

# If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.



## **“The government will pay to put solar on your home.”**

Despite claims in the media, no government programs exist that pay for solar on private homes.

## **“You’ll automatically get a 55% tax rebate from the government.”**

Those “rebates” are actually tax credits. You only get a tax credit if you file state or federal tax returns and owe taxes. The SC tax credit is limited to \$3,500 per year, but can be extended up to 10 years.

## **“Those trees won’t be a problem—we’ll just add more panels.”**

Shade is shade, and adding more panels to a shady roof will not increase solar output.

## **“You’ll never have another utility bill.”**

Even if the solar panels meet your electricity needs during the day, you’re going to need electricity at night. Also, you’re required to pay basic utility charges.

## **“The SC tax credit is going away! You have to sign the contract today!”**

No sunset date exists for the SC tax credit, although the federal tax credit will be reduced beginning in January 2020.

## **“I’m handy around the house, so I’ll just install the system myself.”**

Solar systems must be connected to wiring and the electrical grid by a licensed electrician. An incorrectly installed solar system could endanger life or property.

## **“Homeowners’ associations can’t tell me what to do!”**

If you agreed to abide by HOA or neighborhood association design decisions, they can. It’s currently the law in SC.

## **“My utility doesn’t want me to install solar.”**

Electric utilities have been supportive of solar and are your best allies in making sure solar is right for you. Contact your utility for questions about solar in your service area.

## **“The installer gave me a pretty good quote! I’m just going to go with them.”**

Just like shopping for a car, it pays to look at your options. Make sure to do your homework, ask the right questions, and obtain bids from at least three installers.

## **“I saw a billboard, so they must be good!”**

Contact the SC Solar Council and the SC Solar Business Alliance. They maintain lists of reputable, professional, licensed installers.

# Solar Options



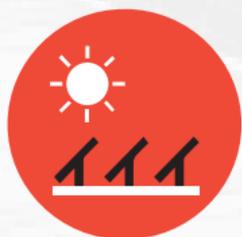
## Buying

Purchasing a system from an approved contractor or manufacturer means paying for it up front or financing your purchase through a bank loan.



## Leasing

Leasing allows you to “rent” the system for a set period of time. Generally, you pay a fixed monthly rate no matter how much energy the system produces each month.



## Community

Residential electric customers, schools, churches and municipalities will be able to subscribe to or purchase panels on offsite solar farms and receive credit for solar generation on their energy bills each month.

Be sure to download  
your free copy of  
*A Consumer Guide to Solar  
for the SC Homeowner*

*(Hard copies available by request)*



For more information on  
solar in South Carolina, visit

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