.0 About rebates

This approach will ensure that the maximum number of customers will be able to access the higher rebate value for each stream. Remaining rebate numbers can be found on our website.

Solar retailers will be required to update their customer quotes in the Solar Victoria portal when the rebate values step down, and we will inform householders and retailers via our website, e-newsletters and social media prior to rebate values being reduced.

The following table sets out the rebate values that will come into effect in financial year 2021–22. The rebate price listed is the maximum rebate that will be paid to a rebate applicant.

Table 3: Solar Homes Program – Rebate values (\$)

Rebate type	Rebate value (\$) 2020–21	Rebate value (\$) 2021–22
Solar PV	1,850	1,400 from 1 July 2021
Solar for rentals	1,850	1,400 from 1 July 2021
Solar hot water	1,000	1,000
Solar batteries	4,174	3,500 once all 2020–21 rebates have been allocated

Table 4: Solar for Business Program – Rebate value (\$)

Rebate type	Rebate value (\$) for the first 5,000 rebates
Solar for Business	Up to 3,500 until the first 5,000 business rebates are allocated, and up to 1,750 thereafter

2.7 Loans

Loans to apply for a solar PV rebate in the Solar Homes Program have been available to eligible owner-occupiers since 1 July 2019 and to eligible rental providers since 1 July 2020.

The Solar Homes Program loan complements the solar panel rebate and allows applicants to further reduce the upfront costs of installing solar. Eligible applicants applying for the solar panel rebate have the option to take a fee-free and interest-free loan equivalent to the rebate amount. The loan will be repaid over four years in 48 equal monthly instalments payable in arrears.

Once granted eligibility for a rebate, the applicant will only be eligible for a fee-free and interest-free loan subject to the positive benefit assessment by the solar retailer i.e. the installed system generates a positive cash flow for the household after monthly loan repayments. Loan recipients experiencing financial hardship can contact Solar Victoria for assistance.

Under the solar for rentals rebate stream, eligible rental providers have the option to seek an up to 50 per cent contribution from the renter for the loan repayment through a signed agreement. Any costs over and above the rebate/loan amount must be borne by the owner.

By entering into the Loan Contract, the loan customer acknowledges that:

- the terms of the Loan Contract form a legally enforceable contract on those terms
- if there is a breach of the terms of the Loan Contract, the loan customer must pay any enforcement expenses of Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

3.0

Definitions – What do we mean by?

This section explains some of the words we frequently use within the Notice to Market.

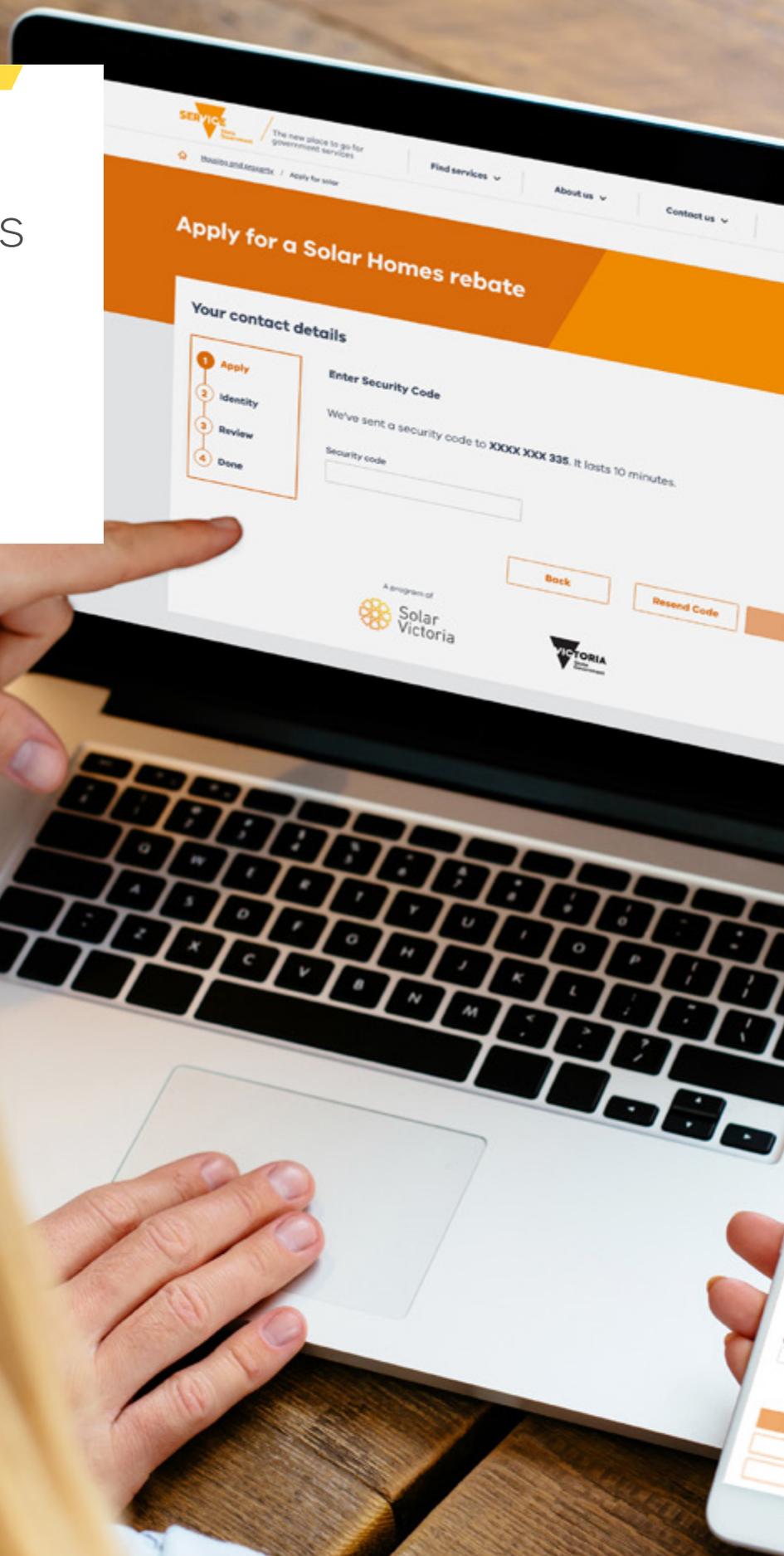
Table 5: Definition of words used within the Notice to Market

When we say:	This means:
Retailer	A retailer of eligible solar photovoltaic systems and ancillary equipment and/or solar battery systems and ancillary equipment and/or solar hot water systems which meet the programs' mandatory eligibility criteria, and who is registered to participate in Solar Victoria's programs as a retailer.
Installer	An installer of eligible systems, being eligible solar photovoltaic systems and ancillary equipment and/or solar battery systems and ancillary equipment and/or solar hot water system within Solar Victoria's programs.
Other on-site workers	Other on-site personnel who are involved in the installation of eligible solar PV, solar battery and/or solar hot water systems within Solar Victoria's programs, including but not limited to trades assistants, apprentices, etc.
Participant	Participants in the Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs include retailers, installers, other on-site workers, and customers.
Mandatory	<p>Mandatory requirements must be satisfied for a participant to enter into Solar Victoria's programs.</p> <p>Where a participant no longer meets mandatory requirements, Solar Victoria may suspend or cancel participation in Solar Victoria's programs at its discretion.</p> <p>Participants must continue to meet the mandatory requirements at all times during their participation in Solar Victoria's programs.</p> <p>Mandatory requirements in this notice are coloured orange. You can use these sections as checklists.</p>
Recommended	<p>Recommended requirements are optional and do not affect eligibility at the time of publication of this notice. They help to ensure Solar Victoria's programs deliver the best outcomes for Victorians.</p> <p>Recommended requirements signal to industry criteria that are likely to become mandatory in the future.</p> <p>Industry participants should consider early adoption of recommended requirements and plan accordingly.</p> <p>Recommended requirements in this notice are coloured yellow. You can use these sections as checklists.</p>

4.0

How to access rebates

This section lists what is required for participants in our programs to access solar PV, solar battery and solar hot water rebates.



