



Energy Efficient Communities Program—Overview

The Energy Efficient Communities Program will deliver \$50 million of grants to assist businesses and community organisations to improve energy efficiency practices and technologies and better manage energy consumption to reduce their power bills. This measure will deliver up to 3 million tonnes of abatement to 2030.

Community Organisations Stream

Funding will support activities to help community organisations save energy through:

- equipment upgrades that reduce energy consumption, including energy generation and storage projects (for example solar photovoltaic panels, batteries and solar hot water)
- investment in energy and emissions monitoring and management systems to better manage energy use
- completion of energy systems assessments according to the Australian Standard or feasibility studies to investigate energy efficiency opportunities.

When do applications open?

Eligible community organisations will be able to apply for grants from 1 September 2019.



What community organisations are eligible?

Eligible community organisations include Men's Sheds, community owned kindergartens, welfare centres, community centres, women's associations, country fire authorities, community owned childcare centres, community football and netball clubs, Scout or Guide groups, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community groups and surf lifesaving clubs.

How can I apply?

Details about how to apply will be made available on business.gov.au.

Will there be a cap per applicant?

Community organisations can apply for up to \$12,500.

Will I have to make a co-contribution?

Community organisations will not be required to make a co-contribution.

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Business Stream

Funding will support activities to help businesses save energy through:

- equipment upgrades that reduce energy consumption
- investment in energy and emissions monitoring and management systems to better manage energy use
- completion of energy systems assessments according to the Australian Standard or feasibility studies to investigate energy efficiency opportunities.

Who can apply for funding?

Grants will be made available for:

- small businesses
- businesses that consume large amounts (over 0.05 petajoules) of energy each year.

Definitions of the businesses that can seek funding will be refined during program design. Stakeholder consultation on business grant program design will occur in August 2019.

When do applications open?

Eligible businesses will be able to apply for grants by January 2020.

How can I apply?

When the program opens for applications, details about how to apply will be made available on business.gov.au.

What criteria will be applied in assessing applications?

Grants will be made available to eligible applicants. This aspect of the program will be refined during program design. Stakeholder consultation on business grant program design will occur in August 2019.

Will there be a cap per applicant?

Yes, depending on the type of applicant:

- small businesses: \$20,000
- businesses that consume large amounts of energy each year: \$25,000.

Will I have to make a co-contribution?

If your business is one that consumes large amounts of energy each year, you will be required to make a co-contribution of one applicant dollar to each government dollar.

Small businesses (no matter the energy consumption) will not be required to make a co-contribution.

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