

Generic Small Commercial & Residential Solar PV System Cost Breakdown.

For systems with WA-made panels and inverters:

	10 kW Commercial*	4 kW Residential*
Installer Contract Cost	\$80,000	\$33,500
30% Federal Investment Tax Credit	\$22,500	\$9,500
Cash Rebate per kW Installed	\$5000	\$2,000
Total out-of-pocket expense	\$52,500	\$22,000
MACRS Accelerated Depreciation	\$16,000	0
Sum of utility production incentives until 6/2020	\$50,000	\$21,500
Sum of offset costs of electricity over system life	\$21,000	\$14,000
Year the system pays itself off	7	17
Total cash flow at year 25**	\$20,000	\$5,500
Monthly payment for a 10-year loan covering 100% of “out-of-pocket” expense***	\$635/Mo.	\$200/Mo.

* We used the “Residential Small Service” and “General Service Small Load” rate schedules for the Snohomish PUD.

** Net positive cash flow reflects the estimated cost to replace the inverters at year 15.

*** Calculated for homes within the SnoPUD sector where *residential* PV can take out a 10 year 2.9% loan for up to \$20,000 – foregoing the cash rebate. For commercial systems we calculated an 8.5% loan.

Notes:

- These numbers assume that the customer has tax liability. A credit that exceeds the taxpayer's income tax liability can be carried forward to following years until exhausted.
- Several, but not all, utilities offer a cash rebate for each kW installed with differing caps for residential and commercial installations. Check with your local utility.
- The cost of these systems can change depending on the complexity of the install.
- In the case of the commercial system, the sum of all of the incentives (not including offset cost of electricity) over the system life exceeds the cost of the system!
- Washington made panels are more expensive than other, larger companies, but the return on investment, and positive cash flow at the end of the system life are significantly greater.
- Taking out a loan significantly affects the ROI.

For Systems with out of state panels and inverters:

	10 kW Commercial*	4 kW residential*
Installer Contract Cost	\$60,000	\$23,500
30% Federal Investment Tax Credit	\$16,000	\$6,500
Cash Rebate per kW Installed	\$5,000	\$2,000
Total out-of-pocket expense	\$39,000	\$15,000
MACRS Accelerated Depreciation	\$19,000	0
Sum of utility production incentives until 6/2020	\$15,869	\$6,000
Sum of offset costs of electricity over system life	\$16,000	\$16,000
Year the system pays itself off	25+	23
Total cash flow at year 25**	(\$2,000)	\$1000
Monthly payment for a 10-year loan covering 100% of “out-of-pocket” expense***	\$471/Mo.	\$158/Mo.

* We used the “Residential Small Service” and “General Service Small Load” rate schedules for the Snohomish PUD.

** Net positive cash flow reflects the estimated cost to replace the inverters at year 15.

*** Calculated for homes within the SnoPUD sector where *residential* PV can take out a 10 year 2.9% loan for up to \$20,000 – foregoing the cash rebate. For commercial systems we calculated an 8.5% loan.

Notes:

- All of the same assumptions apply.
- These two charts highlight the lower upfront cost of out of state equipment with the higher ROI of systems with in-state panels.