4.1 Solar PV and battery rebates

Solar PV and solar battery rebates are accessed via the Solar Victoria portal (the portal) created for customers and retailers to easily apply and manage eligibility and rebated claims online.

Applicants are only able to benefit from rebates and loans after they have received confirmation of their eligibility and have been notified that they may proceed with the installation by Solar Victoria. Rebates are only paid to retailers who have received confirmation of an applicant’s eligibility prior to the installation of a system.

The portal allows households and retailers to transact with Solar Victoria.

Service Victoria and State Trustees are delivery partners.

Table 6: All solar PV and solar battery rebates – mandatory portal requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?	How to register:
Registration on the Solar Victoria portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All solar retailers wishing to claim a rebate through Solar Victoria’s programs must be registered on the Solar Victoria portal before an installation occurs. All solar PV retailers must be authorised by Solar Victoria to participate in Solar Victoria’s programs. Authorised retailers are those who fulfil Solar Victoria’s program requirements, including being a Signatory to the Clean Energy Council’s Approved Solar Retailer Code of Conduct and maintaining the status of an Approved Solar Retailer with the Clean Energy Council. 	To register as a retailer, please email us at retailers@team.solar.vic.gov.au or call us on 1300 376 393 – Monday to Friday from 8:00am – 6:00pm (except public holidays).

Table 7: All solar PV and solar battery installers – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?	Any questions?
Registration on the Solar Victoria portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accredited installers must maintain a current accreditation status to participate in Solar Victoria’s programs. All solar PV installers must be Clean Energy Council accredited before an installation can occur. 	For installer queries, please email us at installers@team.solar.vic.gov.au or call us on 1300 376 393 – Monday to Friday from 8:00am – 6:00pm (except public holidays).

4.2 Accessing other rebates

Participants in the Solar Homes solar hot water and solar for community housing rebate streams cannot currently access rebates via the Solar Victoria portal.

Read how to access solar hot water rebates at solar.vic.gov.au/solar-hot-water-rebate

Read how to access solar for community housing rebates at solar.vic.gov.au/solar-community-housing

5.0

Requirements for all solar PV rebates

This section lists all requirements that industry participants, systems and products must satisfy across all solar PV rebate streams.

We encourage participants to also meet the recommended requirements to help deliver the best outcomes for Victorians.



5.1 Solar PV retail business and workforce requirements

Retail business and workforce requirements apply to all solar PV rebate streams for owner-occupiers, renters, community housing and small businesses. They aim to enhance safety and quality by maintaining rigorous standards and developing a level playing field within the industry.

For more information about training requirements in this section, including how to enrol, see solar.vic.gov.au/training

Table 8: All solar PV retailers – mandatory retail business requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>All solar PV retailers must be approved by the Clean Energy Council as a signatory to the Solar Retailer Code of Conduct (Approved Solar Retailer Scheme).</p> <p>More information: solar.vic.gov.au/become-approved-provider</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Solar Retailer Code of Conduct is a voluntary scheme, authorised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), which sets requirements on sales, marketing practices and documentation, and aims to exceed the minimum set by government and regulations. Signatories undergo a stringent application process and are subject to monitoring and a compliance and sanctions regime. Solar Victoria will consider other equivalent ACCC authorised industry codes as they are developed.
<p>No prosecutions under the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i> and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (or equivalent legislation/regulations in other Australian jurisdictions) resulting in a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt in the past three years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and other people at work. Confirming compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations aims to ensure that the health and safety of employees and the public are not put at risk by work activities.
<p>Confirmation all workers engaged to install solar PV systems have attained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card). VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> training unit certification. <p>Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. Retailers must perform due diligence to ensure all workers meet the regulated and contractual requirements of participating in Solar Victoria’s programs.

5.0 Requirements for all solar PV rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Compliance with the Victorian Government's ban on electronic waste to landfill.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Victorian Government has banned e-waste from landfill in Victoria, effective 1 July 2019. E-waste is growing three times faster than general municipal waste in Australia, and it contains both valuable and hazardous materials that can be recovered when they reach the end of their working life. • The Waste Management Policy (e-waste) was approved by the Executive Council on 26 June 2018 and gazetted on 28 June 2018. The Victorian Government Gazette e-waste order can be found on pages 1457 to 1463. • E-waste describes any device which requires an electro- magnetic current (including anything with a plug, cord or battery) to operate and includes all solar products at the end of their useful life i.e. panels, inverter and energy storage equipment. • Sustainability Victoria lists locations to dispose of various types of e-waste. • For more information on managing e-waste, see Managing e-waste (EPA website).
<p>Confirmation all workers engaged to install systems have successfully completed online mini-training modules as required by Solar Victoria from time to time. Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Victoria's mini-training modules are industry validated and customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts. • Mini-training modules mandated by Solar Victoria will be available to complete online prior to the mandatory completion date set by Solar Victoria for each module. • Solar Victoria will provide reasonable notice of mandatory mini-training modules by way of Solar Victoria's website.

Table 9: All solar PV retailers – recommended retail business requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Registered with Energy Safe Victoria as a <u>Registered Electrical Contractor</u>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a solar PV retailer is also a registered electrical contractor the entity is subject to the <i>Electrical Safety Act 1998</i>. Registered electrical contractors are obliged to provide safety certificates to parties for whom electrical work is carried out. • While registration as a Registered Electrical Contractor is not a mandatory requirement for the provision of electrical services, it places greater responsibility on the retailer to ensure worker and customer safety.
<p>Main business location listed as “Victoria” according to the Australian Government’s <u>Australian Business Register</u>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A key element of Solar Victoria’s programs concerns driving job creation with strong local content and industry development to build local supply chains. Prioritising businesses with a main business location of Victoria contributes to achieving this.
<p>Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to “AS/NZS 5377: 2013”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Victoria’s programs aim to support Victoria’s emerging circular economy by encouraging best practice approaches and outcomes for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. • AS/NZS 5377:2013 establishes Australia’s best practice benchmark for the collection, storage, transport and treatment of end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment. • Future eligibility and installation requirements will be updated periodically. In particular, Solar Victoria recognises the national stewardship approach underway for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle.
<p>Provide solar PV system owners with a financial performance estimate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typically, customers purchase solar PV systems to reduce their electricity bills. However, under current Australian Standards, system owners are only required to receive an electricity performance estimate with no consideration of estimated cost savings. • Greater transparency of the financial benefits of installing solar PV systems empowers customers to make informed decisions.
<p>All workers engaged to install solar PV systems have attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIIWHS204) <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> accredited unit of competency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. • This training sets out the requirements to work safely on construction sites where the work activity involves working above 1.5 metres from ground level and where fall protection measures are required. • Completion of <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.

