

Canada Greener Homes Loan Homeowner Stream

Key Messages and Q&As - The first source of information for loan related questions from homeowners

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- The Canada Greener Homes Loan is part of the Canada Greener Homes Initiative which builds on the Canada Greener Homes Grant, helping Canadian Homeowners across the country improve the energy efficiency of their home.
- The Canada Greener Homes Loan will provide \$4.4 billion in interest-free loans, of up to \$40,000 per household, helping up to 175,000 homeowners complete extensive home retrofits on their principal residence. Loans be available to homeowners who undertake eligible retrofits recommended through an EnerGuide evaluation.

The Canada Greener Homes Loan will launch in two phases.

- The first phase, starting on June 17, 2022, will be open to eligible homeowners who are applying or have an open application (pre-retrofit stage) to the Canada Greener Homes Grant.
- The second phase, starting on August 31, 2022, will open to homeowners who have already received a grant or requested a post-retrofit evaluation under the Canada Greener Homes Grant and want to apply for any remaining eligible retrofits they are interested in pursuing and have not yet commenced.

OBJECTIVE

If asked what is the objective of these loans

- The objective of the Canada Greener Homes Loan is to help homeowners finance their home's energy retrofits and improve their home's energy efficiency and resiliency.
- The Canada Greener Homes initiative helps eligible homeowners make their homes more comfortable and affordable to maintain while supporting Canada's environmental objectives and creating jobs in communities across the country.

If asked how many homeowners can benefit from this opportunity

- The Government of Canada estimates that up to 175,000

ELIGIBILITY

If asked about needing a grant to get a loan

- The Loan is only offered in conjunction with the Canada Greener Homes Grant. Therefore, you must have applied for the grant and deemed eligible and must have obtained a pre-retrofit evaluation of your home in order to apply for the Loan.

- If the homeowners are deemed eligible for the grant and have not completed their retrofits, they can choose to participate in the loan to help finance their retrofits.

If asked who is eligible for this loan

- Individuals who are Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and non-permanent residents legally authorized to work in Canada who own and reside in an eligible property located in Canada. Including First Nations, Inuit and Métis who own and reside in an eligible property located in anywhere in Canada
- Indigenous housing, Indigenous governments, organizations (e.g., band councils, land claim organizations), housing management bodies and other representative organizations / Indigenous service organizations with formal partnerships with Indigenous governments or organizations are also eligible applicants.

If asked what type of properties are eligible for the loan ?

- To be eligible for the Canada Greener Homes Loan, your property must be considered an eligible property under the Canada Greener Homes Grant. Eligible properties can be found here: <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/energy-efficiency/homes/canada-greener-homes-grant/start-your-energy-efficient-retrofits/learn-about-the-initiative/23476#s3>

If asked if new homes are eligible to take part in this initiative ?

- Homes that are greater than six months old based on the date of occupancy by the first homeowner are eligible. Newly built homes, defined as six months old or less are ineligible.

If asked if cottages, secondary properties, and rental properties are eligible?

- The Loan is available for retrofits on your primary residence only.

If asked do I need to complete all the retrofits recommended by the Energy Advisor to be eligible for the loan or can I choose which one I am interested in?

- To be eligible for the loan, you must select at least one of the recommended retrofits listed on the pre-retrofit EnerGuide evaluation of your home.
- Only retrofits that are eligible for the grant are eligible for the loan. The eligible cost of the retrofit(s) less the eligible grant must equal at least \$5,000.
- Find out which retrofits are eligible for this program: [Eligible grants for my home retrofit \(nrcan.gc.ca\)](#)

APPLICATION

If asked what do I need before applying?

- You need to have successfully registered as a participant for the Canada Greener Homes Grant.
- You need to have completed a pre-retrofit EnerGuide evaluation with an Energy Advisor licensed by Natural Resources Canada and the pre-

retrofit EnerGuide evaluation is dated on or after April 1, 2020. Further information click [here](#).

- You need to have received a Renovation Upgrade Report outlining the recommended retrofits eligible for the Canada Greener Homes grant. Further information click [here](#).
- You have selected to complete at least one of the recommended eligible retrofits and you have obtained cost estimates from contractors and/or suppliers for each of the selected eligible retrofits).
- Finally, you have NOT commenced work on any of the retrofits before applying for the loan.

