City of Charles Sturt Home Energy Rebate Guidelines

Table of Contents

Home Energy Rebate 1

What is the Home Energy Rebate? 1

What Does the Program Offer? 1

Eligibility Criteria 2

Who can apply? 2

Who is not eligible? 2

Are Renters Eligible? 2

How Much Funding is Available? 2

How are Applications Assessed? 3

How do I Apply for a Grant? 3

Home Energy Rebate

What is the Home Energy Rebate?

The City of Charles Sturt is committed to supporting our community to live in comfortable, affordable and energy-efficient homes. Our Climate Change Response Plan 2024–2030 identifies enabling our community to transition to a low-emissions future as a key priority.

The Home Energy Rebate is an initiative that provides direct financial assistance to residents of the City of Charles Sturt who undertake eligible home energy efficiency or electrification upgrades. The program builds on and complements the existing Energy and Climate Change Assessment Grant, which helps residents understand how to improve their home's energy and thermal performance.

This document sets out the guidelines for the Tier 1 Pilot, which will run from late 2026.

What Does the Program Offer?

The program provides two access streams. Residents may apply through either stream A OR B based on eligibility:

- **Stream A: Open Access (available to all eligible residents)**
    - Any CCS resident selects an eligible upgrade from the rebate menu
    - The resident provides a copy of the receipt OR obtains a quote from a supplier or installer of their choosing
    - The resident submits an application with receipt or quote and proof of residence*
    - Where relevant, the resident provides a photo of the improvement in situ (example instillation of curtains)
    - Council assesses the application and approves or declines. If approved, Council issues the rebate as reimbursement
- **Stream B: Energy & Climate Change Assessment Grant-linked Bonus (for residents who have received a Council energy & Climate Change Assessment Grant)**
  Residents who have received an Energy & Climate Change Assessment Grant can access an additional bonus rebate amount when they act on a recommended upgrade within their assessment report:
    - Resident's assessment report identifies a specific upgrade as recommended
    - Resident obtains a receipt for an item recommended from their assessment report or quote from a supplier or installer for that item
    - Resident submits an application with receipt or quote, proof of residence and Energy & Climate Change Assessment Grant reference code*
    - Approved stream B applications receive a 15% bonus on top of the standard rebate amount

* Where relevant, applicants will need to provide a photo of the improvement in situ (i.e. installation of external shadings such as gazebos).

Eligibility Criteria

Who can apply?

The program is open to residents of the City of Charles Sturt who meet all of the following criteria:

- The property is located within the City of Charles Sturt local government area
- The applicant is the owner-occupier of the property, OR a tenant with the written consent of their landlord*
- The upgrade has not commenced or been paid for prior to receiving written approval from Council
- The applicant has not previously received the maximum available rebate amount under this program for the same property

* If no written consent from the property landlord is provided, the applicant is only eligible for renter-friendly, temporary options.

A home energy assessment through the Council's Energy and Climate Change Assessment Grant is encouraged but not required to access rebates.

Who is not eligible?

- Properties located outside the City of Charles Sturt local government area
- Properties owned or leased by a Council or Government Agency
- Applicants seeking reimbursement for works already completed or commenced before Council approval is received OR
- Applicants who have already received the maximum rebate amount for that item type at the same property
- Commercial properties

Are Renters Eligible?

Yes, Renters may apply for any listed rebate and landlord approval will be requested where required (i.e. for draught sealing or fixed external shading). Please submit your application and you will be contacted if landlord permission is required.

How Much Funding is Available?

The table below outlines the funding available for each rebate activity, with the far-right column (Assessment Bonus +15%) outlining that each activity approved through stream B will receive a 15% addition on their rebate amount. The Program is open year-round **until funding for current financial year has been fully allocated.**

Upgrade Item	Standard Rebate	Assessment Bonus (+15%)
Draught sealing / draughtproofing	50% up to $100	+15% on approved rebate
Double-lined / thermally performing curtains	50% up to $100	+15% on approved rebate
External shadings / external blinds	50% up to $300	+15% on approved rebate
Electric blankets & portable fans	50% up to $50	+15% on approved rebate
E-bike	50% up to $300	N/A

How are Applications Assessed?

Applications will be assessed based on the eligibility criteria outlined above and will be prioritised in order of date received until budget has been fully allocated.

How do I Apply for a Grant?

Calls for applications are made regularly throughout the year by way of advertisements through Council's website and **are dependent on budget availability**. To apply for funding, individuals need to complete an Home Energy Rebate application form available on Council's website here.