OUC's Solar Hot Water Rebate

OUC offers residential electric customers a rebate of $900 for the purchase of a solar hot water system. When you select a contractor from the OUC Preferred Contractor Network (PCN), the contractor will provide the rebate at the time you purchase your solar hot water system. When selecting a solar contractor outside the PCN, the rebate is applied as a credit on your OUC bill.

Ready to Begin? Follow these Steps for a Successful Solar Installation with OUC:

1. *Optional:* Contact OUC's Customer Service at **407-423-9018** to request an energy survey. OUC recommends an energy survey to ensure your home is operating efficiently prior to the installation of a solar system.
2. Solicit quotes and select a solar contractor to install the system. OUC recommends getting at least three quotes. All systems must be certified by Florida Solar Energy Center. (FSEC).
3. Have your selected contractor pull all required permits from your local code jurisdiction.

Thermal

4. Have contractor complete solar installation.
5. To apply for a rebate online as a homeowner or contractor, visit **www.ouc.com/rebates**.
6. OUC's Solar Thermal Inspector may contact the customer to schedule an inspection and approve the system.

Photovoltaic

4. Contractor/Customer submits required paperwork online at **www.ouc.com/rebates**. **Proof of purchase of Solar System, OUC Interconnection Application and an electrical one-line diagram.*
5. Contractor installs solar system and completes final permit inspection.
6. OUC's Solar PV Inspector will contact the customer to schedule an inspection to approve the system and install electric net-meter.

OUC The Reliable One®

Orlando Utilities Commission • 100 West Anderson Street • Orlando, FL 32801
tel: 407-434-2263 • fax: 407-434-2218
www.ouc.com/solar • green@ouc.com

OUC Preferred Contractor Network

OUC connects customers needing a solar contractor or assistance with home repair with members of our Preferred Contractor Network. The OUC Preferred Contractor Network features contact data for contractors categorized by specialty. Our program includes standards of conduct, a Code of Ethics and a customer feedback mechanism. It doesn't matter if your need is big or small. The home repair and service professionals of the OUC Preferred Contractor Network are just a click away. Visit **www.ouc.com** for more information.

PREFERRED OUC The Reliable One® CONTRACTOR WWW.OUC.COM/PCN

Want to Learn More?

Be sure to visit OUC's Solar Website, **www.ouc.com/solar** for more information on OUC's Solar Programs and how to participate.

RESIDENTIAL SOLAR ENERGY GUIDE

Detailed Information on Solar Water Heating and Photovoltaic (PV) Systems

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OS-1701V1

Solar Water Heating Systems

Today's solar heaters, or solar thermal systems, provide environmentally friendly heat for water and swimming pools in residential applications.

The systems collect the sun's energy to heat air or a fluid. Two commonly used systems include active and passive systems. Active solar water heaters use pumps to circulate water or another fluid from the storage tanks through the collectors. Passive solar water heaters require no pumps or controls and combine the storage tank and collector in one unit.

The use of a solar water heater will benefit you by lowering your electric bills and insulating you from rising energy costs. When installed properly, solar water heaters are more economical over the life of the system than heating water with electricity, dedicated heat pumps, heat recovery units, natural gas or propane. Many systems include sleek, attractive, low-relief collectors that people often mistake for skylights. Properly designed and installed systems with glass-covered collectors should perform well for more than 20 years.

IN YOUR HOME

The average system takes up just 40 square feet of roof space and should save between 50 to 85 percent of the **hot water portion** of the monthly electric bill. Most residential solar thermal systems cost between $4,000 to $5,000 to install. An average 40-square-foot collector should be able to offset 10 to 15 percent of the energy for homes that consume about 2,000 kilowatt hours a month.

RESIDENTIAL EXAMPLE WITH $1,000 POINT OF SALE REBATE [1]

Average Solar Hot Water System
Cost $4,000 – $5,000 – 40 sq. ft. collector

Initial System cost (40 sq. ft. collector)	**$4,500**
Federal Tax Credit (30%)[2]	**–$1,350**
	$3,150
Solar Thermal Rebate	
	–$900
	$2,250
Est. Avg. Annual Solar Production[3]	**2,700/KWH**
Electric Savings[4]	**$0.098/KWH**

Annual Savings: 2,700 KWH x $0.098 = **$264**

[1] Annual savings are examples only.

[2] Availability of federal tax credits should be verified prior to installation of a solar system.

[3] The average 40 sq. ft. solar thermal system in Central Florida produces 2,700 kWh per year. *Source: pvwatts.nrel.gov*

[4] Rebates and electric rates are filed with the Florida Public Service Commission and are subject to change.

[5] The average 1 kilowatt PV system in Central Florida produces 1,350 kWh per year. *Source: pvwatts.nrel.gov*

Solar Photovoltaic Systems

Photovoltaics (PV) are arrays of solar cells that convert light into electricity. Producing electricity with PV emits no pollution, produces no greenhouse gases and uses no finite fossil-fuel resources.

Since they were first introduced onto the market years ago, solar photovoltaic technologies have declined in price, driven by improved research and development, and most of all by steady increases in sales volume. Most home owners start small, since PV can be added in modular increments as your energy needs and investment capabilities grow. **Prior to sizing a solar PV system for your home, it is important to focus on reducing your overall energy use through energy efficiency.**

PV arrays can be mounted at a fixed angle facing south in an unshaded region of the roof or on a tracking device that follows the sun, and allows them to capture the most sunlight throughout the day. Integrated PV cells are available in a variety of shapes and sizes, including triangular-shaped panels and small roofing tiles.

IN YOUR HOME

A one-kilowatt PV system will produce about 1,350 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year and has an expected lifetime of 30 years, for a total production of 40,500 kWh. To calculate a simple payback on your PV system, divide the total installed cost of your system by the monetary value of the energy produced from your system each year. Maintenance should also be considered. For a typical Florida home that consumes about 2,000 kWh a month a 4.0 kilowatt PV system should offset about 22 percent of the energy.

PV SYSTEM EXAMPLE [1]

Average PV System Cost $4–$6/Watt

Initial System Cost (4 KW)	**$ 20,000**
Federal Tax Credit (30%)[2]	**–$ 6,000**
Net System Cost	**$ 14,000**
Est. Avg. Annual Solar Production[5]	**5,400 KWH**
Electric Savings[4]	**$ 0.098/KWH**

Annual Savings: 5,400 KWH x $0.098 = **$529**