



Grants for solar panels uk 2023

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Grants available for solar panel installation quick takeaways:

The last ten years have seen home installation of solar panels rising on a steady trajectory, but there's a lot of confusion around grants for solar panels - is there government help available, and who is eligible? After all, these additions can offer the rewards of lower energy bills and a significantly reduced carbon footprint.

It's common knowledge that solar panels are a worthy investment; aside from slashing your energy bills, they can actually make you money through the selling of excess electricity back into the grid. But the somewhat staggering upfront cost is the pitfall, which is why it's helpful to know about grants in case you can take advantage of them and save yourself a pretty penny.

In this guide we take a look at all of the current grants available, so that you can get clued up before you embark on solar installation. There is unfortunately less financial aid for solar panels today than there was five years ago, as their cost has steadily decreased - but, there are still some around that could help you out.

So if you've been wondering about grants but you're finding it hard to understand the information online, you've come to the right place. Our guide breaks down all of the available grants for solar panels in 2023, and how to find out whether you qualify.

Until it closed in 2019, the government ran the Feed-in-Tariff, a scheme in which energy companies essentially bought your solar panels for you. They'd even install them on your roof and you could benefit from the free electricity provided, so all you needed to worry about was how to clean solar panels.

This and a few other previous grants for solar panels have now ended, and the primary aid available today is the ECO4 scheme. There's a couple of other schemes that will help save you money overall, but ECO4 is now the only government-backed scheme that will help subsidise the cost of purchasing and installing solar panels.

The Energy Company Obligation, or ECO scheme, is a government energy efficiency scheme targeted to vulnerable and low-income households. ECO's primary aim is to support those living in fuel poverty and make renewable energy sources like solar panels more accessible for those who wouldn't be able to afford it otherwise.

The scheme began in 2013, and is now in its fourth and final instalment, ECO4. Under ECO3, which ended in March 2022, only energy suppliers with over 150,000 customers were obligated to support eligible applicants. Though this is currently still the case in practice, the government is hoping to remove the obligation threshold so smaller energy providers can participate in the scheme too.



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ECO4 will run until March 2026, so there are a good few years left to take advantage if you are eligible. You can apply for the ECO4 grants for solar panels if you're in recipient of benefits and if you own your home, or have permission to install solar panels from your landlord if you are renting.

Full eligibility criteria can be found on the ECO4 website. You'll need to fill out a quick questionnaire and if you qualify, you can book a technical surveyor to come to your home. They will assess which improvements will most improve your energy efficiency.

You may also be eligible if you receive the Warm Home Discount (which helps fuel-poor homes), or if you live in a house that has an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) E or lower.

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