



City of Boulder, Colorado Residential Rebates

Funded by the City of Boulder's Climate Tax and Solar Rebate Ordinance

Upgrades must be installed by either an Xcel Energy approved or EnergySmart contractor to be eligible for rebates	
Equipment or Insulation	Eligibility
Up to \$650 per upgrade – one upgrade per household	
ENERGY STAR Ground Source Heat Pump with desuperheater	5.5 tons or smaller, 14.1 EER
Up to \$400 per upgrade – one upgrade per household	
“Cold Climate” Rated Ducted Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) (incl. Mini-Splits Cooling & Heating units)	HSPF ≥9/SEER≥15/1.75 @ 5°F at maximum capacity operation. Must be NEEP.org certified.
“Cold Climate” Rated Ductless Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) (incl. Mini-Splits Cooling & Heating units)	HSPF ≥ 10/SEER ≥ 15/COP ≥ 1.75 @ 5°F at maximum capacity operation. Must be NEEP.org certified.
ENERGY STAR Ground Source Heat Pump	5.5 tons or smaller, 14.1 EER
Up to \$ 250 per upgrade – maximum of three per household	
“Non-Cold” Climate Ducted Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) (incl. Mini-Split Cooling & Heating units)	HSPF ≥8.5/SEER ≥15 * ¹
“Non-Cold” Climate Ductless Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP)	HSPF ≥ 8.5/SEER ≥ 15 *
ENERGY STAR Electric Heat Pump Water Heater	Must be rated minimum of 2.00 Energy Factor. See Energy Advisor for list of qualifying equipment.
Attic Insulation & Air Sealing	R-49 minimum required in open attic; cathedral ceilings will vary with rafter depth. Must perform air sealing in attics prior to adding insulation. ²

¹ If a suitable heat pump matching these specifications is not available, contact your EnergySmart Advisor to determine if an allowance can be made.

² For Attic Insulation and Air Sealing: Air sealing requirements include the sealing of the void directly above all accessible exterior top plates in attic space.

Wall Insulation	R-19 minimum; fill wall cavity where R-19 not possible. For solid walls such as brick or concrete, exterior rigid insulation must be added to a level of \geq R-10
Foundation (Crawl Space or Basement) Insulation & Air Sealing	Crawlspace as outlined in the 2012 IECC. R-15 continuous or R-19 cavity insulation with a vapor-permeable air barrier over insulation. Crawlspace must have sealed vapor barrier over dirt crawl space floor and ventilation, per 2012 IECC.
Sub-Floor or Frame Floor Insulation & Air Sealing	R-30 minimum, over unconditioned space only (i.e., cantilevers, floors over unconditioned crawl, over garage, etc.). Fill enclosed floor cavities when R-30 is not possible.
Professionally Applied Air Sealing (No Do-It-Yourself!)	Air infiltration levels must be measured by a blower door before & after improvement. Mechanical ventilation recommended if air changes/hour are below 0.35 NACH.
Duct Insulation	R-8 minimum, in unconditioned space only

Must be enrolled in EnergySmart, but does not require use of an EnergySmart contractor to be eligible for rebates

Solar Rebates	Eligibility
Solar PV & Solar Thermal Grant	<p>Funds generated by the Solar Rebate Ordinance are used to provide grants for the installation of solar systems on individual housing units owned and occupied by low-to-moderate income-qualified residents within Boulder city limits according to the following structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$1 per watt based on system capacity• Limited to 50% of total project costs after other incentives are applied• \$8,000 maximum cap <p>For more information, please visit the city's Solar Grant Information Page: https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/solar-grants</p>
Solar PV & Solar Thermal Tax Rebate	<p>The City of Boulder offers a sales and use tax rebate on solar electric or solar thermal (hot water) systems. The city may rebate approximately 15% of the city sales and use tax paid on materials and permits for the solar installation. For more information, please visit the city's Solar Tax Rebate page: https://bouldercolorado.gov/services/solar-tax-rebates</p>

Must be enrolled in EnergySmart, but does not require use of an EnergySmart contractor to be eligible for rebates

Boulder has carbon emissions reduction and renewable energy goals, which can be viewed [here](#). Reducing natural gas use in residential homes through electrification of heating systems provides environmental, health, comfort and financial benefits, particularly when done in conjunction with adding solar to a home. Consider these [bundled upgrades to switch fuel sources](#) used by your heating and cooling systems and add solar to receive additional rebates up to \$1,500. Can be combined with equipment and insulation upgrade rebates.³

Fuel Switching Rebates	Eligibility
Replace natural gas equipment	New installation of electric equipment. \$500 per unit up to \$1,000
Remove ⁴ a natural gas furnace or boiler	Install air or ground source heat pump
Modify natural gas furnace with heat pump add-on	Ducted split system with controls to use the heat pump as the primary and the gas furnace as back-up or secondary heat source.
Remove natural gas water heater	Replace with Electric Water Heater
Remove natural gas stove/cooktop	Replace with Electric Cooktop or Stove. \$200 flat rebate.
Solar	Installation of solar PV (requires removal of either a natural gas furnace or natural gas water heater)
Solar PV	\$500 per installation

³ Must meet eligibility requirement including use of Xcel Energy approved or EnergySmart contractor to be eligible for equipment and insulation rebates.

⁴ Boiler systems do not require physical removal if there is documentation from installer indicating heat pump installation is appropriately sized to meet the heating needs for the home.

Conditions apply:

- Rebates are only available to EnergySmart participants and for the measures listed. Engagement in EnergySmart and pre-project qualification must occur **before** purchasing an eligible appliance or completing the energy efficiency project for which a rebate is being applied for.
- Rebates and grants are only available for upgrades completed on residential units within the City of Boulder and are funded by the City of Boulder's Climate Tax and Solar Rebate Ordinance.
- Rebate and grant funds are limited, subject to change, and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Rebates and grants will be awarded based on the levels published at the time that an invoice for work completed has been submitted to EnergySmart.
- To be eligible for EnergySmart services, rebates and grants, all work must meet all applicable building or energy codes, all required permits must be obtained, and **Combustion Appliance Zone (CAZ) testing must occur as a health/safety measure before and after the upgrade depending on the type of upgrade.**
- Unless otherwise specified, any product or installation must meet current ENERGY STAR standards at minimum, if such standards exist for that given product or application.
- Rebates and grants cannot exceed the cost of the upgrade after all other rebates are applied.
- Total rebate dollars awarded will not exceed 50% of the total project cost.
- All work and eligible upgrades must be installed, completed and invoiced between **January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023** to qualify for these rebates.
- Solar installations must be completed within 12 months of grant approval.
- **Bundled fuel switching upgrades may require additional verification** to ensure displacement and/or replacement. Please contact an EnergySmart Advisor early to discuss improvements and verification for these rebates. Invoices and pictures are part of the rebate process.
- **For Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHPs):** A thermostatic expansion valve (TXV) is required to help regulate refrigerant flow to the indoor components with precision and efficiency.
- **For Attic Insulation and Air Sealing:** Air sealing requirements include the sealing of the void directly above all accessible exterior top plates in attic space.