



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**OFFICE OF
ENERGY RESOURCES**

Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program

October 7th, 2024

Home Electrification and Rebates Program

- Conducted a gap analysis of existing residential efficiency incentives in the state
- HEAR program will provide rebates to low-and-moderate-income households for electrical and appliance upgrades that are **not already provided through other programs**
- Efficiently implement programming by utilizing existing channels in the state
- Incentive funding available to contractors for installment of electric panels (\$150) and wiring (\$250)

Low-income households could receive:

- Up to \$4,000 for electric panel upgrades
- Up to \$2,500 in electrical wiring improvements
- Up to \$1,840* for an Energy Star electric stove or induction cooktop and/or an Energy Star heat pump clothes dryer
- **Household total of \$8,340 in potential upgrades**

Moderate-income households could receive:

- Up to \$2,000 for electric panel upgrades
- Up to \$1,250 in electrical wiring improvements
- Up to \$420 for an Energy Star electric stove or induction cooktop and/or an Energy Star heat pump clothes dryer
- **Household total of \$3,670 in potential upgrades**

* With supplemental RGGI funding from OER

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- Programming will be launched in phases with the low-income programming launching September 17, and the moderate-income pathways to launch at a later date
- OER will partner with the Rhode Island Department of Human Services and the CAPs to deliver programmatic benefits to low-income households
- This collaboration will allow for a one-stop shop for recipients receiving existing programming from the CAPs, such as WAP or LIHEAP, reducing the number of disruptions to the households
- When visiting a home, CAP auditors will be able to offer additional upgrades including:
 - Electric panel upgrades
 - Wiring improvements
 - Energy Star electric stove or cooktops
 - Energy Star heat pump clothes dryers
- OER is contracting directly with the CAPs and the income eligibility data from LIHEAP and WAP would qualify residents for these new upgrades
- At a later date, moderate-income households not served by the CAPs will be eligible to apply for the rebates directly through a portal on the OER website

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- Additional Program Goals:
 - Maximize dollars for underlying electrical improvements to enable additional electrification and efficiency measures
 - Incentivize new appliance technologies and spur market transformation:
 - ENERGY STAR certified heat pump dryers are the most energy-efficient type of dryer on the market and use around 70% less energy than conventional clothes dryers. Compared to a standard electric model, an ENERGY STAR certified heat pump dryer could save more than \$500 in electricity costs over the life of the product.
 - Residential electric cooktops that have earned the ENERGY STAR are approximately 18% more energy efficient than standard electric models. Roughly 90% of heat makes it from induction stove to cookware as compared to about 74% from traditional electric stoves or about 40% from gas stoves while almost 13% of childhood asthma cases are linked to gas stoves.

Next Steps:

- Encourage residents to inquire with their local CAP agencies to see if they are eligible for programming
- Promote education on how these new appliances work and their benefits
- Increase outreach to labor unions to expand contractor network