5.0 Requirements for all solar PV rebates

This is recommended:	Why?
All workers engaged to install solar have attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. The <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> is an accredited training program and provides vocational outcomes for persons wishing to gain the skills and knowledge required for the safe installation of solar systems. Training content includes <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> (a training unit developed and customised for the solar industry), White Card/ construction induction training, first aid and working at heights
Undertake up to four free 90-minute business mentoring sessions from Solar Victoria’s approved provider. See Section 8.3 of this Notice to Market.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The experienced business consultants we have engaged can help participants in our programs make informed decisions to improve their business through tailored and confidential one-on-one mentoring sessions.

Table 10: All solar PV installers – mandatory workforce requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
Holds current Clean Energy Council accreditation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accreditation confirms an individual has undertaken industry specific training relevant to the installation of solar PV systems. The accreditation scheme includes continuous professional development requirements and a compliance regime. Accreditation is currently a requirement under the Federal Government’s Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES).
Holds an <u>unrestricted (A Grade) electrical licence issued by Energy Safe Victoria</u> ; or, holds equivalent Australian interstate electrical licence with mutual recognition by Energy Safe Victoria.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with the Electricity Safety (Installations) Regulations 2009 and <i>Electricity Safety Act 1998</i>, complete installation of a grid-connected solar PV system qualifies as prescribed electrical installation work and must therefore be done by a licensed electrician.
Has no prosecutions under the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i> and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (or equivalent legislation/regulations in other Australian jurisdictions) resulting in a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt in the past three years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and other people at work. Confirming compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations aims to ensure that the health and safety of employees and the public are not put at risk by work activities.
Solar PV inverter power quality settings (Volt-Var and Volt-Watt) set to comply with Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victorian distribution network service providers (DNSPs) have mandated unified power quality (volt-watt and volt var) response mode settings for most inverter connections since 1 December 2019. Typically, installers are required to manually enable this functionality and program the mandated thresholds. All installations must comply with DNSP network connection agreements.

5.0 Requirements for all solar PV rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Has attained the VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> accredited unit of competency. Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> is a solar-specific safety training unit including customised working at heights, lockout and energisation requirements, identifying and reporting on asbestos, etc. • A sector advisory group, led by the Office of the Victorian Skills Commissioner, including WorkSafe, Solar Victoria, the Electrical Trades Union, the Clean Energy Council, the Plumbing Pipes Trades and Employee Union, Master Plumbers, the National Electrical and Communications Association and multiple solar retailers, identified a skills gap in the solar industry and developed this training unit. • Completion of <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> is a work, health and safety control measure.
<p>Has attained the CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Card training sets out requirements for performing safe work practices, identifying risks and satisfying work requirements. • Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 state that construction induction training must be undertaken by workers engaged in construction and the installation of electricity services. • Completion of White Card training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
<p>Has successfully completed online mini-training modules as required by Solar Victoria from time to time. Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Victoria’s mini-training modules are industry validated and customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts. • Mini-training modules mandated by Solar Victoria will be available to complete online prior to the mandatory completion date set by Solar Victoria for each module. • Solar Victoria will provide reasonable notice of further mandatory mini-training modules by way of Solar Victoria’s website.

Table 11: All solar PV installers – recommended workforce requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
Has attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIIWHS204) <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> accredited training unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This training sets out the requirements to work safely on construction sites where the work activity involves working above 1.5 metres from ground level and where fall protection measures are required. Completion of <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
Has attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> is an accredited training program and provides vocational outcomes for persons wishing to gain the skills and knowledge required for the safe installation of solar systems. Training content includes <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> (a training unit developed and customised for the solar industry), White Card/ construction induction training, first aid and working at heights.

Table 12: Other on-site solar PV workers – mandatory workforce requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
Has attained the VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> accredited unit of competency. Mandatory from 1 July 2021.	Same as above for installers at Table 10.
Has attained the CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).	Same as above for installers at Table 10.
Has completed industry specific mini-training as directed by Solar Victoria. Mandatory from 1 January 2022	Same as above for installers at Table 10. Note: some industry specific mini-training may be relevant to accredited installers only.

Table 13: All other on-site solar workers – recommended workforce requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
Has attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIIWHS204) <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> accredited training unit.	Same as above for installers at Table 11.
Has attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.	Same as above for installers at Table 11.

5.2 Solar PV system and product requirements

The following system and product requirements apply to all solar PV rebate streams for owner-occupiers, renters, community housing and small businesses. They aim to enhance safety and quality by maintaining rigorous standards and ensuring products are future-fit.

Table 14: Solar PV inverters – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
Listed on Solar Victoria’s Approved Solar PV Inverter List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This listing confirms inverters meet additional requirements, above minimum industry standards, to be eligible to participate in Solar Victoria’s programs.
Listed on the Clean Energy Council’s Approved Inverter List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This listing confirms, via certified evidence, inverters meet minimum product standards for usage in Australia. Listing is currently a requirement under the federal government’s Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES).
Certified to IEC 62116 (grid-connected inverters only).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification to this standard provides enhanced testing procedures for protection against “islanding” faults (above minimum mandatory safety standards). This translates to safer installations for electrical workers and customers. Enforcement of this functionality is an emerging requirement in regions with high penetration of distributed energy resources (DER) i.e. Western Power, South Australia Power Networks (SAPN) and Energy Queensland. The Clean Energy Council’s approved list specifies which inverters comply with this standard.
Power quality response modes (Volt/Watt and Volt/Var) available and can be set to comply with Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) connection agreements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volt response modes facilitate greater penetration of distributed energy resources (DER) by automatically improving grid power quality. Requiring the availability of these modes represents one of first steps towards greater facilitation of DER in the network, as outlined by the Australian Open Energy Networks program and the reform program of California Rule 21 (amongst others). Victorian distribution network service providers (DNSPs) have mandated specific unified power quality (volt-watt and volt-var) response mode settings for most inverter connections since 1 December 2019.
<p>Inverter(s) must have internet capability (the ability to share data via the World Wide Web) and an on-board communication port that can be used for a physical connection to another device (e.g. via ethernet, USB and RS-232).</p> <p>Further, if an inverter can communicate wirelessly in a manner similar to an on-board communication port (for example by providing a secure Application Programming Interface or API over Wi-Fi) that can be used for a connection to another device, this may be utilised in lieu of a physical communication port.</p> <p>Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet capability and an on-board communication port (or equivalent) are minimum infrastructure requirements to enable communication between inverter energy systems and third parties. Systems with these minimum requirements may participate in future energy markets and/or dynamic connection arrangements. Approximately 99 per cent of solar PV inverters installed in the Solar Homes Program since 1 July 2019 satisfy these requirements.

