



Business Energy Saving and Transformation (BEST) Rebate Scheme

Guidelines



Queensland
Government

1. About the Program

The Business Energy Saving and Transformation Rebate Scheme will support small to medium businesses to reduce their energy consumption and lower their energy bill by providing financial assistance for the purchase and installation of *energy efficient equipment* and/or *energy efficient appliances*.

2. Applicant eligibility

2.1 To be eligible for assistance you must:

- (a) be an *eligible business*;
- (b) have carried out one or more *eligible activities* in relation to the eligible business; and
- (c) for each *eligible activity* that is the installation of an energy-efficient appliance or energy-efficient equipment—have carried out the activity at the same premises; and
- (d) have paid the total cost of the eligible activities in full before making the application for assistance.

2.2 Applications for assistance will not be eligible if:

- (a) the *eligible equipment* or *eligible appliance* was purchased prior to the scheme opening date (as published on the departmental website) or after the last round closing;
- (b) assistance has previously been received under the Scheme;
- (c) funding in relation to the *eligible activity* has already been received through *other government funding*;
- (d) the *eligible equipment* or *eligible appliance* has not been paid in full and/or has not been fully installed; or
- (e) the total cost of carrying out the eligible activity is less than \$8,000 (excluding GST).

3. Eligible activities

3.1 Each of the following is an *eligible activity*;

- (a) buying and installing an eligible *energy-efficient appliance* at one premises of the *eligible business* in Queensland;
- (b) buying and installing *energy-efficient equipment* at one premises of the *eligible business* or in an appliance or other equipment at one premises of the *eligible business* in Queensland.

3.2 However, none of the following is an *eligible activity*:

- (a) buying and installing any of the following at premises of the eligible business—
 - (i) a heat pump hot water system, unless the installation is to replace an electric or gas storage hot water system;
 - (ii) an electric-boosted solar hot water system, unless the installation is to replace an electric storage hot water system;
 - (iii) an appliance for chilling and freezing food or drink, other than an appliance mentioned in the definition of *eligible appliance*, paragraph (a)viii, unless the appliance is to be used in connection with carrying on the business;
 - (iv) a variable-speed drive chiller, unless the installation is to replace a fixed-drive chiller;

- (b) buying and installing, in an appliance or equipment at premises of the business—
 - (i) a motor classified in the IE3 or IE4 category under the IEC standard, unless the installation is to replace a motor classified in the IE1 or IE2 category under the standard; or
 - (ii) an electronically-commutated fan motor, unless the installation is to replace another type of fan motor.

3.3 For energy-efficient appliances or equipment requiring installation that involves work for which a licence is required under the *Electricity Safety Act 2002*, *Plumbing and Drainage Act 2018* or the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991*, the work must be completed by a person who holds the licence (a **licensed contractor**).

4. Available assistance

- 4.1 Funding of between \$4,000 and \$12,500 is available to a successful applicant under the Business Energy Saving and Transformation Scheme.
- 4.2 Only one rebate is available per *eligible business*.
- 4.3 The nature of the assistance available to an applicant under the scheme is a rebate of up to half the cost of carrying out an eligible activity.
- 4.4 Applications can include multiple *eligible appliances* and/or *eligible equipment* items and installation for these items. The total cost of carrying out the activity is at least \$8,000 (excluding GST). However, the maximum rebate payable by QRIDA for all items must not exceed \$12,500
- 4.5 The Scheme operates in rounds, with each round starting on the date published on the department's website. Each round will end when either all funds for the round have been exhausted or the closing date published on the department's website is reached. The last round must close on or before 30 June 2025.

5. How to apply

- 5.1 Applications must be made via QRIDA's online application portal (<https://applyonline.qrida.qld.gov.au/login>)
- 5.2 All applications must include evidence of the purchase of an *energy-efficient appliance* or *energy efficient equipment* including:
 - (a) receipt(s) showing:
 - (i) the name, address and ABN of the entity that issued the receipt;
 - (ii) date of purchase; and
 - (iii) a description of the appliance or equipment (e.g. model no)
 - (b) for applications that include costs for installation, the following details are also required on the submitted receipt(s);
 - (i) the date and location of the installation;
 - (ii) the name and licence number of the licensed contractor who carried out the installation; and
 - (iii) a description of the appliance or equipment that was replaced, where applicable.

5.3 An application for assistance under the scheme must be accompanied by the documents stated in the application form. Note that the application form requests applicants to provide a copy of their scheme calculator result. The scheme calculator has been developed to inform both applicants and the Queensland Government about the estimated amount of energy savings. Applicants are asked to provide a screenshot of the [scheme calculator](#) demonstrating the below outcomes;

- (i) energy bill savings;
- (ii) energy savings; and
- (iii) carbon emission reduction.

