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Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") FY25 Residential Clean Energy Rebate Program

This document is provided as a **guidance document only**. The information in this document should not be construed as professional consultation. **This document does not override the eligibility requirements of the Program, posted on the Program webpage in a Funding Opportunity Announcement ("FOA").** Please direct any questions that cannot be answered by this FAQ Document to the Maryland Clean Energy Rebate Program team by sending an email to cerp.mea@maryland.gov.

For full program details, explanation, and eligibility please see the Funding Opportunity Announcement on the <u>program webpage</u>¹.

Q: How long is this program running?

A: From August 2024 through 3:00 PM ET, November 30, 2024.

Q: What is different about this program from the last one?

A: Some specific requirements for the program expired July 1, 2024, and are no longer relevant. This is because the old regulations governing the program were repealed in early 2024.

Q: I have a question about this specific program. Who can I contact?

A: Please send an email to cerp.mea@maryland.gov with your name, contact information, and questions. Our Clean Energy Rebate Team will respond as soon as possible.

Q: What technologies does this program include?

A: Solar PV Systems, Solar PV Shingles, and New Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems.

Q: Who can apply for the program?

A: Maryland residents with purchased clean energy systems installed in the State of Maryland on owned residences or with specific owner permission for system installation.

¹ https://energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/incentives/CleanEnergyGrants.aspx

Q: What are the award amounts for the rebates?

A:

Clean Energy Technology	Minimum System Capacity	Rebate Amount
Solar PV (Panels)	1.00 kW-dc*	\$1,000 Total
Solar PV Shingles	1.00 kW-dc	\$1,000 Total
New Geothermal Heating and Cooling**	1.00 ton***	\$3,000 Total

^{*}kilowatts of direct current.

Q: What counts as authorized documentation from the owner to the resident to install solar?

A: A notarized letter from the property owner that gives explicit permission for the applicant to install the clean energy system.

Q: How long do I have to apply to this program?

A: An application and signature sheet must be fully received within 12 months of the date the clean energy system becomes operational, or by 3:00 pm EST on November 30, 2024, whichever date is sooner.

Q: Can I receive more than one rebate from this program?

A: You can receive one rebate per eligible technology per property. You cannot receive two (2) rebates for the same technology. (<u>Example</u>: You can receive one (1) rebate for a solar PV system and one (1) rebate for a new geothermal heating and cooling system, but not two (2) rebates for two (2) solar PV systems.)

Q: Can I stack other rebate programs and/or tax credits?

A: Most likely! You can only receive one rebate per installation address per technology for this program, but outside of MEA, the federal government and other entities offer other kinds of incentives for your solar installation.

Q How do I get to the online application portal?

A: Here is the link: https://egov.maryland.gov/mea/CleanEnergy/

Q: What is a Virtru Encrypted Email?

A: This is the State of Maryland's secure, encrypted software that we use to communicate safely and securely. We use it to collect sensitive information that we need to process payments, confidential information, personally identifiable information, and other information that you wouldn't normally share on the internet (like an SSN).

^{**}The replacement of a pre-existing geothermal heat pump system is ineligible.

^{***}Tons of refrigeration

Q: Why do I need to use this Virtru Email link?

A: It's to help ensure your cyber security. It protects your information and our process and helps us to organize applications.

Q: What is a signature sheet and why do I need to submit one?

A: An application is not considered complete without a filled, signed, and dated signature sheet. The signature sheet allows us to actually process the rebate payment, which is why it is required.

Q: I received a notification I would be receiving a separate email with my signature sheet attached and it never came. What should I do?

A: It's ok! The email was sent from no-reply@tylerapp.com and it may have gone to a spam folder. Still not finding it? No problem, send a request to cerp.mea@maryland.gov and we will send you another to fill out and submit.

Q: I'm thinking about installing solar. Should I wait for the Maryland Solar Access Program to become available?

A: The Maryland Energy Administration is an executive Maryland State agency and cannot advise you on when to install a solar PV system. This is a largely subjective decision, and there are many factors to consider. If you are new to solar energy, the Maryland Energy Administration strongly encourages you to review our comprehensive consumer solar guide, A Maryland Consumer's Guide to Solar². If you believe that your decision to go solar will be largely impacted by the availability of the Maryland Solar Access Program, it is likely worth waiting to install solar until the program opens for applications.

Q: I am missing information for my application and have been notified, how many days do I have to submit the information?

A: Applicants have 14 days from the date of the notice to return the information or correspond with MEA.

Q: I missed the 14-day deadline to submit my missing information. What do I do now?

A: Your previous application was canceled due to a lack of required information. If you are still eligible under the current program FOA, you can submit a new application.

Q: Can you recommend a solar installer?

A: No. The Maryland Energy Administration is an executive Maryland State agency beholden to the Maryland State Ethics Law, and as such, we cannot recommend, endorse, promote, or otherwise give a competitive advantage to any installer. A quick search using a mainstream search engine should be able to provide you with information about available installers.

 $^{^2\,\}text{A Maryland Consumers Guide to Solar. (n.d.)}. \, \text{https://energy.maryland.gov/Reports/A Maryland Consumers Guide to Solar.pdf}$