



# FINANCIAL GRANTS IN IRELAND

*supporting energy efficiency and  
decarbonisation*

July 2024

A comprehensive list of

## **GRANTS IN IRELAND**

targeting energy efficiency in  
businesses



## ACCELERATED CAPITAL ALLOWANCE

The Accelerated Capital Allowance (ACA) is a tax incentive program by SEAI designed to encourage businesses to invest in energy-efficient equipment. Businesses that avail of this grant can **deduct the full cost of eligible energy-efficient equipment** from their taxable profits in the year of purchase, allowing for a reduced tax liability and an enhanced energy consumption.

<b>Coverage</b>	Deduction for the full cost of eligible energy-efficient equipment from taxable profits in the year of purchase.
<b>Eligibility</b>	This grant is subject to the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» The equipment purchased must be new and bought for use in a trade. It cannot be leased, let or hired to any person, body or organisation.</li><li>» ACA can be claimed for the accounting period in which the equipment was first provided, as long as the equipment is included on the published list at some stage during that accounting period.</li><li>» ACA is available for costs directly related to providing the equipment.</li><li>» Expenditure on the technology must be equal to or exceed the minimum amounts for the relevant class of technology.</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Decide on the required equipment, ensure it meets ACA criteria, and make the purchase.

## ENERGY CONTRACTING SUPPORT SCHEME

The Energy Contracting Support Scheme (ECSS) offers financial assistance to both public and private sectors to support various activities including **energy audits, feasibility studies, risk assessments, financial analysis** and a handful more. The scheme provides up to 75% funding of eligible costs, subject to certain limits. This support aims to facilitate decarbonisation projects by providing technical expertise and improve energy efficiency in buildings and facilities.

<b>Coverage</b>	75% funding of eligible costs under a maximum limit of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» €50,000 for Energy Performance Contracts (EPC) / Local Energy Supply Contracts (LESC)</li><li>» €25,000 for Energy Performance Guarantees (EPGs)</li></ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	Applications are accepted from both public and private sectors. The support is not limited to any specific project type or technology, although the project must incorporate a pay-for-performance element. Project proposals with the following criteria are particularly encouraged: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Deep energy retrofit and/or decarbonisation actions</li><li>» Work packages comprising multiple project elements and/or technologies</li><li>» Project aggregation / projects comprising multiple facilities</li><li>» Projects that set organisations on a trajectory to net zero</li><li>» Projects that contribute positively to the energy contracting knowledge base and support the development of the energy contracting supply chain"</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Apply online at <a href="https://pepportal.seai.ie/">https://pepportal.seai.ie/</a> with the necessary documentation.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY OBLIGATION SCHEME

EEOS (Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme) targets organisations which are looking to improve their energy efficiency through eligible upgrades supported by Obligated Parties (ie. large energy suppliers and distributors in Ireland). In principle, all energy efficiency improvement projects are eligible for support under the EEOS subject to the two criteria listed below. Eligible upgrades include, but are not limited to **heating, lighting, HVAC, electrification of heat, motors, drives and pumps**.

<b>Coverage</b>	Upgrades to equipment. The value of the support will be proportional to the volume of final energy savings associated with a project.
<b>Eligibility</b>	For the project to fall under the EEOS support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» An Obligated Party must contribute to the achievement of the project.</li><li>» The project must result in final energy savings (as a result of an energy efficiency improvement) which are additional to what would have happened without support through EEOS.</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Upon filling <a href="#">this form</a> and returning it to <a href="mailto:eeos@seai.ie">eeos@seai.ie</a> , Obligated Parties will contact the applicants directly if they are interested.

## Non-Domestic Microgen Grant

The Non-Domestic Microgen Grant provides financial assistance towards the **installation of solar PVs** for businesses, farms, schools, community centres, or other non-profit organisations. The goal of this grant is to reduce electricity costs and increase security of supply while also enhancing the sustainability of organisations. The grant amount is fully dependant on the standard output of the solar PV system installed where a maximum grant offering is set at €162,600.

<b>Coverage</b>	Dependent on standard output of the solar PV system ranging from €900 for a 1kWp system to €150/kWp for systems in the range of 201kWp – 1000kWp
<b>Eligibility</b>	This grant is available to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Businesses</li><li>» The agricultural sector</li><li>» Public sector bodies</li><li>» Schools</li><li>» Community centres</li><li>» Non-profit societies</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Find & appoint a registered solar PV installer Apply to SEAI on <a href="https://mgen.seai.ie/">https://mgen.seai.ie/</a> Apply to ESB Install the solar PV system Reimbursement

## SUPPORT SCHEME FOR RENEWABLE HEAT

The Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH) is designed to encourage the adoption of renewable heating systems in place of fossil fuel sources. It provides financial assistance through grants and tariff supports to **facilitate the transition to renewable heat**, thus contributing to the reduction of carbon emissions.

