

# Request for Comments: Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative

05.12.2025

## Introduction

The Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) Program Administrator and the Illinois Power Agency (IPA) are requesting feedback from stakeholders and other interested parties on the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative for the 2025-2026 program year.

## Background

The Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative was launched in the 2023-2024 program year to address the barrier of needed home repairs for solar installation in owner-occupied income-eligible households that are otherwise qualified for ILSFA. The goal is to increase participation in the Illinois Solar for All: Residential Solar (Small) sub-program and to more effectively maximize the benefits to income-eligible participants. It was also designed to gather data and information from Approved Vendors and homeowners on the frequency and extent of needed home repairs within the ILSFA program.

The Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative's incentives are limited to electrical work and roof repairs necessary for solar installation on owner-occupied income-eligible households participating in the Residential Solar (Small) sub-program. Following the end of the 2023-2024 program year, the Program Administrator published an [evaluation report](#) with key findings from the first year and recommendations. The report for the 2024-2025 program year will be published in August 2025. View the [ILSFA Project Dashboard](#) for project applications submitted to the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative in the 2023-2024 program year and in the 2024-2025 program year, upon its upcoming publication. The IPA and the Program Administrator are extending the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative for its third year and seeking feedback on the recommendations below. ILSFA stakeholders and other interested parties are

encouraged to respond to the recommendations, but may also provide input on other elements.

Please note that comments will be publicly published on the [ILSFA website](#). However, if a commenter seeks to designate any portion of its response as confidential, that commenter must provide both a non-public confidential version and a public redacted version. Independent of that designation, if the Program Administrator or the IPA determines that a response contains confidential information that should not be disclosed, it reserves the right to add its own redactions to the public version.

Responses are due by **Monday, May 19**, and should be sent to the Program Administrator at [Comments@IllinoisSFA.com](mailto:Comments@IllinoisSFA.com).

## Recommendations for Stakeholder Feedback

1. The Program Administrator recommends adding a column to the Electrical and Roofing & Structural Repairs charts for Approved Vendors to provide detailed explanations for each proposed repair or upgrade.

Adding these two columns to the Reference List would enable Approved Vendors to request home repairs and upgrades while providing detailed explanations within a single document. A streamlined format allows Approved Vendors to justify the necessity of each proposed repair or upgrade, supporting more informed and efficient decision-making. It would also help the Program Administrator review projects under the Home Repairs and Upgrades initiative more quickly by minimizing the need for follow-up communication and enhancing the granularity of data received by the Program Administrator on the extent and nature of repairs necessary for solar installation encountered by the market.

2. The Program Administrator recommends eliminating “Required Permit Fees” and “Main Service Panel Grounding” from the list of eligible electrical repairs and upgrades available.

The Program Administrator proposes removing these two items from the list of eligible Electrical Repairs to consolidate the list and eliminate redundancies. The “Required Permit Fees” item would be eliminated, and the cost caps for the two items that may require permit fees (“Main Service Panel Replacement or Upgrade” and “Meter and Riser Replacement or Upgrade”) would both be increased. The “Meter and Riser Replacement or Upgrade” cost cap would be increased by \$150 to account for potential permit fees. Additionally, the ‘Main Service Panel Grounding’ item would be eliminated and consolidated into the ‘Main Service Panel Replacement or Upgrade’ item, and its cost cap would be increased from \$3,000 to \$3,300 to continue to accommodate any grounding and permit fees needed. Despite these adjustments, the total cost cap for

Electrical Repairs and Upgrades would remain unchanged at \$6,550 and provide more flexibility for Approved Vendors in costs encountered under each respective category.

3. The Program Administrator recommends eliminating “Required Permit Fees” from the list of eligible roofing and structural repairs and upgrades available.

The Program Administrator recommends removing “Required Permit Fees” and increasing the cost cap for “Solar-Related Roof Work” by \$500, so the new cost cap for that specific line item would be \$3,500. This would continue to accommodate any permit fees needed and provide more flexibility for Approved Vendors in costs encountered under the “Solar-Related Roof Work” category. The total cost cap for Roofing and Structural Repairs and Upgrades would remain unchanged at \$14,000.

#### **ELECTRICAL :**

<b>Item or Fee</b>	<b>Maximum Cost<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Detailed explanation of why the repair or upgrade is needed</b>
Main Service Panel Replacement or Upgrade	Up to \$3,300	
Meter and Riser Replacement or Upgrade	Up to \$1,850	
Water Grounding (100/200 amps)	Up to \$700/\$1,400	

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<sup>1</sup> The total cost for all electrical work must not exceed \$6,550, in adherence to the cost cap.

## ROOFING AND STRUCTURAL :

Item or Fee	Maximum Cost per Unit	Maximum Cost <sup>2</sup>	Detailed explanation of why the repair or upgrade is needed
Solar-Related Roof Work <sup>3</sup>	Up to \$200 per sq. ft.	Up to \$3,500	
Full Roof Replacement <sup>4</sup>	--	Up to \$12,000 <sup>5</sup>	
Sister Rafters	Up to \$100 per rafter	Up to \$2,000	

<sup>2</sup> These Maximum Costs have been set based on estimated prices for a home with a roof size of 2,000 ft<sup>2</sup> and a standard slope of 25 degrees. In adherence to the cost cap, the total cost for all roofing and structural work must not exceed \$14,000.

<sup>3</sup> This includes any leak, puncture, decking, or work needed directly associated with the solar installation.

<sup>4</sup> This includes tear off and replacement of a single layer of shingles.

<sup>5</sup> The cost cap of \$12,000 for a full roof replacement must include all related roofing costs (e.g., permitting fees) in its total calculation, and must not exceed \$12,000, in adherence to the cost cap.