



NH Solar Power Incentives

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Table of Contents

- Current Solar Incentives in New Hampshire
- The Hidden Economic Boost Behind Solar Adoption
- How to Maximize Your NH Solar Savings
- Why NH Stands Out in New England
- What's Next for Renewable Energy in the Granite State

Current Solar Incentives in New Hampshire

Ever wondered why your neighbor installed solar panels last month? Chances are, they're taking advantage of New Hampshire's solar power incentives. The state offers a mix of rebates, tax exemptions, and performance payments that make going solar surprisingly affordable.

The flagship NH Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) program lets homeowners earn \$50-\$150 quarterly for excess energy fed back to the grid. Combine this with the federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC) covering 30% of installation costs, and you've got a recipe for serious savings. Just last quarter, over 200 Manchester households switched to solar - a 17% increase from 2022.

The Hidden Costs of Waiting

Here's the kicker: these incentives won't last forever. The ITC drops to 26% in 2033 before phasing out completely. Meanwhile, NH's electricity rates have climbed 8% since January 2023. Installing solar now locks in today's rates while incentives are still juicy.

The Hidden Economic Boost Behind Solar Adoption

Solar isn't just about individual savings - it's reshaping NH's economy. The state added 423 clean energy jobs in 2023 alone, many in solar installation. Take Portsmouth-based Granite State Solar, which doubled its workforce after introducing battery storage rebates.

But wait, there's a catch. While residential solar booms, commercial adoption lags. Only 12% of NH businesses have installed panels, compared to 28% in Massachusetts. The reason? Many don't realize the NH Business Energy Investment Tax Credit covers up to \$50,000 for commercial solar projects.

How to Maximize Your NH Solar Savings

Navigating the incentive maze can feel overwhelming. Let's break it down:

Stack incentives: Combine federal ITC with NH's \$1,000 rebate through NHSaves



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Time your installation: Winter installations often qualify for spring rebate cycles

Monitor SREC markets: Prices fluctuate based on regional demand

Take the case of Nashua resident Sarah Kim. By timing her installation during a seasonal promotion and claiming both state and federal credits, she reduced her out-of-pocket cost from \$18,000 to \$6,200. "It's like getting paid to save money," she told us.

Why NH Stands Out in New England

Compared to Vermont's upfront rebates or Maine's net metering policies, NH takes a balanced approach. The state's solar property tax exemption prevents increased home valuations from raising tax bills - a smart move that Massachusetts only adopted last year.

But here's what most people miss: NH's grid infrastructure allows faster solar interconnection than neighboring states. While Rhode Island homeowners wait 6-8 weeks for approval, NH averages just 18 days. That efficiency difference could mean catching a quarterly rebate cycle.

What's Next for Renewable Energy in the Granite State

Rumor has it the 2024 legislative session might introduce battery storage rebates. With 43% of NH households experiencing power outages in 2022, pairing solar with storage could become the new normal. Solar installers are already reporting a 91% increase in battery inquiries this year.

The real game-changer? Community solar projects opening up renewable energy to renters and condo dwellers. Durham's new shared solar farm has 180 subscribers paying 15% less than standard rates. If that's not incentive enough, what is?

Q&A: Quick Answers to Common Questions

Q: Do solar incentives apply to vacation homes?

A: Yes, as long as the property is NH-based and connected to the grid.

Q: Can I combine solar with heat pump incentives?

A: Absolutely - NHSaves offers bundled rebates for whole-home electrification.

Q: What happens if I move after installing panels?

A: Solar systems increase home values by 4.1% on average in NH, and SREC contracts can transfer to new owners.

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