



Federal Home Energy Rebate Programs

Frequently Asked Questions

Last Updated: November 2025

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Overview

What are the Home Energy Rebate Programs?

In 2022, the U.S. Congress passed the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act, a large federal funding package that includes grants, tax incentives, and rebates to help consumers lower their energy usage and save on energy bills. The IRA provided the U.S. Department of Energy with \$8.8 billion to be distributed to State Energy Offices and Tribes to create two Home Energy Rebate Programs that will help residents make their homes more energy efficient by offering rebates to install energy efficient appliances and perform other home energy upgrades. These programs are known as the Home Efficiency Rebates Program and the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program, or HOMES and HEAR, respectively.

When will the rebate programs be available in Oregon?

At this time, we anticipate that rebates will be available to Oregonians in spring 2026, pending U.S. DOE's approval.

The U.S. Department of Energy accepted ODOE's program application and awarded ODOE funds in September 2024. Since then, ODOE has continued developing the required plans and materials required. U.S. DOE must approve ODOE's final plans and materials prior to launching the programs.

We understand the excitement and anticipation around these programs in Oregon and are working hard to develop programs that are accessible and support a safe, equitable, clean, and sustainable future for Oregon. If you would like receive updates on our progress, we will continue to provide updates through the [programs' website](#), and you can also [sign up to receive email updates](#).

How are Earth Advantage and Energy Trust of Oregon involved?

ODOE will use two implementers to administer the HOMES and HEAR programs. Simply put, the state's implementers, Energy Trust of Oregon and Earth Advantage, will be responsible for processing rebates for both the HOMES and HEAR programs.

This work will also include processing installation incentives, verifying income, conducting education and outreach to contractors, retailers, distributors, utilities, and communities. The implementers will also partner with utilities and community-based organizations to help ensure widespread and equitable access to rebates.

Energy Trust of Oregon will implement the programs in investor-owned electric utility service areas, and Earth Advantage will implement the programs in consumer-owned electric and Idaho Power Company service areas.

To identify a utility service provider by address, please visit ODOE's ["Find Your Utility" webpage](#). After launch, project applications will be automatically routed to the appropriate implementer, but anyone with questions, comments, or concerns may contact ODOE, Energy Trust, or Earth Advantage at any time.

What role will utilities play?

Utilities have been engaged in program design and will continue to be important partners as ODOE implements these rebates. ODOE and its implementers will work with utilities to develop rebate processes that integrate as much as possible with existing programs to make it easy for consumers to combine rebates.

About the Home Efficiency Rebates Program (HOMES)

What is the Home Efficiency Rebates (HOMES) Program?

Also known as HOMES, the Home Efficiency Rebates Program provides performance-based rebates for energy efficiency upgrades for individual households and multifamily buildings. This is a whole-home energy upgrade program that will make rebates available for projects that can demonstrate energy savings of at least 20 percent, with larger rebates available to projects with demonstrated savings of 35 percent or more.

How much money will be available to HOMES projects?

HOMES rebates will be available for single-family homes and multifamily buildings, according to the following table:

Modeled Savings	Income Level	Single-Family Homes	Multifamily Buildings
20%-34%	Low-Income	Lesser of \$8,000 or 100% of project cost	Lesser of \$8,000 per unit or 100% of project cost
20%-34%	Moderate- and Higher-Income	Lesser of \$2,000 or 50% of project cost	\$2,000 per unit, up to \$200,000 per building
35% or greater	Low-Income	Lesser of \$10,000 or 100% of project cost	Lesser of \$10,000 per unit or 100% of project cost
35% or greater	Moderate- and Higher-Income	Lesser of \$4,000 or 50% of project cost	\$4,000 per unit, up to \$400,000 per building

How will HOMES projects estimate the savings potential?