5.0 Requirements for all solar PV rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Inverter(s) must comply with the low voltage ride through settings and test procedure set out in AEMO’s short duration undervoltage response test until such time that AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 comes into effect. After which, the UVDRT testing procedure within AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 will apply.</p> <p>For inverter(s) with a back-up power supply or uninterruptible power supply (UPS), the requirement will only apply after AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 comes into effect.</p> <p>Mandatory from 1 September 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This requirement is to improve power system security, as identified in AEMO’s Electricity Statement of Opportunity (ESOO). AEMO has consulted widely to develop a Short Duration Undervoltage Disturbance Ride-Through (UVDRT) Test Procedure to ensure inverter(s) respond appropriately during short duration undervoltage disturbance events to mitigate any further potential risks to power system security. • This requirement will be superseded by the UVDRT testing procedure outlined within AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 from 18 December 2021. • Approximately 80 per cent of solar PV inverters installed in the Solar Homes Program in 2020 satisfy this requirement.
<p>Inverter(s) must comply with AS/NZS 4777.2:2020</p> <p>Mandatory from 18 December 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The latest release of AS/NZS 4777.2 includes key new inverter capabilities related to increased grid support features, disturbance ride-through capabilities and test procedure clarity, as well as product requirements for inbuilt DC isolation devices. • This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-042, Renewable Energy Power Supply Systems and Equipment, to supersede AS/NZS 4777.2:2015, Grid connection of energy systems via inverters, Part 2: Inverter requirements. • AS/NZS 4777.2:2015 will also remain current for 12 months after the date of publication of this Standard and after this time they will be superseded by AS/NZS 4777.2:2020. Regulatory authorities that reference this Standard in regulation may apply these requirements at a different time.

Table 15: Solar PV inverters – recommended requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
Includes remote monitoring (proprietary or third party) via secure connection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring facilitates greater consumer energy management and engagement. Monitoring facilitates system fault and performance analysis.
Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to AS/NZS 5377: 2013.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Victoria’s programs aim to support Victoria’s emerging circular economy by encouraging best practice approaches and outcomes for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. AS/NZS 5377:2013 establishes Australia’s best practice benchmark for the collection, storage, transport and treatment of end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment. Future eligibility and installation requirements will be updated periodically. In particular, Solar Victoria recognises the national stewardship approach underway for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle.
Includes a communication protocol.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication protocols support third party (e.g. aggregator, platform provider, distribution network service provider, distribution service operator, etc) visibility, communication and orchestration. Systems with communication protocols may participate in future energy markets and/or dynamic connection arrangements.
Inverter energy system capable of switching external loads (via inverter or third-party device).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The functionality to switch loads facilitates increased self-consumption of generated solar power resulting in better financial outcomes for households and optimises integration with the grid.

Table 16: Solar PV modules – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
Listed on Solar Victoria’s Approved PV Module List .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This listing confirms PV modules meet the requirements, above minimum industry standards, to be eligible to participate in Solar Victoria’s programs.
Listed on the Clean Energy Council’s Approved Module List .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This listing confirms, via certified evidence, solar PV modules meet minimum product standards for usage in Australia. Listing is currently a requirement under the Federal Government’s Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES).
Listed by the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) as a participating brand in the joint CER and industry Solar Panel Validation (SPV) Initiative .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in this initiative is a precursor to validation. Validation confirms PV modules are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – genuine (e.g. not counterfeit) – approved (as per the Clean Energy Council’s approved products list) – backed by manufacturer’s warranties – meet Australian Standards – eligible for Small Scale Technology Certificates (STCs) and rebates under Solar Victoria’s programs. At least 56 manufacturers and importers participate in the validation initiative.

Table 17: Solar PV modules – recommended requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Provision of an electronic customer record confirming installed solar PV modules are verified as part of the joint CER and industry Solar Panel Validation Initiative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Validation provides customers with an electronic record of confirmation that their installed solar panels are verified as part of the initiative. • The record includes information such as the make and model of the solar PV modules, serial numbers, the time and date of installation and the location. • Validation via this initiative confirms solar PV modules are genuine, approved (as per the Clean Energy Councils approved products list), backed by manufacturers warranties, meet Australian Standards, and are eligible for Small Scale Technology Certificates (STCs) and rebates under Solar Victoria’s programs.
<p>VDE Quality Tested; or, Certified to IEC 62941.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VDE quality tested and IEC 62941 certified solar PV modules are those that have demonstrated a higher degree of quality assurance, predominately in the manufacturing process.
<p>Certified to IEC 62804 (for crystalline modules).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification to IEC 62804 ensures solar PV modules offer greater durability against forms of accelerated degradation resulting in better long-term performance and reliability. • This standard only applies to crystalline solar PV modules. That is, other topologies (technology types) are not covered. This standard is especially relevant in higher voltage solar PV arrays.
<p>Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to AS/NZS 5377:2013.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Victoria’s programs aim to support Victoria’s emerging circular economy by encouraging best practice approaches and outcomes for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. AS/NZS 5377:2013 establishes Australia’s best practice benchmark for the collection, storage, transport and treatment of end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment. • Future eligibility and installation requirements will be updated periodically. In particular, Solar Victoria recognises the national stewardship approach underway for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle.

Table 18: Solar PV system – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Wall mounted DC isolation devices shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built into the inverter, in accordance with AS/NZS 5033 & AS/NZS 4777.2; or If an external DC isolation device is required then it shall be installed on a non-combustible surface in accordance with the recommendations outlined by Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) industry guidance note: PV d.c. isolator installation – Energy Safe Victoria (esv.vic.gov.au) <p>Mandatory from 1 July 2021</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DC isolators if installed incorrectly or damaged over time can present a risk to system owners. ESV's industry guidance note recommends installation requirements that exceed the minimum set in AS/NZS 5033:2014. Solar Victoria's installation requirements align with DR AS/NZS 5033:2021 (as of 4 March 2021). Solar Victoria strongly recommends the use of appropriately designed in-built DC isolators. Approximately 80 per cent of solar PV inverters installed in the Solar Homes Program in 2020 have an in-built DC isolator or optional add-on or are of a technology that do not require dc isolators (such as microinverters).

Table 19: Solar PV system – recommended requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Solar PV systems are recommended to have the capability to conform to an API based on the 'Australian Implementation Guide' of open communications protocol IEEE 2030.5, via either direct inverter integration, an external control system or via a vendor cloud - or equivalent.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An industry adopted communications protocol will help to standardise the interoperability approach. Interoperability is seen as the key enabler to unlock future energy markets through widespread aggregation and orchestration of DER. 'Australian Implementation Guide' of open communications protocol IEEE 2030.5, is expected to be published by end of calendar year 2021. Solar Victoria will strongly consider mandating compliance with the 'Australian Implementation Guide' at an appropriate time, in consultation with industry.

6.0

Requirements for solar battery rebates

This section lists all requirements that industry participants, systems and products must satisfy under the solar battery rebate stream. We encourage participants to also meet the recommended requirements to help deliver the best outcomes for Victorians.



6.1 Solar battery retail business and workforce requirements

The following retail business and workforce requirements apply to rebates for household and aggregated batteries. They aim to enhance safety and quality by maintaining rigorous standards and developing a level playing field within the industry.