<b>Coverage</b>	Coverage is of two main forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Grant: Up to 40% for investment in air, ground, or water source heat pumps (HPs) and 30% for related energy efficiency measures (heat recovery ventilation, etc).</li><li>» Tariff Support: Up to 15 years of tariff support for installing biomass boilers or biomass high-efficiency combined heat and power (HE CHP) heating systems, or biogas (anaerobic digestion) boilers or biogas HE CHP heating systems.</li></ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	Applicants must be able to demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Conversion from fossil fuels.</li><li>» Eligible heat use (space, water, or process).</li><li>» Compliance with eco-design standards.</li><li>» Heating system design according to building regulations and other relevant regulations.</li><li>» Qualified designers who are competent to carry out works.</li><li>» That recipients of payments meet tax clearance requirements.</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Apply via the SEAI's portal at <a href="https://pepportal.seai.ie/">https://pepportal.seai.ie/</a> , ensuring to read over documents available on the website before applying. Working with an expert is advisable.

## EXEED CERTIFIED GRANT

The EXEED grant, administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), supports businesses and organizations implementing energy-efficient practices. This grant targets **sustainable design, construction, and commissioning processes for new projects and upgrades to existing facilities**. It applies to any sector and project scale, from entirely new constructions to major renovations of existing buildings. Recipients of the EXEED grant can avail of a reduced energy costs while also gaining a reputational boost in terms of sustainability.

<b>Coverage</b>	New builds, major renovations, and upgrades to existing buildings
<b>Eligibility</b>	This scheme is open to all organisations planning an investment in an energy project.
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	In two stages: design stage and capital investment stage. Apply on <a href="https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/business-grants-and-supports/exeed-certified-grant/grant-application-form/">https://www.seai.ie/business-and-public-sector/business-grants-and-supports/exeed-certified-grant/grant-application-form/</a> Deadline is: January 1st up until 5pm on the 31 <sup>st</sup> of December 2024.

## SUPPORT SCHEME FOR ENERGY AUDITS

Energy audits is an important step for a business that aims to save money, energy and enhance their sustainability reputation. It is a three-step process which quantifies the energy usage, highlights the energy intensive equipment and recommends actions to take. The Support Scheme for Energy Audits (SSEA) offers SMEs a €2,000 **voucher towards conducting a high-quality energy audit**.

<b>Coverage</b>	€2,000 voucher for conducting an energy audit
<b>Eligibility</b>	Businesses applying to the scheme must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» non-obligated entities</li><li>» tax compliant</li><li>» registered in the Republic of Ireland</li><li>» spend at least €10,000 on energy (exclusive of transport energy costs) per year at the site being audited</li><li>» There is a limit of 1 audit voucher per Applicant/Company</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Application to the scheme is easy, with automatic approval for eligible businesses. After choosing an energy auditor, a form is completed online at <a href="https://mgen.seai.ie/">https://mgen.seai.ie/</a> .

## LEO ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT

The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) supports the energy efficiency of small enterprises employing less than 50 workers by **investing in technologies and equipment of enterprises** following on from a Green for Micro, GreenStart or a recent energy audit by SEAI. The financial grant is set to cover 50% of the eligible costs with a minimum of €1,000 and a maximum of €5,000.

<b>Coverage</b>	50% of eligible costs where 'eligible costs' are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Meters and installation costs</li><li>» Smart energy controls</li><li>» Upgrade lighting to LED</li><li>» Replacement/upgrade with more energy efficient system, e.g. Heat Pumps (including air, water, and ground source)</li><li>» Heat recovery</li><li>» Small wind &amp; hydro subject to feasibility assessment</li><li>» Equipment (&gt; 10 years) replacement/upgrade such as refrigeration unit, electric steam boiler, electric oven, engineering equipment</li><li>» System components upgrade</li></ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	LEO grant targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Small enterprises (&lt;50 employees)</li><li>» Must have undertaken a Green for Micro, GreenStart or recent energy audit by a SEAI registered energy auditor</li><li>» Enterprise should be established, registered, and operate within the area of the Local Enterprise Office.</li><li>» Turnover is in excess of €30,000 annually and the business is trading in excess of 6 months</li></ul>

<b>Funding Agency</b>	The Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
<b>Application</b>	Apply through completing an online form - <a href="https://leo.submit.com/show/24">https://leo.submit.com/show/24</a>

## GREENSTART

The GreenStart program by Enterprise Ireland is a grant designed to assist small and micro-businesses in the manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors. It offers funding to cover the cost of **hiring an approved environmental consultant for up to a 7-day in-house assignment**. This consultant will work with the business to identify and suggest best practices for sustainable operations, ultimately improving energy efficiencies of processes.

<b>Coverage</b>	Hiring an environmental consultant for a 7 day in-company assignment to introduce best practice sustainable systems and structures to the business. A maximum grant of €5,000 is available.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Businesses seeking to introduce environmental best practice systems to achieve cost and resource reduction.
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Enterprise Ireland
<b>Application</b>	With a development advisor on the <a href="#">linked portal</a> .

