

Factsheet

Renewable Energy Grants - Homeowners

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Proven Energy



The good news for Scottish homeowners looking to install renewable energy technology is that they will probably be eligible to receive grant funding towards the capital costs.

This factsheet outlines the two main sources of government funding available, namely the Scottish Community and Householder Renewables Initiative and the Low Carbon Buildings Programme.

Although Scottish homeowners are technically eligible to receive funding through both schemes, conditions stipulate that for any one project funding may only be received from one or the other (not both).

Access to funding can be dependent on a number of factors including what

type of technology you are considering installing and what energy efficiency measures already exist at your property .

The Energy Saving Trust (EST) can be contacted regarding advice on energy efficiency.

1) Scottish Community and Householder Renewables Initiative (SCHRI)

SCHRI is funded by the Scottish Executive and run jointly by the EST and the Highlands and Islands Community Energy Company (HICEC).

The EST manage the grant process for householders throughout Scotland. For Highlands and Islands communities seeking funding, this

process is administered by HICEC.

Since commencing in 2002 the scheme has funded over 600 projects based in Scotland handing out over £12 million in grants.

Under the scheme funding for householders is set at **30%** of the installed cost of a technology to a maximum of **£4,000**. Eligible technologies include;

- micro hydro-electric;
- micro wind;
- solar water heating;
- solar space heating;
- automated wood fuel heating systems (boilers and room heaters/stoves);
- heat pumps (ground, air and water source).

Renewable Energy Grants

Homeowners

To qualify for an SCHRI grant the following criteria must be met:

- the applicant must own the property where the renewable energy system is to be installed;
- the renewable energy system must be for a permanently sited building or mobile home;
- one quote from an accredited installer must be provided;
- the system must be designed, installed and commissioned by an approved installer using approved system components.



2) The Low Carbon Buildings Programme

Launched in April 2006, The DTI's Low Carbon Buildings Programme is scheduled to run over three years. The programme aims to demonstrate how energy efficiency and renewable energy can work hand in hand to create low carbon buildings.

Over the course of the scheme £12.7 million will be made available in the form of grants with £0.5 million of this allocated every month. The level of funding available varies depending on which technology is installed. Current levels of funding for each qualifying technology type are shown in the table below.

As a prerequisite to obtaining a grant homeowners must first ensure their property has a number of energy efficiency measures in place. Specifically homeowners must have;

- insulated the whole of the loft of the property to meet current building regulations e.g. 270mm of mineral wool loft insulation or suitable alternative;
- installed cavity wall insulation (if you have cavity walls);
- fitted low energy light bulbs in all appropriate light fittings;
- installed basic controls for your heating system to include a room thermostat and a programmer or timer.

If these requirements are met the homeowner should proceed to get a quote from an accredited installer. With this in place the homeowner is then free to make an online application.

Application forms for both SCHRI and the LCBP can be downloaded via the links at the bottom.

Technology	LCBP Grant Available
Solar PV	Maximum £3,000 per kWp installed, up to a maximum of £15,000 subject to an overall 50% limit of the installed cost (exclusive of VAT)
Wind Turbines	Maximum £1,000 per kW installed, up to a maximum of £5,000 subject to an overall 30% limit of the installed cost (exclusive of VAT)
Small Hydro	Maximum £1,000 per kW installed, up to a maximum of £5,000 subject to an overall 30% limit of the installed cost (exclusive of VAT)
Solar Thermal	Maximum £400 regardless of size subject to an overall 30% limit (exclusive of VAT)
Heat Pumps (Ground / Water or Air Source)	Maximum £1,200 regardless of size subject to an overall 30% limit (exclusive of VAT)
Bio-Energy 1. Room Heater/Stoves automated wood pellet feed	Maximum £600 regardless of size subject to an overall 20% limit (exclusive of VAT)
Bio-Energy 2. Wood fuelled boiler systems	Maximum £1,500 regardless of size subject to an overall 30% limit (exclusive of VAT)

Useful Links

In order to receive funding only accredited installers and recognised product can be used. Both the Low Carbon Buildings Programme and SCHRI use the DTI's Clear Skies list of installers and products. This list can be accessed here:

www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk/info/installers

SCHRI website - including download of application form

www.est.org.uk/schri

Low Carbon Buildings Programme website - including download of application form

www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk

The Highlands and Islands Community Energy Company - administrators of the SCHRI community stream of funding in the Highlands and Islands area

www.hie.co.uk/community-energy.html