

# Request for Comments: Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative

04.02.2026

## 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 2026-2027 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 (Small) sub-program. The Initiative's budget is one quarter of the Residential Solar (Small) sub-program budget as stated in Section 8.5.3.3 of the 2026 Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan.

The Program Administrator published annual reports with key findings following the first two years of the initiative. View this [announcement](#) to review the report from the 2023-2024 Program Year and this [announcement](#) to review the report from the 2024-2025 Program Year. The report for the 2025-2026 Program Year will be published in Summer 2026.

The IPA and the Program Administrator are extending the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative for its fourth 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 **Thursday, April 16**, 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 removing the “Administrative Fee” from the Home Repairs & Upgrades Initiative.**

The “Administrative Fee” was introduced starting in the 2024-2025 Program Year to encourage Approved Vendor participation in the initiative. The fee was added to the Total Home Repair Value for every project approved for a Home Repairs and Upgrades REC adder. The administrative fee was only added if the project was installed with the completed home repairs and upgrades, which were verified during the Part II application. With participation in the initiative increasing, Approved Vendors becoming accustomed to the functions of the Initiative, and the budget being fully met, the Program Administrator recommends removing the “Administrative Fee” from the Initiative, as there is no longer a demonstrated need to offer additional incentives to bring Approved Vendors to the Initiative.

Removing this line item would free up space in the budget for more homes to participate in the Initiative. For example, in Program Year 2025-2026, 160 projects received the “Administrative Fee” line item, amounting to \$72,000. In Program Year 2025-2026, the average Total REC value for projects with a Home Repairs and Upgrades REC adder is roughly \$40,000. If the “Administrative Fee” were no longer offered, an estimated two more homes could participate in the initiative. Illinois Solar for All is committed to consistently evaluating demand for the Initiative and the capacity for Approved Vendors to participate. As recent trends show higher volumes of Home Repairs and Upgrades project submissions compared to the available budget, the Program is seeking feedback on whether stakeholders agree with the assessment that the “Administrative Fee” line item is no longer necessary to ensure participation is manageable for Approved Vendors.

### **2. The Program Administrator recommends removing “Solar Related Roof Work” from the list of eligible roofing and structural repairs.**

In the three years since the initiative started, no project has yet requested the Home Repairs and Upgrades line item of “Solar Related Roof Work.” One of the objectives of the initiative is to gather information on the types and extent of home repairs and upgrades needed within ILSFA, and given the lack of demand for this line item, the Program Administrator proposes removing it from the list of eligible roof and structural repairs. This would mean that the two eligible items under the roof and structural repairs would be “Full Roof Replacement” and “Sister Rafters or Decking” for a maximum total of \$15,000 across the Roofing and Structural Repairs category. The Program is requesting feedback on the impact of this proposed change to Approved Vendors, and any potential circumstances that may arise that cannot otherwise be covered by the “Full Roof Replacement” and “Sister Rafters or Decking” line items.

- 3. The Program Administrator recommends splitting the “Water grounding (100/200 amps)” item under the electrical repairs list into two items: “Water grounding (100 amps)” or “Water grounding (200 amps).” The cost cap will not be combined; projects will continue to be approved for either 100 amps at a cost cap of \$700 or 200 amps at a cost cap of \$1,400.**

The Program Administrator recommends splitting this line item into two: “Water grounding (100 amps)” and “Water grounding (200 amps)” to facilitate more specific cost estimates and final invoices. This change will not alter the home repair line item or its respective maximum cost (\$700 or \$1,400) but rather improve how it is labeled for home repairs tracking and invoicing purposes.

### **ELECTRICAL REPAIRS :**

| <b>Item</b>                               | <b>Maximum Cost</b> | <b>Work Needed? (Y or N)</b> | <b>Detailed explanation of why the repair 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 amps) | Up to \$700   |  |  |
| Water Grounding (200 amps) | Up to \$1,400 |  |  |

- Please send me a list of eligible electrical contractors who may be available to perform this work.

**Total estimated cost of electrical work:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOFING AND STRUCTURAL REPAIRS:**

| Item                      | Maximum Cost per Unit  | Maximum Cost   | Work Needed? (Y or N) | Detailed explanation of why the repair is needed |
|---------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------------|--|
| Full Roof Replacement     | --   | Up to \$12,000 |                       |  |
| Sister Rafters or decking | Up to \$100 per rafter for sister rafters or up to \$5 per sq. ft. for decking | Up to \$3,000  |                       |  |

- Please send me a list of eligible roofing and structural contractors who may be available to perform this work.

**Total estimated cost of roofing and structural work:** \_\_\_\_\_