

# Why Colorado Needs the Equitable Energy Upgrade and Acceleration Program

The **Equitable Energy Upgrade and Acceleration Program (EEUAP)** is a smart way to save families money, create good jobs, and build a sustainable energy system. EEUAP will help you make energy-saving investments and go solar. **The average participant will save \$120/year.**

EEUAP requires investor-owned utilities to offer these programs to all customers without the need for taking on debt. The money you save from these upgrades each month is greater than the increased monthly cost of your bill to pay for the upgrades. This means you're saving money from day one!

Colorado lawmakers are considering a bill that will enable EEUAP in the state by directing the Public Utilities Commission to create a program best suited for Colorado, such as the successful Pay As You Save® model.

## How does EEUAP work?

- An independent energy auditor comes to your home to provide an energy assessment.
  - An independent program operator oversees the audit and determines which home upgrades would most effectively lower your energy bill.
  - Depending on your home and energy bill, some upgrades may require an upfront co-pay to ensure monthly savings.
- You pick a contractor from an approved list, who installs the upgrades specified by the program operator. The program operator confirms everything was done correctly.
- Your utility pays for the recommended improvements.
  - This could include:
    - Replace energy-guzzling equipment,
    - Adding insulation,
    - Adding solar panels.
- Your electric bill goes down because you're not using as much energy or generating energy with solar.
- The utility recovers its costs for the upgrades through a temporary charge on your bill.
- The amount the utility charges will be less than what you save. Your total bill is lower!
- Participating in EEUAP does not require you to take on loans, a credit check, or debt.
- You can participate, even if you rent instead of own your home.
- If you move, the repayment and the savings automatically transfer to the next people moving in.



# How will EEUAP benefit Colorado?

## **Better Living**

- Customers who participate in EEUAP see bill savings from day one; a typical family can save \$120 per year.
- Upgrades will allow homes to be more comfortable and safer as outdated equipment is replaced.



## **Create good jobs**

- EEUAP supports our economy with annual estimated investments upward of \$200 million to provide energy saving improvements and another \$150 million for solar development for homes and businesses.
- EEUAP could help 10,000 Colorado families go solar and 30,000 access energy efficiency upgrades every year.
- Prior to COVID-19, solar was one of Colorado's fastest growing industries. Allowing equitable energy upgrades for customers will provide a spark to this proven job creator.



## **Build a better energy system**

- High energy costs are a particular burden on low-income families. EEUAP empowers them to save money and take control of where their electricity comes from.
- EEUAP addresses energy injustice. It gets rid of financial barriers, like taking on debt. The program is designed to best serve disproportionately impacted communities.
- Adding more distributed energy to the grid makes the grid more resilient and lowers costs for all users.
- EEUAP will lower electricity use and can help replace the energy we use with a clean energy. This will help Colorado more quickly lower our carbon footprint.

**For more information or to learn how to get involved, visit [www.coloradopays.org](http://www.coloradopays.org) or contact us: [coteam@solarunitedneighbors.org](mailto:coteam@solarunitedneighbors.org).**