All HOMES projects will be required to complete an energy assessment and an energy model that will produce an estimate of anticipated savings from the proposed upgrades. The professional conducting the model (either the installation contractor or another professional working on behalf of a HOMES project customer) will collect the most recent 12 months of energy consumption data and produce a savings estimate using software approved by U.S. DOE. Qualifying low-income households may be able to receive financial assistance in covering the cost of the required assessment for the HOMES program. In preparation for the program's launch, Oregon will be working closely with contractors and releasing detailed guidance on the home assessment, modeling, and other program requirements.

About the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR)

What is the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) Program?

Also known as HEAR (and previously known as HEEHR), the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program will provide rebates for the installation of high-efficiency electric appliances and associated electric upgrades, along with insulation and air sealing measures. HEAR rebates will also be available for point-of-sale discounts at participating retailers. This program is only available to low-income (80 percent

of Area Median Income and below) and moderate-income (between 80 percent and 150 percent of Area Median Income) households.

How much money will be available to HEAR projects?

HEAR rebates will be available according to the following limits:

Upgrade Type	Qualified Product/Measure	Limit
Appliances	Heat Pump Water Heater	\$1,750
Appliances	Heat Pump for Space Heating and Cooling	\$8,000
Appliances	Electric Heat Pump Clothes Dryer	\$840
Appliances	Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, or Oven	\$840
Building Materials	Electric Load Service Center	\$4,000
Building Materials	Insulation, Air Sealing, and Ventilation	\$1,600
Building Materials	Electric Wiring	\$2,500
Maximum Rebate	-	\$14,000

Low-income households may receive up to 100 percent of project costs, and moderate-income households may receive up to 50 percent of project costs. All projects are limited to a maximum of \$14,000.

Most HEAR upgrades must be completed in new construction, as a first-time purchase, or to replace non-electric equipment. Additional details can be found in section 4.2.2 of [U.S. DOE's program guidance](#), and ODOE will start releasing summary guidance on all program requirements as we prepare for launch.

Do HEAR projects have to estimate savings too?

HEAR projects do not need to model the project's potential energy savings. However, HEAR projects that include a heat pump for space heating and cooling will need to conduct a limited home assessment, which includes inspecting and documenting the existing condition of the insulation, duct sealing, and building envelope. In Oregon, most projects will fulfill this requirement through the completion of [a Home Energy Score](#). Before the program launches, Oregon will release guidance for completing these home assessments.

What retailers will accept a HEAR rebate coupon for a point-of-sale purchase?

ODOE is still developing these details and will release guidance about point-of-sale rebates as we get closer to launch.

Understanding Energy Efficiency Retrofits and Upgrades

What is an energy retrofit or upgrade?

Energy efficiency retrofits and upgrades are projects that can reduce a home's energy use. This includes, but is not limited to, installing more efficient equipment such as a heat pump or on-demand water heater; weatherization measures like insulation and air sealing; energy management practices or devices such as temperature setbacks, occupancy sensors, and smart thermostats; and many others.

What kinds of energy retrofits or upgrades will be eligible?

HOMES does not specify the types of upgrades that qualify; however, any approved upgrades must be able to demonstrate a minimum of 20 percent expected energy savings. HEAR provides a list of qualifying products and measures, up to a specified maximum. See more about HEAR rebate amounts in the table:

[How much money will be available to HEAR projects?](#)

Both programs require the installation of upgrades that are ENERGY STAR certified, where such certification exists.

Funding

How much money will Oregon receive for the Home Energy Rebate Programs?

For Oregon, U.S. DOE has allocated nearly \$57 million for each program (approximately \$113.6 million in total) to be managed and distributed by the Oregon Department of Energy.

How much of that funding will go directly to rebates?

After accounting for administrative costs, the programs will distribute approximately \$91.4 million in customer rebates and other financial incentives.

How many households will these programs serve?

This depends on the average rebate amount a household receives, which can be difficult to estimate due to the range of rebate levels available for each program. Using an average household rebate amount, ODOE estimates fewer than 11,000 households in Oregon could benefit from these programs, which is less than 1 percent of the housing units in Oregon. If all projects received the maximum amount available, these programs would serve fewer than 7,500 households.

