

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **1. What is Net- Metering?**

Net-metering projects export electricity to the grid and generate net-metering credits that can be used to offset your electricity bill. Most Rhode Island homes with solar systems are able to interconnect with the electrical grid, allowing the homeowner to purchase power from the electric distribution company when the PV system is not producing as much electricity as the homeowner is using. If the PV System produces more electricity than the homeowner is using, it is sent to the electrical grid and will be credited on your next electric bill." \*When installers are on site – they will switch out your utility meter for a net-meter which runs forward and backwards, allowing the utility to track your usage and your credits.

### **2. How much is the incentive?**

Funding for each project is based on the rated DC capacity (kW system size) per project. Our current funding for residential solar is \$.65/watt, with a maximum at \$5,000.00. We also provide an Energy Storage Adder grant that is a flat rate of \$2,000.00 per project. The solar installation company will discount the grant amount from your total project cost.

For example, say your project size is 4.2kW.

$(4.2\text{kW} \times \$.65/\text{watt}) \times \$1,000 = \$2,730.00$

Your grant amount would be \$2,730.00

### **3. What are the requirements for a residential project?**

Residential requirements include owning the property you wish to install on, the property must be located in RI, and must have good access to sunlight. Your solar installer will conduct a shade analysis of the property to see if you are eligible for the grant, you will pass with a TSRF of 80% or above.

### **4. Can I apply for the grant myself?**

No, the REF only allows solar installation companies to apply for the grant. This is because we can only award grants to business entities that are in good standing with the RI Sec. of State and authorized to do business in RI. Once you choose an installer, they can apply for the grant on your behalf.

### **5. Can I apply for the program if the project has already been completed?**

No, applications can only be accepted from new projects that haven't been interconnected yet. This is because we have a strict application process, where only systems

can be approved if they meet our eligibility requirements. You may take the risk and partially install before applying, but just be aware the application might not be accepted.

## **6. Can I apply more than once?**

We only allow one grant per meter.

## **7. How can I qualify for the Energy Storage grant?**

ES grants are only available if you are installing your PV system at the same time as the battery. Stand-alone energy storage systems cannot receive the energy storage adder grant; however, you can enroll in the connected solutions program through RI Energy.

<https://www.rienergy.com/RI-Home/ConnectedSolutions/>