

Philipstown Climate Fund Award Program

The Philipstown Climate Fund (PCF) aims to help Philipstown residents transition away from fossil fuels towards cleaner, cheaper alternatives. Such actions will reduce household carbon emissions and help our town reach its goal of carbon neutrality by 2040. We understand that the upfront costs of such a transition can be a barrier to action, and we want to lessen the burden on low- to moderate-income households. The PCF Award Program will allow Philipstown residents to apply for partial funding for a specific and measurable piece of equipment with known carbon emissions reductions, such as electric heat pumps, electric hot water heaters, induction ovens/stovetops, and smart thermostats. Award recipients will be determined by way of a lottery. We will fund as many applications as our funding allows and we continue to accept donations to the PCF on an ongoing basis to support future award cycles.

Overview of the application process

1. Review the important dates and summarized eligibility information.
2. Review the details on the award structure, rebate process and requirements.
3. Complete the application via the online form or by mailing a paper copy to the address indicated below by the deadline.

Important dates

- The first lottery draw will take place on or around March 1, 2022.
- Applications are due on February 15, 2022.

Eligibility requirements to apply to the PCF Award Program

- Must be a Philipstown resident to apply;
- Both owners and renters are eligible;
- Must have an annual household income at or below \$113,000 (the 2020 median household income for Philipstown);
- Must apply to replace fossil fuel-based equipment for electric equipment; for example, gas stove for induction stove top, or propane hot water heater for an electric hot water heater;
- Cannot be used to replace existing electric equipment for new electric equipment;
- Equipment must be for residential use only.

Additional requirements if awarded:

- Must provide a price estimate of the new equipment;
- Must provide detailed scope of work estimate by installer (if applicable);
- Must supply one-year previous oil, propane or other fossil fuel usage history for the household;
- Must commit to the following in order to receive the full award amount:
 - proper disposal of the old unit(s);
 - provide receipt upon purchase of new electric equipment dated no earlier than date of award;
 - provide receipt of installer work completed (when applicable);

- provide follow-up year oil, propane or other fossil fuel usage history for the household (in order to calculate carbon emissions reduction);
- provide on-site before, during and after photos of the equipment being replaced;
- complete installation of new equipment within 6 months of award receipt; and
- be willing to participate in PCF marketing promotion. We will want to highlight winners of our climate fund on social media, print media and electronic communications.

PCF Award request limits

- Electric heat pump - \$3,500
- Electric hot water heater - \$2,700
- Electric or induction stove/oven - \$2,000
- Smart thermostat(s) - \$250

PCF Award structure

- There are 2 award options:
 - 50% of the cost of equipment replacement. This is our award for those with temporary or minor financial need;
 - 90% of the cost of equipment replacement. This is our award for those in need of deeper financial assistance and who would otherwise not be able to afford replacement costs;
 - The applicant will indicate which award option they are applying for on the application, based on their financial need.
- PCF Awards will be disbursed in the following manner:
 - 50% of the award will be disbursed directly to the applicant upon acceptance to the program;
 - The remaining 50% of the award will be disbursed directly to the applicant once all remaining required documentation has been received and reviewed.

Rebate requirements

- Applicants are responsible for applying for all local, state and federally available rebates for their units and submitting proof of submission.
- Learn about Central Hudson rebates: Visit Central Hudson's website to learn about the two ways to receive the \$1000 rebate for electric hot water heaters: <https://www.cenhud.com/my-energy/save-energy-money/residential-incentives/electric-heat-pump-water-heaters/>. There are no available Central Hudson rebates for induction stoves/ovens.
- Learn about Federal rebates: Make sure you save a copy of the Manufacturer's Certification Statement for your records. When you submit your 2021 tax return, file Form 5695 (residential energy credits) to get your \$300 tax credit for electric heat pump or electric hot water heater installation.

Application

- Download a PDF version of the application here; or

- Fill out your application online [here](#).
- Include the following supporting documents with your application:
 - Proof of residency in Philipstown (e.g., previous 2 utility bills; copy of lease or deed);
 - Income verification statement (we do not require proof of income but rather will operate on an honor system).

Where to submit application or send questions

Ecological Citizen's Project, Inc.*
69 S. Mountain Pass, Garrison, NY 10524

Email: jocelyn.apicello@ecologicalcitizens.org and csphilipstown@gmail.com

** The Ecological Citizen's Project, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. It is recognized by the federal government as a tax-exempt charitable organization. In order for the ECP to maintain its 501(c)3 status, the ECP must not willingly provide goods or services that are counter to their mission or that would otherwise jeopardize their 501(c)3 tax-exempt status.*