If asked how do I apply?

- If you are an eligible homeowner, you will have access to the loan once you have reached *step 3* of your grant application via the NRCan registration process.

If the homeowner is from Quebec or Nova Scotia:

- You need to start with your respective provincial program for the grant
 - **Renoclimat**
<https://transitionenergetique.gouv.qc.ca/en/residential/programs/renoclimat>
 - **Efficiency Nova Scotia** - <https://www.energycyns.ca>
- If you are a resident of the provinces of Quebec and Nova Scotia, you may apply directly through the loan portal once you have completed your preretrofit EnerGuide evaluation via your respective provincial program. [Link to Loan Portal](#)

If asked if I can apply for the loan retroactively?

- No. To apply for the loan, retrofits on your home must not have commenced.

The Canada Greener Homes loan was intended to enable homeowners to take on deeper energy retrofits of their homes, where the retrofits would not have been considered by the homeowner, had it not been for the availability of the loan. Given this, the loan is only open for the funding of new retrofit(s) that have not commenced, and this work is enabled through the availability of this initiative.

If asked if I have completed some of the retrofits that were recommended to me in my Pre-Retrofit Evaluation. Can I still get the loan for additional retrofits?

Yes, you can still get the loan for new retrofits if you meet certain criteria noted below:

- If you have already requested to receive your grant and that grant is less than the maximum \$5,000 grant amount, you should follow the steps on how to apply for the remaining grant funds.
- You can apply for the loan for any retrofits you have not yet commenced, if you have not requested your post-retrofit evaluation for those retrofits.

If asked can I participate in the loan if I have already requested and received \$5,000 grant?

- At this time, if you have already received your grant and reached the maximum amount of \$5,000, you won't be able to access the CGH Loan.

If asked if can I apply for both the Canada Greener Homes Loan and other programs offered by my province, territory and municipality?

- Yes, you can benefit from all programs available in the jurisdiction where you reside. Please note that the Canada Greener Homes Loan is exclusively designed to finance retrofits that are eligible under the Canada Greener Homes Grant and recommended by an Energy Advisor following a pre-retrofit EnerGuide evaluation.

LOAN INFORMATION

If asked what is the minimum and maximum loan

- The minimum loan amount available under the initiative is \$5,000 per property and the maximum loan amount is up to \$40,000.

If asked is the loan interest-free

- Yes, it is an interest-free loan of up to \$40,000.

If asked how will the loan repayment work?

- You will be expected to make equal monthly payments over the ten-year loan term.
- However, you will also have the ability to make full or partial payments at any time without penalty to enable faster repayment of your loan.

If asked, can I request an initial loan advance?

- An initial loan advance may be requested via the loan application process in order to pay for deposits or upfront costs required by the contractor.
- The initial loan advance must be used to pay for upfront costs and/or deposits required to commence work on the eligible retrofits, up to a maximum of 15% of the eligible cost of retrofits requiring an upfront payment. For properties located in northern and off-grid communities and for Indigenous group applicants, this amount is increased to 25%.
- The need for an initial loan advance must be evidenced in the cost estimates or contractor quotes.

- To find out if your property is located in a northern or off-grid community, please consult the Remote Energy Communities Database (<https://atlas.gc.ca/rced-bdece/en/index.html>).

If asked what happens if the loan does not cover all my costs?

- You are solely responsible for all additional costs associated with the retrofits that are NOT covered by the loan.
- In addition, we encourage you to benefit from other available provincial, territorial, or municipal programs and incentives to finance any additional costs or to obtain additional grants.

Why did it take so long to launch the loan?

The Government of Canada is committed to rolling out a retrofit loan program that will help us achieve our long term climate goals in a way that best serves Canadians. Change has been constant over the past two years as the world adapts to covid, global supply chain issues, and labour shortages. While it is important we accelerate energy retrofits in Canada, we want to do it in a way that best serves Canadians in this new reality. That includes rolling out a loan program at the right time, and not rushing to a launch.