Because these programs primarily serve low-income households, it is important that rebates cover a large portion of the up-front cost to ensure Oregonians with limited resources can take advantage of these rebates with minimal out-of-pocket costs. Larger rebates mean fewer households will receive funding under these programs, but it will ensure that those who receive rebates will have lower out-of-pocket costs.

What happens when the rebates run out?

Recognizing the relatively limited reach of these programs, ODOE is focusing on creating systems and program delivery infrastructure that can stay in place long after the federal funding has been spent. Our goal is to use these programs as a springboard to build the state's capacity and workforce to deliver energy efficiency projects across Oregon, bringing together our utility partners, Energy Trust of Oregon, sister agencies, non-profit organizations, installers, and a range of other key stakeholders. We will continue to update the public as we develop these processes.

Qualification and Income Eligibility

Can a project receive a rebate from both programs?

Projects may receive a rebate from both programs; however, projects may not receive rebates from both programs for the same upgrade.

What kinds of households can qualify? Can rental properties qualify?

HOMES and HEAR are open to single-family and multi-family homes, including owner-occupied and rental properties. HOMES rebates are not available to new construction. HEAR rebates are available to both new and existing construction. More detailed information regarding specific program eligibility will be shared before the programs launch.

Will the programs prioritize low-income households? Are there income restrictions?

The Inflation Reduction Act sets minimum household eligibility guidelines for both rebate programs, with rebate levels varying based on household income and the technology being installed.

For both programs, households making less than 80 percent of Area Median Income are considered low income, and households making between 80 percent and 150 percent of Area Median Income are considered moderate income. Area Median Income is established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the most recent tax year, and the limits are established according to county and household size. A table containing the 2023 and 2024 income limits (published in 2024 and 2025, respectively) for all Oregon Counties [is available for download as an excel file](#). Limits are updated annually, so applicants will need to reference the appropriate income limit for the most recent tax year to determine qualification. ODOE will publish an updated workbook each year when the data become available.

Potential applicants will be able to demonstrate their income eligibility through one of two pathways. The first pathway will require all income earners in a household to submit tax transcripts from the most recent tax filing year, and the summation of this income must be less than the amount listed in the income table for that household size and county. To order a tax transcript customers may call the Oregon Department of Revenue at 503-378-4988, visit any Oregon Department of Revenue location in person, or visit <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/get-transcript>.

The second pathway is through categorical eligibility, where at least one member of the household provides official documentation of participation in a pre-qualifying program. Programs that have been approved by U.S. DOE include the following:

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Head Start
- Lifeline Support for Affordable Communications (Lifeline)
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- National School Lunch Program – Free (NSLP)
- Housing Improvement Program (HIP)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
- Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI)

- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)¹
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)²
- Public Housing (housing owned by Public Housing Authorities)
- Privately owned multifamily buildings receiving project-based assistance (Section 8, Section 202, Section 811)
- Privately-owned multifamily buildings that house residents receiving tenant-based assistance
- Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)

While the HOMES program is open to all income levels, at least 40 percent of rebate funding is reserved for low-income households and an additional 10 percent for low-income multifamily households.

The HEAR program is limited to low- and moderate-income households only and households above 150 percent Area Median Income are ineligible for a HEAR rebate. ODOE has reserved 60 percent of HEAR rebate funding for low-income single-family households and 20 percent for low-income multifamily households.

What are Justice40 communities? What are disadvantaged communities? What is the Justice 40 Initiative?

Both HOMES and HEAR were previously required to adhere to the [Justice40 Initiative](#), which was established by Executive Order 14008 in 2021 requiring that 40 percent of benefits of certain federal investments – including the IRA rebate programs – flow to disadvantaged communities. These were identified as areas that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened in the following categories: fossil dependence, energy burden, environmental and climate hazards, and socio-economic vulnerabilities. However, the Trump Administration rescinded the Executive Order on January 20, 2025, and, on January 27, 2025, the [U.S. Department of Energy ordered State Energy Offices to](#) cease implementation of Justice40 and other activities related to diversity, justice, equity, and inclusion.

