

Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery Incentive Payment Program

This publication does not cover every aspect of the Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery Incentive Payment Program. It also doesn't change or overrule administrative regulation or ruling issued by the Department of Revenue.

What is the Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery Incentive Payment Program?

This program gives you an incentive payment if you own an eligible renewable energy system. The incentive payment is meant to offset your financial costs for putting in the system, and it is based on the total electricity produced by your system from July 1 to June 30 of each year.

This program is voluntary and is at the discretion of the utilities. Your local electrical utilities provider will issue payments to you.

This program expires June 30, 2020. No incentive payments will be made for electricity generated after the program's expiration date.

What qualifies as a renewable energy system?

- A solar energy system used to generate electricity.
- An anaerobic digester that processes livestock manure into biogas. The biogas (such as methane) then fuels a generator that creates electricity.
- A wind generator used to produce electricity.

How can I participate in the program?

1. Contact your local electrical utility provider to determine if they participate in the program since **utility participation is voluntary**.
2. Discuss interconnection agreements and equipment requirements with your provider.
3. After you install your renewable energy system and receive a final electrical inspection, file with the Department of Revenue (DOR) for your system's certification. **(Incomplete applications will cause a delay in the review process.)**
4. You will receive a letter from DOR that informs you if your system is certified and at what rate your production incentive will be calculated.
5. Contact your utility provider and ask if they provide you with the annual incentive payment application or if you should use the application form on DOR's website.

6. File your application for incentive payment with your utility provider to receive your incentive payment (usually once a year by August 1).
7. The provider will send you a check or credit your account before December 15.

Who may receive an incentive payment?

- Any individual, household, business, or local government entity (not in the light and power business or gas distribution business) that owns a qualified renewable energy system installed on property they own in Washington. The system owner must also be a customer of the electrical utility that serves the site of the system.
- Owners of a standard-community solar project (CSP), ratepayers in a utility-owned community solar project, or members of a company-owned community solar project.

What is the maximum amount of incentive payment I can receive?

The limit is \$5,000 per year for any individual, household, business, or local government entity. The limit is based on all systems or projects that you own or participate in during the year. The limit is not calculated on a per system or project basis.

How is the incentive payment calculated?

The incentive payment rate is based on the type of system, whether the system contains components approved by DOR as “Made in Washington,” and if it is a single-owned system or a community solar project (CSP). The rates are as follows:

- Solar modules made in state – \$0.36 (\$0.72 CSP)
- Solar or wind generator equipment with an inverter made in state – \$0.18 (\$0.36 CSP)
- Solar modules and inverters made in state - \$0.54 (\$1.08 CSP)
- Anaerobic digester; solar equipment made outside the state - \$0.15 (\$0.30 CSP)
- For all other electricity produced by wind – \$0.12

A current list of components approved to receive the “Made in Washington” incentive payments is at: <http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/Pubs/IndustSpecific/ManufacturingList.pdf>

What if my utility provider says it has exceeded its annual allowable credit amount?

If your utility provider receives requests for incentive payments that exceed its allowable credit, it must reduce the incentive payment amount made to you and all other applicants.

Questions?

Call our Telephone Information Center at 1-800-647-7706.

Reference: *Washington Administrative Code* [\(WAC\) 458-20-273](#).