

EmPOWER Maryland: Go Green and Get up to \$7,500 Cash Back!

If you live in Maryland, own a home that is over 25 years old, and are still using natural gas or electricity to power your home, DreamHome has an exciting offer for you.

Through the **EmPOWER Maryland** Energy Efficiency Act, we're able to help homeowners like you qualify for up to \$7,500 in government rebates. You're already paying into this fund every month—and have been for years—so work with us to claim the cash you deserve.

With DreamHome and EmPOWER Maryland, going green is a win-win for everyone!

What is EmPOWER Maryland?

Passed in 2009, EmPOWER Maryland is a law designed to reduce energy grid consumption and make the state more eco-friendly.

This legislation approved a flat fee to all consumers of Maryland utilities, taking that money and placing it into a general fund. (If you've never paid attention before, take a look at your next utilities bill. You'll see a fee of \$3–\$6 earmarked for EmPOWER Maryland.)

The general fund is then made available to Maryland homeowners in the form of a rebate.

How Do I Qualify for a Rebate?

Homeowners in Maryland can claim their rebate from EmPOWER Maryland by:

1. Having an energy audit performed by certified professionals (such as a BPI Building Analyst, BPI Energy Auditor, or BPI GoldStar Contractor).
2. Making approved home improvements to boost home energy efficiency.
3. Achieving a proven decrease in energy use of at least 15%.

What Home Improvements Do I Need to Make?

You must complete three different home improvements to qualify for a rebate:

1. Replace all incandescent lightbulbs with LED bulbs.
2. Make your home airtight through air sealing.
3. Add blown-in attic insulation of at least R-49.

Note that these home improvements must be completed *before* you can receive a rebate. An auditor must return to your home to prove at least a 15% decrease in energy before you'll be eligible for the rebate.

How High of a Rebate Will I Receive?

The total rebate amount you qualify for will be based on 20-year savings projections calculated during your energy audit. For example, if your home improvements are projected to save \$2,500 in energy consumption, you'll receive a rebate of \$2,500 on those improvements.

The maximum rebate is \$7,500 per home.

What Is DreamHome's Role in EmPOWER Maryland?

At DreamHome, we're excited to help homeowners in Maryland get the most out of the EmPOWER Maryland program. Here are the three main ways in which we can help you receive up to \$7,500 in rebates:

1. Certified Energy Audit

Our professionals are among the approved providers of energy audits for the EmPOWER Maryland program.

2. LED Lightbulbs and Power Strips for FREE

After your audit is complete, we'll also give you 14 LED bulbs (2700K Yellow Color). We'll install them right then and there so that you see an immediate impact on energy savings.

We'll also install an energy-saving power strip that automatically powers off when items are not in use. This piece of equipment alone has a value of more than \$100 and is offered completely free of charge.

3. Air Sealing and R-49 Attic Insulation

Before you can qualify for your EmPOWER Maryland rebate, you must complete the home improvements outlined by law. While DreamHome already provides 14 LED lightbulbs to get you started, we can also take care of the remaining two services:

- Air Sealing
- R-49 Insulation

Besides the obvious benefit of qualifying for the rebate, these enhancements are by far the most energy-saving changes you can make—adding both efficiency and value to your Maryland home.

Plus, by adding insulation and air sealing now, you'll be able to purchase a smaller furnace or AC replacement when the time comes, as the unit will no longer have to work as hard to heat or cool your air.

Still Have Questions About EmPOWER Maryland?

From energy audits to blown-in insulation, DreamHome can help you realize energy savings of up to 20%—*and* qualify you for thousands of dollars in EmPOWER Maryland rebates. If you have any questions about how the program works or how to get started, please contact us today.