## GREENPLUS

GreenPlus by Enterprise Ireland caters to established SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) looking to take a leap in enhancing their sustainability. It offers a grant covering 50% of eligible project costs, with a maximum of €50,000. Eligible projects include hiring an external environmental service provider, external training courses and implementing environmental best practice within the company. This funding helps businesses **implement environmental best practices and build internal green expertise**. Projects typically last 12 months.

<b>Coverage</b>	50% of the project costs; a maximum grant value of €50,000. Grant covers the following projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Training to build environmental management capabilities</li> <li>» Implementing environmental best practice within the company</li> <li>» Hiring an external environmental service provider</li> <li>» External training courses</li> <li>» Licence costs for the use of e-learning digital content for the period of the project</li> <li>» Covering part of the salary cost for up to 10 staff members working as part of the green team.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	Enterprise Ireland clients seeking to increase environmental management and staff capabilities.
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Enterprise Ireland
<b>Application</b>	With a development advisor on the <a href="#">linked portal</a> .

## ENERGY MONITORING AND TRACKING SYSTEMS

The Enterprise Ireland Energy Monitoring and Tracking Systems (EM&T) grant, funded under the Enterprise Emissions Reduction Investment Fund, helps manufacturing businesses **install systems to monitor and track their energy use**. This grant aims to support companies to track and manage their carbon footprint while also identifying areas for improvement.

<b>Coverage</b>	Up to €50,000 to cover 50% of costs associated with hardware for new metering systems (e.g. electricity, gas, diesel, oil, water, steam, loggers), and reasonable installation and commissioning costs.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Companies eligible for support under the Enterprise Emissions Reduction Investment Fund: Capital investment for EM&T Systems, are manufacturing clients of Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland and Údarás na Gaeltachta, subject to the prevailing policies and eligibility criteria of those agencies. Eligible companies must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Have 10 or more full time employees in Ireland at the time of application</li><li>» Have been generating sales for at least 5 years</li></ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Enterprise Ireland
<b>Application</b>	With a development advisor on the <a href="#">linked portal</a> .

## INVESTMENT FOR DECARBONISATION PROCESSES

The Capital Investment for Decarbonisation Processes Grant, funded by Enterprise Ireland aims to reduce organisations' carbon footprints and enhance their manufacturing processes making them more sustainable. This grant provides financial assistance to companies for **investments in equipment and technologies** that specifically target reducing carbon emissions.

<b>Coverage</b>	Coverage includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Grant covers a portion of the eligible project costs, with a minimum of €20,000 and a maximum of €1 million per project.</li><li>» The specific grant amount awarded also depends on the efficiency of the carbon reduction achieved by the project.</li></ul>
<b>Eligibility</b>	Companies taking steps to decarbonise their manufacturing combustion processes.
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Enterprise Ireland
<b>Application</b>	With a development advisor on the <a href="#">linked portal</a> .

## BETTER ENERGY COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

The Better Energy Communities (BEC) grant is a nationwide program in Ireland that helps homeowners, communities, and some businesses upgrade their properties to be more energy efficient. Administered by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI), the program offers financial assistance for retrofits like **wall, roof, and floor insulation, energy-efficient windows and doors, heat pumps, and even renewable energy sources such as solar panels**.

<b>Coverage</b>	BEC grants can cover a significant portion of the project cost, with funding ranging from 30% for businesses to 80% for fuel-poor households. Minimum of €30,000 and a maximum of €1,000,000
<b>Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Cross-sector projects for increasing the energy performance of buildings, community facilities and transport systems</li> <li>» Residential housing upgrades to stock built prior to 2006</li> <li>» Private sector non-residential building works</li> <li>» Commercial organizations</li> <li>» Voluntary organizations</li> <li>» Community-based organizations</li> <li>» Public sector non-residential works</li> </ul>
<b>Funding Agency</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI)
<b>Application</b>	Application through online portal <a href="#">linked here</a>

## EUROPEAN LOCAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE

The European Local ENergy Assistance (ELENA) is a program funded by the European Investment Bank (EIB) that provides technical assistance to projects focusing on energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings and urban transport. It offers grants to cover up to 90% of eligible costs for activities like **feasibility studies, energy audits, business plan development, and project management**. ELENA targets larger projects with a total investment exceeding €30 million where they provide their aid in timeframe of 3-4 years.

<b>Coverage</b>	Energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings (residential and non-residential), public lighting, district heating, smart grids, and innovative urban transport.
<b>Eligibility</b>	Public corporations and Private sectors. In the private sector, ELENA targets private entities planning to develop and support eligible investments (associations, mixed public/private, banks etc.) or other private associations (social housing associations or homeowner associations).
<b>Funding Agency</b>	European Investment Bank (EIB)
<b>Application</b>	Contact <a href="mailto:elena@eib.org">elena@eib.org</a> and use the pre application form available on website.