ODOE has been and will continue to develop and implement programs that deliver benefits to Oregon households with the greatest need. Our programs will continue to serve low-income households, as well as Oregon Tribes, households in rural areas, and communities with high energy costs.

One way our programs will drive investment in these areas is by offering installation incentives to contractors and other professionals who complete substantial installations in areas identified by our program. To identify these areas, ODOE will use the [Northwest Clean Energy Atlas map of poverty and energy burden](#). The map identifies, by census tract, the percentage of the population who are living at or below 150 percent of the federal poverty line (below an annual income \$41,625 for a family of four) and the estimated average energy burden (the percentage of annual household income spent on energy). Areas that are categorized as at least “high” for either metric, or “medium” for both metrics, will be considered eligible for the installation incentive. Installations completed in Tribal areas will also qualify for these incentives. ODOE will release a map of incentive-qualifying areas before the programs launch.

¹ For 2025, households of one to four people may qualify for categorical eligibility through WAP. Households of any size may qualify in Benton, Clackamas, Columbia, Deschutes, Hood River, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill Counties. All other households may still qualify through another categorical eligibility program or through the income pathway.

² For 2025, households of one to five people may qualify for categorical eligibility through WIC. Households of any size may qualify in Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Deschutes, Hood River, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill Counties. All other households may still qualify through another categorical eligibility program or through the income pathway.

What if I am not low-income?

While a substantial portion of the rebate funds are still available to moderate-income households, and HOMES rebates are additionally available to higher-income households, we encourage customers who are not low-income to investigate other options that may be available for your project. Please see the question, [What rebates are available to me now?](#) for more information on other incentive programs that may be available to you.

What if I install a home efficiency upgrade before the programs launch? Will rebates be available retroactively?

According to U.S. DOE program guidance, HEAR rebates can **not** be retroactively available to installations completed before the program launches.

For the HOMES program, per U.S. DOE program guidance, rebates will be allowable retroactively for projects completed after August 16, 2022 (the date of the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act) and before the program launches. However, retroactive projects will still need to comply with all program requirements, which we are still in the process of developing. Considering the complexity of the program and its requirements, ODOE does not recommend completing an installation before launch with the expectation of being able to receive a rebate. To learn more about federal retroactivity requirements, please [refer to U.S. DOE's fact sheet](#).

We also do not recommend that households wait to accomplish essential home energy upgrades, and we encourage you to pursue other incentive options that are available to you now. Please see the response [What rebates are available to me now?](#) for more information on other incentive programs that may be available to you.

Can the IRA rebate programs be used in conjunction with federal tax credits?

The HOMES and HEAR programs can potentially be used alongside tax credits, but we cannot provide specific tax advice. It is incumbent upon the taxpayer to follow IRS rules regarding the applicability of tax credits, especially if any subsidy, rebate, or incentive was received for the upgrade. Specific guidance on tax credits should be sought from the IRS or a tax advisor. IRS resources have comprehensive information on tax credit eligibility and utilization. Please note that because Congress decided to [terminate the program](#), **tax credits will now only be available for installations completed through December 31, 2025.**

I know that I want to apply for a rebate: Where can I find an application?

Rebate applications are not yet available. We are still in the process of developing the programs, and our plans need to be approved by the U.S. Department of Energy before we can release detailed program materials, forms, or other guidance.

ODOE has recently selected a vendor to begin developing a rebate management system that will include an online application portal. Until the application portal is released, all program information can be found on [ODOE's website](#).

Other Rebate Programs and Resources

I can't wait to install an upgrade: What rebates are available to me now?

We recommend that folks begin their search for available incentives using Oregon's incentives finder, which is published on the Energy Hub for Incentives Programs and Projects in Oregon (the Energy HIPPO) and available at incentives.oregon.gov. This tool enables users to enter basic information about a home and household to receive a list of energy efficiency rebate programs that are likely available for that project.

