

## **Florida Solar Rebates**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

Spearheaded by Governor Bush, the 2006 Florida Energy Act takes the first comprehensive step toward a diverse, reliable and secure energy future by reducing regulatory barriers to expedite electric generation capacity and providing rebates, grants and tax incentives to drive the development of alternative fuel technologies. As part of the legislation, Renewable Energy Technologies Tax Incentives will provide sales tax exemptions and corporate income tax credits for the production of clean energy; the Solar Energy Systems Incentives Program provides rebates for solar system installation in homes and businesses.

#### **What is the solar rebate program?**

The rebate program provides a set dollar amount rebate for the purchase and installation of solar domestic water heating and solar thermal swimming pool heating systems. Photovoltaic (solar electric) systems and commercial solar water heating system rebates are based upon system size and performance.

A rebate means a cash payment after purchase. The expense of purchasing and installation of the system is borne entirely by the applicant.

Solar thermal swimming pool heaters are eligible for a \$100 rebate per system;

Solar domestic water heaters are eligible for a \$500 rebate per system;

Commercial solar water heating systems are eligible for a rebate of \$15 per 1000 Btu up to a maximum of \$5000; and

Photovoltaic systems of 2 kilowatts (kW) or larger can qualify for a rebate based on the manufacturer's power output rating of the system modules, expressed in Watts. The amount is \$4.00 per Watt with a residential cap of \$20,000 and a \$100,000 cap for commercial, publicly owned, or private not-for-profit organization.

#### **Are there time limits for applying for a rebate?**

You must submit your application within 90 days of system purchase. Follow the instructions on the rebate application carefully and be sure to submit the required attachments.

#### **Can I install the solar equipment myself?**

The law that creates the program states that systems must be installed by a contractor holding a valid solar or plumbing license in the case of a solar water or swimming pool heating system, or a solar or electrical license in the case of a photovoltaic system. The system must be certified as operational by the installing contractor. Systems must meet any local jurisdictions' applicable building code. Check with your county or city code compliance office, or discuss with your installing contractor who will be familiar with local building permit requirements.

**Who do I contact to purchase and install a system?**

Check your phone book under “solar” for a licensed contractor. You can also visit the Florida Solar Energy Industries Association’s website to identify a solar firm that serves your area. [www.flaseia.org](http://www.flaseia.org)

The FEO is the state’s primary center for energy policy under Governor Bush. In addition to developing and implementing Florida’s energy policy, the Energy Office coordinates all federal energy programs delegated to the state, including energy supply, demand, conservation and allocation. For more information or a copy of Florida’s Energy Plan, visit [www.dep.state.fl.us/energy](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/energy).