For more information about training requirements in this section, including how to enrol, see solar.vic.gov.au/training

Table 20: All solar battery retailers – mandatory retail business requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>All solar battery retailers must be approved by the Clean Energy Council as a signatory to the Solar Retailer Code of Conduct (Approved Solar Retailer Scheme).</p> <p>More information: solar.vic.gov.au/become-approved-provider</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Solar Retailer Code of Conduct is a voluntary scheme, authorised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC), which sets requirements on sales, marketing practices and documentation, and aims to exceed the minimum set by government and regulations. • Signatories undergo a stringent application process and are subject to monitoring and a compliance and sanctions regime. • Solar Victoria will consider other equivalent ACCC authorised industry codes as they are developed.
<p>No prosecutions under the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i> and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (or equivalent legislation/regulations in other Australian jurisdictions) resulting in a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt in the past three years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and other people at work. • Confirming compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations aims to ensure that the health and safety of employees and the public are not put at risk by work activities.
<p>Confirmation all workers engaged to install solar battery systems have attained:</p> <p>VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> training unit certification. Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p> <p>CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. • Retailers must perform due diligence to ensure all workers meet the regulated and contractual requirements of participating in Solar Victoria’s programs.

6.0 Requirements for solar battery rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Compliance with the Victorian Government's ban on electronic waste to landfill.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Victorian Government has banned e-waste from landfill in Victoria, effective 1 July 2019. E-waste is growing three times faster than general municipal waste in Australia, and it contains both valuable and hazardous materials that can be recovered when they reach the end of their working life. The Waste Management Policy (e-waste) was approved by the Executive Council on 26 June 2018 and gazetted on 28 June 2018. The Victorian Government Gazette e-waste order can be found on pages 1457 to 1463. E-waste describes any device which requires an electro- magnetic current (including anything with a plug, cord or battery) to operate and includes all solar products at the end of their useful life i.e. panels, inverter an energy storage equipment. Sustainability Victoria lists locations to dispose of various types of e-waste. For more information on managing e-waste, see Managing e-waste (EPA website).
<p>Confirmation all workers engaged to install systems have successfully completed online mini-training modules as required by Solar Victoria from time to time. Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Victoria's mini-training modules are industry validated and customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts. Mini-training modules mandated by Solar Victoria will be available to complete online prior to the mandatory completion date set by Solar Victoria for each module. Solar Victoria will provide reasonable notice of further mandatory mini-training modules by way of Solar Victoria's website.

Table 21: All solar battery retailers – recommended retail business requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Registered with Energy Safe Victoria as a Registered Electrical Contractor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where a solar battery retailer is also a registered electrical contractor the entity is subject to the <i>Electrical Safety Act 1998</i>. Registered electrical contractors are obliged to provide safety certificates to parties for whom electrical work is carried out. While registration as a Registered Electrical Contractor is not a mandatory requirement for the provision of electrical services, it places greater responsibility on the retailer to ensure worker and customer safety.
<p>Main business location listed as "Victoria" according to the Australian Government's Australian Business Register</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A key element of Solar Victoria's programs concerns driving job creation with strong local content and industry development to build local supply chains. Prioritising businesses with a main business location of Victoria contributes to achieving this.

6.0 Requirements for solar battery rebates

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to "AS/NZS 5377: 2013".</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Victoria's programs aim to support Victoria's emerging circular economy by encouraging best practice approaches and outcomes for battery products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. AS/NZS 5377:2013 establishes Australia's best practice benchmark for the collection, storage, transport and treatment of end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment. Future eligibility and installation requirements will be updated periodically. In particular, Solar Victoria recognises the national stewardship approach underway for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle.
<p>Has completed training by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) on the specific energy storage solution that is being installed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation requirements are specific to individual OEMs, and typical warranties require the installer to have been accredited by the OEM in addition to receiving basic battery installation training. Specific training increases the competence of installers across the sector and provides greater assurance for the safety of installations.
<p>All workers engaged to install solar battery systems have attained, CPCCCM2010B (or RIWHS204) <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> accredited unit of competency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. This training sets out the requirements to work safely on construction sites where the work activity involves working above 1.5 metres from ground level and where fall protection measures are required. Completion of <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
<p>All workers engaged to install solar have attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. The <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> is an accredited training program and provides vocational outcomes for persons wishing to gain the skills and knowledge required for the safe installation of solar systems. Training content includes <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> (a training unit developed and customised for the solar industry), White Card/ construction induction training, first aid and working at heights
<p>Undertake up to four free 90-minute business mentoring sessions from Solar Victoria's approved provider. See Section 8.3 of this Notice to Market.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The experienced business consultants we have engaged can help participants in our programs make informed decisions to improve their business through tailored and confidential one-on-one mentoring sessions.

Table 22: All solar battery installers – mandatory workforce requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Holds current Clean Energy Council <u>installer accreditation</u> with Battery Endorsement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation confirms an individual has undertaken industry specific training relevant to the installation of battery systems. • The accreditation scheme includes continuous professional development requirements and a compliance regime.
<p>Holds <u>unrestricted (A Grade) electrical licence issued by Energy Safe Victoria</u>; or, Holds equivalent Australian interstate electrical licence with mutual recognition by Energy Safe Victoria.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In accordance with the Electrical Safety (General) Regulations 2019, complete installation of a grid-connected solar battery system qualifies as prescribed electrical installation work and must therefore be done by a licensed electrician.
<p>Has no prosecutions under the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i> and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (or equivalent legislation/regulations in other Australian jurisdictions) resulting in a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt in the past three years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and other people at work. • Confirming compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations aims to ensure that the health and safety of employees and the public are not put at risk by work activities.
<p>Has attained the CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Card training sets out requirements for performing safe work practices, identifying risks and satisfying work requirements. • Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 state that construction induction training must be undertaken by workers engaged in construction and the installation of electricity services. • Completion of White Card training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
<p>Has attained the VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> accredited unit of competency. Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> is a solar-specific safety training unit including customised working at heights, lockout and energisation requirements, identifying and reporting on asbestos, etc. • A sector advisory group, led by the Office of the Victorian Skills Commissioner, including WorkSafe, Solar Victoria, the Electrical Trades Union, the Clean Energy Council, the Plumbing Pipes Trades and Employee Union, Master Plumbers, the National Electrical and Communications Association and multiple solar retailers, identified a skills gap in the solar industry and developed this training unit. • Completion of <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> is a work, health and safety control measure.
<p>Sets battery inverter power quality settings (Volt-Var and Volt-Watt) in compliance with Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian distribution network service providers (DNSPs) have mandated unified power quality (volt/watt and volt/var) response mode settings for most inverter connections since 1 December 2019. Typically, installers are required to manually enable this functionality and program the mandated thresholds. • All installations must comply with DNSP network connection agreements.

6.0 Requirements for solar battery rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Has successfully completed online mini-training modules as required by Solar Victoria from time to time.</p> <p>Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Victoria’s mini-training modules are industry validated and customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts. Mini-training modules mandated by Solar Victoria will be available to complete online prior to the mandatory completion date set by Solar Victoria for each module. Solar Victoria will provide reasonable notice of further mandatory mini-training modules by way of Solar Victoria’s website.

