



Solar Grant

Application and Selection Criteria for Funding Solar Systems: Site-based nonprofits or residential buildings for low to moderate income persons

Thank you for your interest in the ClimateSmart Solar Grant. Please complete this application to be considered for a grant. To enable the City of Boulder and the ClimateSmart Solar Grant Selection Committee to adequately evaluate your proposal, please thoroughly answer each question. When filling out this application, please keep in mind the evaluation criteria listed below.

NOTE: There are two versions of this application; please make sure you use the one appropriate to your project:

- 1) For solar systems on site-based nonprofits or residential buildings for low to moderate income persons.
- 2) For homeowners to install solar projects on individual affordable housing units in the City of Boulder's affordable housing program.

Grant Amount

- There is no maximum grant amount, however, in most cases, no more than 50 percent of the total project cost will be granted.
- Grant amounts will be affected by the total amount of funding available for solar grants, which varies every grant cycle, as grant funds are generated by sales and use tax on solar installations community-wide. The total funding available in each grant cycle will be announced approximately one month before grant applications are due.
- In recent years individual grants for nonprofits and residential buildings have ranged from \$1,600 to \$18,000.

Eligibility Requirements

- Solar (electric or thermal) system must be installed on facilities of site-based nonprofit entities operating in Boulder or on residential buildings for low or moderate income persons in the City of Boulder.
- Grants funds may not be used for projects that provide commercial or individual benefits.

Grant Requirements

- Grant monies for each award will be dispersed after the system installation has been completed and a copy of the certificate of completion (provided by the system inspector) has been submitted to the grant administrator.
- Grants must be used within six months of notification of the award.

- If the system size or type changes after the grant has been awarded, the grant administrator must be notified and the grant committee may reevaluate the award.
- Award recipients will be asked to sign an agreement stating the terms of receiving the funds.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated interest and investment in maximizing the energy efficiency of the building(s) that the solar installation will serve. For existing buildings, this would be demonstrated by an energy audit and a list of energy efficiency measures that have been installed. For new buildings, this would be demonstrated by its energy rating.
- Solar system efficiency and cost effectiveness.
- Projected effect of installation on building(s) energy costs.
- Proportion of total project cost proposed to be funded by other sources, versus by the solar grant. A minimum of 50 percent of project cost must come from other sources; a higher percentage is better.
- The extent to which the proposed project increases public awareness of renewable energy and the city's ClimateSmart Solar Grant and other ClimateSmart programs.
- The extent to which the proposed project provides additional environmental, social or economic community benefits.

There are two grant cycles each year. Submissions are due by 5 p.m. on March 15th or August 15th. Recipients will be notified by May 1st and October 1st, respectively.

Electronic submissions are preferred.

Applications should be submitted to Sarah Van Pelt: VanPeltS@bouldercolorado.gov.

If application is mailed: City of Boulder, ClimateSmart Solar Grant, Local Environmental Action Division, P.O. Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306.



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Please respond to the questions below in a separate document. Be sure to provide a response to each question.

1. Briefly describe your organization and its mission.
 2. Provide the name, address, phone number, and email address for a contact person at your organization.
 3. Describe your proposed project including the type of renewable energy application (photovoltaic, thermal, etc.). Please include information on where the project will be located. You may attach supporting documents to your proposal.
 4. For solar electric systems, provide a quote from your solar contractor which details the following information:
 - a. Name, address and phone number of your contractor and his/her qualifications to install and maintain this project.
 - b. Estimated power output of the proposed system
 - c. Percent of facilities' electricity that will be offset by the system
 - d. Suitability of the installation site – shading, orientation, etc.
 - e. Total installed system cost, estimated amount of state rebates, estimated amount of federal tax credit, and cost to the organization.
 5. For solar thermal systems, provide a quote from your solar contractor which details the following information:
 - a. Name, address and phone number of your contractor and his/her qualifications to install and maintain this project.
 - b. Purpose of the system (domestic hot water, radiant floor, hot tub, etc)
 - c. Size of the system and proposed impact on facilities' energy use
 - d. Suitability of the installation site – shading, orientation, etc.
 - e. Total installed system cost, amount of state rebates, amount of federal tax credit, and cost to the organization.
 6. Will the solar system be installed on an existing building or new construction?
 - a. For existing buildings, provide documentation of an energy audit and any measures/upgrades installed.
 - b. For new construction, provide energy modeling information.
- (Note: While energy audits or energy ratings are not required, priority will be given to projects that demonstrate energy efficiency.)
7. Is the solar project already in progress?
 8. How much funding are you requesting from the city's ClimateSmart Solar Grant?
 9. Please list your other sources and amounts of funding for this project. Designate whether the funds have been granted or are awaiting approval.

a. Funding source	Amount	Granted?
b. Funding source	Amount	Granted?
c. Funding source	Amount	Granted?
d. Funding source	Amount	Granted?
 10. What is your funding deadline?

11. What is your proposed project construction schedule or timeline?
You may attach additional technical information if available.
12. What is the warranty period on the proposed system? Installation warranty period?
Equipment warranty period?
13. Provide an education and outreach plan describing how this project will increase awareness and provide education about (1) renewable energy, (2) this project, and (3) your program goals to the general public, your membership, and/or residents in your facilities.
14. Describe how this project will increase public awareness of the city's ClimateSmart Solar Grant and other ClimateSmart programs. (City may ask that a display sign provided by the grant fund be placed during installation of the system and a plaque inside completed structure.)
15. Describe any other environmental, social or economic community benefits from this project if applicable.
16. Are you aware of any opposition to this project? If so, please describe.

Questions may be directed to Sarah Van Pelt, City of Boulder, Local Environmental Action Division: VanPeltS@bouldercolorado.gov or 303-441-1914.