5.4 The program will close to applications on 30 June 2025 or when available funds have been allocated.

5.5 QRIDA can only approve and fund applications subject to the availability of funding for this program. The Queensland Government is unable to fund applications after available funds have been exhausted.

5.6 Penalties apply for providing false and misleading information.

6. Scheme conditions

6.1 Applications must be received by 30 June 2025.

6.2 The payment of rebates is subject to the availability of funding.

6.3 QRIDA may request further relevant information to determine an application.

6.4 Penalties apply for providing false and misleading information in accordance with the *Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994*.

7. Conflict of interest

7.1 A conflict of interest may arise due to a business dealing with QRIDA, if your private interests' conflict with your obligations under the scheme. Conflicts of interest could affect your eligibility for conditional approval. A conflict of interest can be:

- real (or actual);
- apparent (or perceived); or
- potential.

7.2 We will ask you to declare, as part of your application, any business dealings that may be considered an actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest. If you later identify that there is an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest or that one might arise in relation to your application, you must inform us in writing immediately.

8. Fraudulent applications

8.1 QRIDA takes fraud and corruption seriously. Suspected fraud will be referred to Queensland Police Service (QPS) and/or the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC).

8.2 Fraud and corruption are criminal offences under Sections 408C, 408D and 87 of the Criminal Code 1899 (Qld). For corporations, directors and company officials, Sections 596 and 184 of the Australian Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) will also apply.

8.3 Providing false and misleading information or documents in the QRIDA application process is an offence. Penalties may apply under Sections 41 and 42 of the Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994.

8.4 By signing the application form, you acknowledge that the information you provide is true and accurate and agree to be bound by the scheme's guidelines and provisions.

8.5 QRIDA reserves the right to pursue and recover funding provided under fraudulent and dishonest circumstance.

9. Your privacy

- 9.1 QRIDA's Privacy Policy, available at: www.qrida.qld.gov.au/privacy, sets out general information on how QRIDA collects, uses and discloses individuals' personal information.
- 9.2 The application portal for this scheme contains specific information on how personal information will be collected, used, and disclosed.

10. More information

If you would like more information about this scheme, contact QRIDA on freecall 1800 623 946 or email contact_us@qrida.qld.gov.au

11. Definitions

Eligible business means a business that:

- holds an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- is registered for GST
- is not a public company within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001*
- has its headquarters in Queensland
- is operating from premises in Queensland
- employs at least 2, but no more than 199, *full-time employees* (inclusive of the business owner) or *equivalent full-time employees*.

Energy-efficient appliance means—

- a) any of the following appliances with an energy rating of at least four stars;
- i. an air conditioner
 - ii. a clothes dryer;
 - iii. a clothes washer;
 - iv. a computer monitor;
 - v. a dishwasher;
 - vi. a heat pump hot water system, if the installation is to replace an electric or gas storage hot water system;
 - vii. an electric-boosted solar hot water system, if the installation is to replace an electric storage hot water system;
 - viii. a refrigerator or freezer
 - ix. a pool pump;
 - x. a television; or
- b) an appliance for chilling and freezing food or drink, other than an appliance mentioned in paragraph (a)viii. (For example, walk-in refrigerators, refrigerated display cases, refrigerated vending machines).

Energy-efficient equipment means electrical equipment that the authority is satisfied is:

- i. an electronically commutated fan motor, if the installation is to replace another type of fan motor;
- ii. LED lighting;
- iii. a motion sensor, light level sensor or timer for lighting appliance;
- iv. a motor classified in the IE3 or IE4 category under the IEC standard, if the installation is to replace the EI1 or EI2 category under this standard;
- v. a variable-speed air compressor;

- vi. a variable-speed chiller, if the installation is to replace a fixed-drive chiller; and
- vii. a variable-speed drive unit for a pump or fan.

Energy rating means the rating shown on the energy rating label required or permitted, under a GEMS determination, to be communicated in connection with the retail supply, or offer of retail supply, of the appliance.

Equivalent full-time employee, of a business, means an equivalent full-time employee of the business worked out using the formula—

$$E = F + P/35$$

E means the number of equivalent full-time employees of the business.

F means the number of full-time employees of the business.

P means the total number of hours worked each week by employees other than full-time employees.

Full-time employee, of a business, means an employee who ordinarily works for at least 35 hours each week for the business.

GEMS determination means a GEMS determination, other than a revoked determination, under the *Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards Act 2012* (Cwlth) and includes a replacement determination under the Act.

IEC standard means International Electrotechnical Commissions standard IEC 60034-30-1.

Other government funding means financial assistance, other than a loan, provided by the Commonwealth government, the government of a State or local government.