We always recommend **contacting your local energy utility**, which can be found [using this map](#). Many utilities offer rebate and incentive programs to customers for the installation of energy efficient technologies. If you are a customer of one of Oregon's investor-owned utilities (i.e., Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas, or Avista), these utility programs are collectively administered by [Energy Trust of Oregon](#).

The State of Oregon also offers three heat pump programs:

- **The Oregon Heat Pump Purchase Program** offers heat pump rebates for homeowners, rental property owners, and new construction. ODOE opened the first round of funding in June 2025, with a second round planned for 2027. Please [visit the website](#) to determine if funding is available for your project and for a list of program-approved contractors.
- **The Community Heat Pump Deployment Program** distributes grant funds to regional administrators, who in turn provide financial assistance to homeowners. [Visit the website](#) or view a handout to see more [information on regional administrators and funding availability](#).
- **The Oregon Rental Home Heat Pump Program** offers rebates to install heat pumps in rental homes, and in recreational vehicles or manufactured homes in a rented space. ODOE's general program funding has been completely reserved, and the agency is only accepting applications for rental housing occupied by members of specific Tribes; please [visit the program website](#) for more information.

In addition to utility incentive programs, **federal tax credits** are available through the Inflation Reduction Act to support installation of energy efficient technologies. Although the IRA had made the tax credits available through December 31, 2032, Congress recently decided to [terminate the program](#), and so **tax credits will now only be available for installations completed through December 31, 2025**. You can find more information about these tax credits on the [Energy Star website](#), and the IRS website provides details on [how to qualify](#). We recommend contacting a qualified tax professional to help you navigate any potential tax credits. ODOE encourages the following groups to consider leveraging the federal tax credits:

- Households above 150 percent Area Median Income, defined by household size at the county level. [View tables for Oregon](#).
- Households with a tax burden (i.e., households expecting to owe federal income taxes when they file their annual tax return).
- Households that urgently need to replace old or broken equipment.

In addition, Oregon Housing and Community Services operates a low-income weatherization program that provides low-income households with home weatherization services that can increase energy savings and improve comfort. Find more information about the Weatherization Assistance Program [on the program's website](#).

There are many other federal opportunities available to businesses, non-profits, Tribes, and residents in Oregon. While this list is not exhaustive, [view a spreadsheet of opportunities](#) ODOE is tracking.

What is the one-stop-shop? What is the Energy HIPPO?

House Bill 3630 directed ODOE to create a single resource that provides information, technical assistance, and support in identifying contractors and financing options related to energy efficiency incentives and programs. ODOE launched the [Energy Hub for Incentives Programs and Projects](#) in Oregon, also known as the Energy HIPPO, in 2025. In addition to providing home energy and efficiency upgrade information, this “one-stop-shop” also includes an incentives finder tool that enables users to enter basic information about a home and household to receive a list of energy efficiency rebate programs that are likely available for that project.

Installation Contractors

Will I be able to work with any installation contractor to access a rebate? Per U.S. DOE’s program requirements, most installations must be completed by an installer on ODOE’s pre-approved list of qualified contractors, including all HOMES projects and HEAR projects that require the completion of a home assessment. This qualified contractor network will ensure all participating contractors meet the program standards that are required by Oregon and the federal government. Before launch, contractors will have an opportunity to enroll as a participating contractor, by demonstrating their qualifications and meeting specific criteria. Oregon will publish the contractor qualifications and participation requirements in advance of the programs’ launch to ensure a highly skilled and qualified workforce is well-prepared for implementation.

I already have a contractor that I want to work with. Will they be able to get me a rebate?

Once ODOE has developed and released the list of approved contractors, you can confirm whether any individual contractor is participating in the program.

I am a contractor or energy auditor. How do I sign up to participate in these programs?

More information will become available in the coming months. In the meantime, please [sign up for email updates](#).

Why don’t contractors seem to know about these rebates?