Table 23: All solar battery installers – recommended workforce requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Has attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIIWHS204) <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> accredited training unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This training sets out the requirements to work safely on construction sites where the work activity involves working above 1.5 metres from ground level and where fall protection measures are required. Completion of <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
<p>Has attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> is an accredited training program and provides vocational outcomes for persons wishing to gain the skills and knowledge required for the safe installation of solar systems. Training content includes <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> (a training unit developed and customised for the solar industry), White Card/ construction induction training, first aid and working at heights.

Table 24: All other on-site solar battery workers – mandatory workforce requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Has attained the VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> accredited unit of competency.</p> <p>Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 22.
<p>Has attained the CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 22.
<p>Has completed industry specific mini-training as directed by Solar Victoria from time to time.</p> <p>Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 22. Note: some industry specific mini-training may be relevant to accredited installers only.

Table 25: All other on-site solar battery workers – recommended workforce requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Has attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIIWHS204) <i>Working Safely at Heights</i> accredited training unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 23.
<p>Has attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 23.

6.2 Solar battery system and product requirements

The following system and product requirements apply to all solar battery rebate streams. They aim to enhance safety and quality by maintaining rigorous standards and ensuring products are future-fit.

Table 26: Overall energy storage system – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Listed on Solar Victoria’s Approved Battery List.</p> <p>For Power Conversion Equipment (PCE) products to be listed on Solar Victoria’s approved battery list, they must meet the following additional requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be certified to IEC 62116 Anti-Islanding Standard; • have Volt-Var and Volt-Watt response modes available; • comply with the low voltage ride through settings and test procedure set out in AEMO’s short duration undervoltage response test until such time that AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 comes into effect. After which, the UVDRT testing procedure within AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 will apply. <p>For inverter(s) with a back-up power supply or uninterruptible power supply (UPS), the requirement will only apply after AS/NZS 4777.2:2020 comes into effect.</p> <p>This requirement is mandatory from 1 September 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing on Solar Victoria’s Approved Battery List confirms that the battery system meets Solar Victoria’s criteria for safety, quality and technical capability. • Components of the overall energy storage solution are each listed on the Clean Energy Council’s Approved Energy Storage and Power Conversion Equipment lists, confirming via certified evidence, the products meet minimum safety requirements for use in Australia. • The CEC list has been refined for battery solutions that have been assessed to be ‘VPP-capable’, with technical capabilities aligned with AEMO’s NEM VPP Demonstration Program Minimum Capability Specifications that enable the battery to provide network support services, participate in virtual power plants and/or future distributed energy resource (DER) marketplaces. • The systems on Solar Victoria’s Approved Battery List have been assessed for technical capabilities including performance, safety, internet accessibility, security, and remote registration, monitoring and control. • They represent one of first steps towards greater facilitation of DER in the network, as outlined by the Australian Open Energy Networks program and the reform program of California Rule 21 (amongst others). • Applications for new battery solutions to be included on the Solar Victoria Approved Battery List can be submitted by registered Solar Homes retailers and original equipment manufacturers via email at enquiries@team.solar.vic.gov.au.
<p>System installed in compliance with “AS/NZS 5139:2019 - Electrical installations - Safety of battery systems for use with power conversion equipment”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Battery installations are required to conform to “AS/NZS 5139:2019 - Electrical installations - Safety of battery systems for use with power conversion equipment”, a standard explicitly relating to the safe installation of modern battery systems.
<p>Energy storage device complies with the Australian Best Practice Guide: Battery Storage Equipment – Electrical Safety Requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This guide represents industry best practice in the safe installation of home battery systems. The guide has been developed by industry associations involved in renewable energy battery storage equipment, with input from energy network operators, private certification bodies, and other independent stakeholder groups and individuals, as well as consumer and electrical safety regulators including the Clean Energy Council, Smart Energy Council, CSIRO, AI Group and the Consumer Electronics Suppliers Association.

6.0 Requirements for solar battery rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
Provide a whole-of-system warranty (including workmanship) of a minimum of 5 years and a minimum performance warranty of 7 years under daily cycling operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum 5-year whole-of-system warranty is an explicit mandatory requirement of Solar Victoria's programs, including on workmanship. A further minimum performance warranty of 7 years is required under daily cycling operation, aligning with requirements for the South Australian Home Battery Scheme.
Battery system to be registered on the Australian Energy Market Operator's Distributed Energy Resources Register.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AEMO is obliged under the National Electricity Rules to establish a static register of Distributed Energy Resources in the National Electricity Market. Solar Victoria aims to support the registration of all batteries supported under Solar Victoria's programs when this register is made available. For rebated systems that are installed prior to the register being available, information will be shared with AEMO in accordance with existing data sharing agreements.

Table 27: Overall energy storage system – recommended requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
Where an energy storage solution is installed within a room, a functioning smoke alarm shall be installed in the same room.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The requirement to install a smoke alarm in the same room as an energy storage solution is included in the battery installation standard "AS/NZS 5139:2019 - Electrical installations - Safety of battery systems for use with power conversion equipment". Safety is the top priority of Solar Victoria's programs and the installation of a smoke alarm reduces the risk of injury and property damage.
Solar battery systems are recommended to have the capability to conform to an API based on the 'Australian Implementation Guide' of open communications protocol IEEE 2030.5, via either direct inverter integration, an external control system or via a vendor cloud - or equivalent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An industry adopted communications protocol will help to standardise the interoperability approach. Interoperability is seen as the key enabler to unlock future energy markets through widespread aggregation and orchestration of DER. 'Australian Implementation Guide' of open communications protocol IEEE 2030.5, is expected to be published by end of calendar year 2021. Solar Victoria will strongly consider mandating compliance with the 'Australian Implementation Guide' at an appropriate time, in consultation with industry.

Table 28: Component: Energy storage device (battery energy storage systems or battery systems) – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?	
Listed as one of the overall energy storage solutions on Solar Victoria’s Approved Battery List .	As above for overall energy solution at Table 26.	
Complies with the Australian Best Practice Guide: Battery Storage Equipment – Electrical Safety Requirements	As above for overall energy solution at Table 26.	

Table 29: Component: Energy storage device (battery energy storage systems or battery systems) – recommended requirements

This is recommended:	Why?	
Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to AS/NZS 5377:2013.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Victoria’s programs aim to support Victoria’s emerging circular economy by encouraging best practice approaches and outcomes for battery products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. • AS/NZS 5377:2013 establishes Australia’s best practice benchmark for the collection, storage, transport and treatment of end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment. • Future eligibility and installation requirements will be updated periodically. In particular, Solar Victoria recognises the national stewardship approach underway for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. 	

