

**APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES FOR THE RESIDENTIAL
ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

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CITY OF EASTON, PA

AND

THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF EASTON, PA

FUNDING PROVIDED BY:



THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

EDI-1

Purpose and Scope

In order to promote energy efficiency in Easton's housing stock; grant money for The Residential Energy Efficiency Improvement Program through the Redevelopment Authority of Easton, PA (ERA) is now available. Funding is made possible through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Economic Development Initiative (EDI) Program. Grant money can fund a wide range of home projects that will reduce energy consumption. Creating a more energy efficient home will increase indoor environmental quality while lowering energy and utility costs and minimizing our carbon footprint on the environment.

Available Funds

This grant program will match fifty percent of a pre-approved project cost by the property owner up to \$5,000. If a homeowner spends \$10,000 on an approved energy efficiency project, the ERA will reimburse the homeowner in the amount of \$5,000. For example, a tank-less hot water heater cost and installation may cost \$3,000, the homeowner will receive a \$1,500 reimbursement.

Eligibility Requirements

This grant is available on a citywide basis to homeowners with household yearly incomes at or below 120% of the median income level. See list below for maximum amount of yearly income per household.

<u>Household</u>	<u>Maximum Income</u>
• 1 person	up to \$58,000
• 2 person	up to \$67,200
• 3 person	up to \$75,600
• 4 person	up to \$84,000
• 5 person	up to \$90,759
• 6 person	up to \$97,419
• 7 person	up to \$104,179
• 8 person	up to \$110,839

Tax returns will be required to verify income.

Although this grant is available to any property owner within the income level restrictions, preference will be given to owner occupied homes.

All products utilized in the improvement project are required to meet the government rating of ENERGY STAR®. The ENERGY STAR® program is a set of specifications for energy efficient products established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Products that achieve this rating are easily identified by the ENERGY STAR® label.



To learn more about the ENERGY STAR® program, product specification, and potential Federal Tax Credits, visit www.energystar.gov.

For energy improvements or products that do not carry the energy star label, please be as specific as possible when describing the improvement and supply any information that will validate its energy saving benefits.

Examples of energy efficient improvements may include but are not limited to:

- Insulation installation
- Caulking/Sealing
- Door/Window replacement
- HVAC replacement or improvements to existing systems

- Tank-less hot water heater installation
- Solar panel installation
- Insulated siding installation
- Light sensors for automatic shut off

Work must be performed by a licensed professional. Eligibility will be restricted to permanent fixtures in the home. Exclusions may include but are not limited to:

- Dishwashers
- Refrigerators
- Washer/dryers
- Microwaves

Application Checklist

When applying, please include the following:

1. A completed application
2. Contractor bids/quotes for the project
3. A copy of tax returns to verify income levels
4. Manufacturer's information to validate the energy efficiency of the products if not Energy Star rated
5. Any other information that might be useful in reviewing your application

Additional Information

1. Depending on the scope of the project, the ERA may require an energy audit before and after the improvements. This will be determined upon review of application.
2. Complete Permit Application (if necessary): Some home improvement projects will require a City permit. To find out if your project will need permits call the Department of Planning and Codes located on the 3rd floor of City Hall at 610-250-6724 or visit: www.easton-pa.gov.
3. If a home is in the Historic District and the proposed work includes the exterior of the façade (such as doors or windows) a Historic District Commission (HDC) Certificate of Appropriateness will be required: Every alteration to the façade of a building or home proposed in the Downtown requires a Certificate of Appropriateness application be filed and reviewed by the HDC. The HDC meets once a month and makes recommendation to Easton City Council to approve, with conditions or deny applications that are received. The recommendation is then acted upon by City Council.
4. Properties citywide may be subject to review by the State Historic Preservation Office for potential effect upon both historic and archaeological resources.
5. All applications will be reviewed by the ERA and awarded based on successful fulfillment of the application and the project's impact on energy efficiency. If

- approved, work must begin within 60 days from receipt of grant approval letter from the ERA and must be completed within 3 months from that date.
6. The ERA reserves the right to decline any or all applications or to waive any informalities in the review process.

Payment

1. When all work is complete and contractors are paid, please forward receipts for work completed to the ERA office for payment. ERA staff will inspect the work for compliance with the program details.
2. The ERA will pay approved contractors directly for compensation of work, or reimburse expenditures made by the property owner. In no instance will a homeowner be paid directly for work not yet completed and approved.

Please contact the ERA Office, at 610-250-6721 or Michael Brett at 610-250-6727 for more information or questions.

**APPLICATION FOR THE RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICENCY
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Applicant name: _____

Property Address: _____

Do you own the property? _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project description (note if attached separately):

Total project cost (attach bids/quotes/budget): _____

Total cost of eligible activities: _____

Total requested for reimbursement: _____

Statement of proposed impact of energy efficiency on the building (note if attached separately):

Timetable for Completion:

If you plan improvements in addition to those that will be covered by the grant, please explain:

Number of people in household _____

Household income (attach copy of tax return) _____

Submit Application to: Gretchen Longenbach, Executive Director
Redevelopment Authority
1 South Third Street, fourth floor
Easton, PA 18042

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