

State Incentives

The California Solar Initiative (CSI) is overseen by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and provides incentives for solar system installations to customers of the state's three investor-owned utilities (IOUs): Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE) and San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E). The CSI Program provides upfront incentives for solar systems installed on existing residential homes, as well as existing and new commercial, industrial, government, non-profit, and agricultural properties within the service territories of the IOUs.

How much one can receive depends on the solar system installed.

To calculate the CSI incentive for a specific system, go to:

<http://www.csi-epbb.com/>

Federal Tax Credit

Tax Credit: 30% of cost with no upper limit

Expires: December 31, 2016

Details: Existing homes & new construction qualify. Both [principal residences](#) and second homes qualify. Rentals **do not** qualify.

Requirements

Photovoltaic systems must provide electricity for the residence, and must meet applicable fire and electrical code requirement.

FORMS NEEDED (2011):

For products "[placed in service](#)" in 2011, you need to file the 2011 IRS Form 5695 and submit it with your 2011 taxes (by April 15, 2012).

On the [1040 form](#) the residential energy tax credit (from Form 5695) is claimed on line 52.

WHAT YOU NEED TO SAVE AND SUBMIT:

Save your receipts and the [Manufacturer's Certification Statement](#) for your records. Submit Form 5695 with your taxes.