Table 30: Component: Battery inverter (hybrid inverter or integrated power conversion equipment in a battery energy storage system) – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
Listed with one of the overall energy storage solutions on Solar Victoria’s Approved Battery List .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above for overall energy storage system at Table 25.
<p>Inverter(s) must comply with the low voltage ride through settings and test procedure set out in AEMO’s short duration undervoltage response test until such time that AS/NZS 4772:2020 comes into effect. After which, the UVDRT testing procedure within AS/NZS 4772:2020 will apply.</p> <p>For inverter(s) with a back-up power supply or uninterruptible power supply (UPS), the requirement will only apply after AS/NZS 4772:2020 comes into effect. Mandatory from 1 September 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This requirement is to improve power system security, as identified in AEMO’s Electricity Statement of Opportunity (ESOO). AEMO has consulted widely to develop a Short Duration Undervoltage Disturbance Ride-Through (UVDRT) Test Procedure to ensure inverter(s) respond appropriately during short duration undervoltage disturbance events to mitigate any further potential risks to power system security. This requirement will be superseded by the UVDRT testing procedure outlined within AS/NZS 4772:2020 from 18 December 2021. Approximately 80 per cent of solar battery inverters installed in the Solar Homes Program in 2020 satisfy this requirement.
<p>Inverter(s) must comply with AS/NZS 4772:2020 Mandatory from 18 December 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The latest release of AS/NZS 4772, includes key new inverter capabilities related to increased grid support features, disturbance ride-through capabilities and test procedure clarity, as well as product requirements for inbuilt DC isolation devices. This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EL-042, Renewable Energy Power Supply Systems and Equipment, to supersede AS/NZS 4772:2015, Grid connection of energy systems via inverters, Part 2: Inverter requirements. AS/NZS 4772:2015 will also remain current for 12 months after the date of publication of this Standard and after this time they will be superseded by AS/NZS 4772:2020. Regulatory authorities that reference this Standard in regulation may apply these requirements at a different time.

Table 31: Component: Battery inverter (hybrid inverter or integrated power conversion equipment in a battery energy storage system) – recommended requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to AS/NZS 5377:2013.	As above for Component: Energy Storage Device at Table 29.

7.0

Requirements for solar hot water rebates

This section lists all requirements that industry participants, systems and products must satisfy under the solar hot water rebate stream. We encourage participants to also meet the recommended requirements to help deliver the best outcomes for Victorians.

7.1 Solar hot water retail business and workforce requirements

Since the commencement of the solar hot water rebate stream, Solar Victoria required that rebated hot water systems must be gas-boosted solar hot water systems where homes have a gas connection but do not have a solar PV system larger than 2.5 kilowatts. From 1 July 2021 Solar Victoria will remove this requirement, enabling customers to install a system of their choice from Solar Victoria’s Solar Hot Water Approved Products List. This change gives customers greater flexibility in which hot water technology they choose to install.

The following retail business and workforce requirements for solar hot water rebates aim to enhance safety and quality by maintaining rigorous standards and developing a level playing field within the industry.

For more information about training requirements in this section, including how to enrol, see solar.vic.gov.au/training

Table 32: Solar hot water retailers – mandatory retail business requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>No prosecutions under the <i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i> and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (or equivalent legislation/regulations in other Australian jurisdictions) resulting in a plea of guilty or a finding of guilt in the past three years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations protect the health, safety and welfare of employees and other people at work. • Confirming compliance with relevant occupational health and safety acts and regulations aims to ensure that the health and safety of employees and the public are not put at risk by work activities.
<p>Confirmation all workers engaged to install solar hot water systems have attained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card). • VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> training unit certification. <p>Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. • Retailers must perform due diligence to ensure all workers meet the regulated and contractual requirements of participating in Solar Victoria’s programs.
<p>Compliance with the Victorian Government’s ban on electronic waste to landfill.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Victorian Government has banned e-waste from landfill in Victoria, effective 1 July 2019. E-waste is growing three times faster than general municipal waste in Australia, and it contains both valuable and hazardous materials that can be recovered when they reach the end of their working life. • The Waste Management Policy (e-waste) was approved by the Executive Council on 26 June 2018 and gazetted on 28 June 2018. The Victorian Government Gazette e-waste order can be found on pages 1457 to 1463. • E-waste describes any device which requires an electro- magnetic current (including anything with a plug, cord or battery) to operate and includes all solar products at the end of their useful life i.e. panels, inverter an energy storage equipment. • Sustainability Victoria lists locations to dispose of various types of e-waste. • For more information on managing e-waste, see Managing e-waste (EPA website).

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Confirmation all workers engaged to install systems have successfully completed online mini-training modules as required by Solar Victoria from time to time. Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Victoria’s mini-training modules are industry validated and customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts. Mini-training modules mandated by Solar Victoria will be available to complete online prior to the mandatory completion date set by Solar Victoria for each module. Solar Victoria will provide reasonable notice of mandatory mini-training modules by way of Solar Victoria’s website.

Table 33: Solar hot water retailers – recommended retail business requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Main business location listed as “Victoria” according to the Australian Government’s Australian Business Register</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A key element of Solar Victoria’s programs concerns driving job creation with strong local content and industry development to build local supply chains. Prioritising businesses with a main business location of Victoria contributes to achieving this.
<p>Product manufacturer, supplier, retailer and/or installer offers end-of-life management program with service provider/s certified to “AS/NZS 5377: 2013”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Victoria’s programs aim to support Victoria’s emerging circular economy by encouraging best practice approaches and outcomes for materials at the end of their lifecycle. AS/NZS 5377:2013 establishes Australia’s best practice benchmark for the collection, storage, transport and treatment of end-of-life electrical and electronic equipment. Future eligibility and installation requirements will be updated periodically. In particular, Solar Victoria recognises the national stewardship approach underway for PV products and materials at the end of their lifecycle.
<p>All workers engaged to install solar hot water systems have attained, CPCCCM2010B (or RIWHS204) <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> accredited unit of competency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. This training sets out the requirements to work safely on construction sites where the work activity involves working above 1.5 metres from ground level and where fall protection measures are required. Completion of <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
<p>All workers engaged to install solar have attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System retailers have a responsibility to ensure workers are appropriately trained to perform high-risk work. The <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> is an accredited training program and provides vocational outcomes for persons wishing to gain the skills and knowledge required for the safe installation of solar systems. Training content includes <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> (a training unit developed and customised for the solar industry), White Card / construction induction training, first aid and working at heights

7.0 Requirements for solar hot water rebates

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Undertake up to four free 90-minute business mentoring sessions from Solar Victoria's approved provider.</p> <p>See Section 8.3 of this Notice to Market.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The experienced business consultants we have engaged can help participants in our programs make informed decisions to improve their business through tailored and confidential one-on-one mentoring sessions.

Table 34: Solar hot water system installers (tradespersons) – mandatory workforce requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Holds the appropriate plumbing licence(s) issued by the Victorian Building Authority (VBA).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In accordance with the <i>Building Act 1993</i> and the Plumbing Regulations 2018, installation of a solar hot water/heat pump hot water system must be done by a licensed plumber with the relevant qualifications.
<p>Installation of a solar water heater or heat pump water heater must be in accordance with the Plumbing Regulations 2018, the National Construction Code Volume 3 (Plumbing Code of Australia), and relevant standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The latest version of the National Construction Code Volume 3 (Plumbing Code of Australia) applies.
<p>A compliance certificate must be issued to the person who engaged the plumber for plumbing work valued at \$750 or more and all gas installations affecting gas pipes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The value of plumbing work is the total cost of materials and labour, prior to any rebates having been applied.
<p>Where electrical work has occurred, a certificate of electrical safety (COES) is issued.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An appropriate COES in accordance with Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) requirements shall be supplied. The issuing of COES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – improve electrical safety for the general public, electricity customers and electrical workers; and – ensure all electrical installation work is undertaken only by qualified persons. Information around types of COES are available on Energy Safe Victoria's website at esv.vic.gov.au/licensing-coes/coes/prescribed-nonprescribed-work/
<p>Has attained the CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> White Card training sets out requirements for performing safe work practices, identifying risks and satisfying work requirements. Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 state that construction induction training must be undertaken by workers engaged in construction and the installation of electricity services. Completion of White Card training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.