ODOE’s programs are still in the development phase and we have not yet released formal guidance to installation contractors. As part of its public engagement process, ODOE has been soliciting input from contractors and their trade groups to help inform the design of these rebate programs and ensure they integrate within existing retrofit workflows. ODOE is developing an outreach plan to ensure Oregon’s workforce is familiar with energy efficient technologies and ready to implement the rebate programs. Once the programs’ designs are complete and approved, we will start to issue guidance for contractors to learn how to participate and help their customers access funding.

Someone called me, emailed me, or came to my house and wanted to talk to me about funding programs they say are available from the state. Were they talking about these programs?

Unless you have previously contacted our office seeking information about these programs, ODOE will not call you, email you, or come to your home to talk about home energy rebates or incentives. The only instance where ODOE would potentially come to your home is if you have participated in an ODOE

incentive program and we are conducting a quality assurance inspection. If an inspection is needed, we would always reach out to the homeowner first to schedule a date and time for the visit.

Closer to the launch of the programs, you may begin to see information from the state's implementers, Energy Trust of Oregon and Earth Advantage, who are administering the programs for Oregon.

We recommend that you validate any information received about an incentive program that you did not specifically request whether through email, in person, or via text. If someone approaches you in person with unsolicited information about a program, we recommend that you ask for identification that at minimum includes the individual's name and the name of the company or organization that they represent. If the visitor does not have a business card or brochure that you can keep, be sure to write down or take a photo of the details. If you are interested in the opportunity, you can use these details to research the offer on your own to validate its legitimacy first and contact the company/organization at a later date.

If you are still unsure about whether an opportunity is legitimate, or if you suspect that someone is fraudulently representing themselves as being affiliated with a state program or agency, please don't hesitate to contact our office by phone at 503-378-4040, online through our [customer contact portal](#), or by sending an email to HomeEnergyRebates@energy.oregon.gov.

Additionally, ODOE recommends that you receive quotes from multiple reputable vendors prior to deciding on any large project for your home or rental property, including energy efficiency upgrades.

Schedule and Federal Actions

The IRA passed in August 2022. Why aren't rebates available yet?

ODOE received approval of our applications for both programs in September 2024. Rebate funding cannot be available until ODOE has the necessary people and systems in place to deliver rebates. ODOE is well-positioned to design and implement these programs in an efficient manner; however, these are large and complex investments, and it is important to ensure these public funds are spent efficiently and effectively. ODOE is working diligently to roll out the programs as quickly as possible, while ensuring customers are protected and the impact of the programs is maximized.

While a few states have been able to roll out their programs relatively quickly, those programs are supported by existing process and systems that Oregon does not have. To roll out these programs as quickly as possible, ODOE submitted both applications almost a year before the deadline, and we continue to work diligently to finalize our plans and preparations for launch.

How have actions at the federal level affected these rebate programs?

ODOE finalized an agreement with U.S. DOE in September 2024, and we continue to work to meet our obligations so that we can launch the Home Energy Rebate programs as quickly as possible. Although our ability to access funding was paused in January and February 2025, it has since resumed, and we continue to make progress to develop and launch these rebate programs. ODOE continues to work with U.S. DOE to receive all of the federal approvals that are required to launch our programs. It is unclear whether the recent government shutdown will affect our rollout. ODOE is committed to helping Oregonians make the switch to renewable energy, strengthening climate resilience, and improving energy efficiency in our state. We will provide updates as we learn more about any impacts on federal funding or ODOE's programs.

How can I be involved?

In designing these rebate programs, ODOE is conducting a public engagement process to allow Oregonians opportunities to provide input on the program requirements. You can [visit the program website](#) to learn about past and current engagement efforts and [sign up for email updates](#) to stay informed of future opportunities to provide input.

I still have questions. Who can I contact for answers?

If you would like to reach out to ODOE with a question about the Home Energy Rebate Programs, you can contact the program team at HomeEnergyRebates@energy.oregon.gov or call 503-378-4040.