7.0 Requirements for solar hot water rebates

This is mandatory:	Why?
<p>Has attained the VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> accredited unit of competency. Mandatory from 1 July 2021.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> is a solar-specific safety training unit including customised working at heights, lockout and energisation requirements, identifying and reporting on asbestos, etc. • A sector advisory group, led by the Office of the Victorian Skills Commissioner, including WorkSafe, Solar Victoria, the Electrical Trades Union, the Clean Energy Council, the Plumbing Pipes Trades and Employee Union, Master Plumbers, the National Electrical and Communications Association and multiple solar retailers, identified a skills gap in the solar industry and developed this training unit. • Completion of <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> is a work, health and safety control measure.
<p>Has successfully completed online mini-training modules as required by Solar Victoria from time to time. Mandatory from 1 January 2022.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar Victoria’s mini-training modules are industry validated and customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts. • Mini-training modules mandated by Solar Victoria will be available to complete online prior to the mandatory completion date set by Solar Victoria for each module. • Solar Victoria will provide reasonable notice of further mandatory mini-training modules by way of Solar Victoria’s website.

Table 35: All solar hot water installers (tradespersons) – recommended workforce requirements

This is recommended:	Why?
<p>Has attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIWHS204) <i>Working Safely at Heights</i> accredited training unit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This training sets out the requirements to work safely on construction sites where the work activity involves working above 1.5 metres from ground level and where fall protection measures are required. • Completion of <i>Work Safely at Heights</i> training is a work, health and safety risk control measure.
<p>Has attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> is an accredited training program and provides vocational outcomes for persons wishing to gain the skills and knowledge required for the safe installation of solar systems. • Training content includes <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> (a training unit developed and customised for the solar industry), White Card/ construction induction training, first aid and working at heights.

Table 36: All other on-site solar hot water workers – mandatory workforce requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?	
Has attained the CPCCWHS1001 <i>Prepare to work safely in the construction industry</i> accredited unit of competency (White Card/construction induction card).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 34. 	
Has attained the VU22744 <i>Work safely in the solar industry</i> accredited unit of competency. Mandatory from 1 July 2021.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 34. 	
Has completed industry specific mini-training as directed by Solar Victoria from time to time. Mandatory from 1 January 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 34. Note: some industry specific mini-training may be relevant to plumbers only. 	

Table 37: All other on-site solar hot water workers – recommended workforce requirements

This is recommended:	Why?	
Has attained CPCCCM2010B (or RIIWHS204) <i>Working Safely at Heights</i> accredited training unit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 35. 	
Has attained 22515VIC <i>Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry</i> accredited course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as above for installers at Table 35. 	

7.2 Solar hot water system and product requirements

The following system and product requirements for solar hot water systems aim to enhance safety and quality by maintaining rigorous standards and ensuring products are future-fit.

Table 38: Solar hot water systems – mandatory requirements

This is mandatory:	Why?
Listed on Solar Victoria’s Approved Solar Hot Water Products List .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This listing confirms solar hot water systems meet additional requirements, above minimum industry standards, to be eligible to participate in Solar Victoria’s programs.
Listed on the Clean Energy Regulator’s register of solar hot water heaters .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration with the Clean Energy Regulator confirms that such systems comply with AS/NZS 2712 – and may be subject to a product certification audit and compliance regime. Listing is currently a requirement under the federal government’s Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES).
Listed on the Essential Services Commission’s register of products .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration with the Essential Services Commission confirms that such systems comply with AS/NZS 2712 – and includes efficiency modelling in addition to the Clean Energy Regulator Register’s efficiency modelling. Listing is a requirement under the Victorian Government’s Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates (VEEC) Scheme.
Minimum 5-year warranty on all major components, listed as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar hot water major components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar collector (any component in the solar collector including, but not limited to, manifold collectors, evacuated tubes, flat plate collectors, collector frames). Heat exchanger, storage tank gas booster. Heat pump major components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storage tank, compressor, evaporator, condenser, water heat exchanger, any other component that has a refrigerant. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide the best outcome for customers, a minimum 5-year warranty is an explicit mandatory requirement of the Solar Homes Program.

Table 39: Solar hot water systems – recommended requirements

n/a



8.0

Supporting the solar industry

This section outlines some of the ways we are helping support the ongoing development of the solar industry in Victoria.

8.1 Technology Guidelines

The Technology Guidelines outline the guiding principles that will drive the selection and evolution of technology within the Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs. They emphasise safety, quality and innovation, and set out the priority areas for grid integration and stability.

By creating safety and quality benchmarks for retailers and installers that exceed industry standards, the Technology Guidelines, and Solar Victoria more broadly, ensure better outcomes, supports and protections for energy users.

The Technology Guidelines outline nine guiding principles across the three key priority areas:

1. Ensure safety and quality of installations.
2. Optimise integration with the grid.
3. Maximise the benefits of generation through innovation.

With the majority of Victoria's residential solar system installations now taking place within the framework of the Solar Homes Program, Solar Victoria is uniquely situated to strike the right balance between customer access to the benefits of renewable energy, and maintaining and improving the stability and operation of the energy grid for all Victorians.

The measures outlined in the Technology Guidelines range from actions already being implemented to important policy issues that will require extensive development and consultation to meet the needs of Victoria's energy transformation.

The Technology Guidelines align with Victoria's Renewable Energy Roadmap and other Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning initiatives.

For more information, see solar.vic.gov.au/technology-guidelines

8.2 Training

Safety is a key priority in the delivery of Solar Victoria's programs. As our programs roll out, increased demand for solar will generate more work for Victoria's solar industry. This will create more opportunities for existing workers and bring new workers into the solar industry for the first time.

Training is important because it can help create a level playing field. All workers – from new apprentices and trade assistants, to experienced electricians and plumbers – must have a consistent level of knowledge and skills to do their job safely and to a high standard. Training helps ensure installations are completed safely and to the highest standards, also contributing to improvements across the industry.

The first accredited training course in our training and development package, *22515VIC Course in Working Safely in the Solar Industry*, includes mandatory and recommended units for installers and other on-site workers in our Solar Homes and Solar for Business Programs. These units are listed as requirements in Sections 5–7.

From time to time we will also require retailers and installers to complete industry validated 'mini-training' modules. These modules will be customised for the solar industry in consultation with subject matter experts and made available online. We will always provide reasonable notice of further mandatory mini-training modules.

Failure to complete mandatory training by completion dates may risk participation in Solar Victoria's programs.

For more information, including how to enrol, see solar.vic.gov.au/training

8.3 Business mentoring and support

Solar Victoria has also engaged a business mentoring consultancy to support the ongoing development of the solar industry in Victoria.

Business mentors through this service provide tailored and confidential one-on-one guidance and strategies across a range of topics to help participants work on their business, create positive change and make informed decisions about the future of their business.

Industry participants in our programs can register for up to four free 90-minute mentoring sessions.

For more information, including how to enrol, see solar.vic.gov.au/mentoring

