

# Custom Incentive 2026 Pre-Approval Application



Energy  
Efficiency  
Program

Complete pages two through five in full. All fields are required unless otherwise noted. Include all required documentation listed below.

**Your business must be a current Nicor Gas customer to participate.**

## Once you are done:

Final applications must be postmarked within 30 days after project completion or by December 31, 2026, whichever comes first. Mail or email your signed pre-approval application and supporting documentation to:

**Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program**  
6260 E. Riverside Blvd PMB #151  
Loves Park, IL 61111  
[eeinfo@nicorgas.com](mailto:eeinfo@nicorgas.com)

## Need help?

Call us at 312.344.1569  
(Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or  
email [eeinfo@nicorgas.com](mailto:eeinfo@nicorgas.com)

## ► Project process

### 1. Complete and submit the pre-approval application

Submit a pre-approval application and all required documentation **before making any purchases** or starting any work on the project. Your outreach specialist can assist with this process. Visit [nicorgas.com/custom](https://nicorgas.com/custom) for their contact information.

### 2. Pre-installation inspection

Once the pre-approval application is submitted, our engineers will review and contact you to schedule a pre-installation site visit. You may invite your contractor for this visit as well.

### 3. Obtain pre-approval notice

After the site visit, if your project qualifies, you'll receive a pre-approval letter from us with the estimated incentive for your project.

### 4. Install your project

When you receive your pre-approval, alert your contractor that you can move forward with your purchase and start the installation of your project.

### 5. Complete project and submit the final application

Submit the final application, including all project invoices, after the project is completed.

### 6. Post-installation inspection

Our engineers will return to the site and complete the final approval site visit and calculations.

### 7. Obtain final approval notice and receive your incentive

Once your project is approved, you will be issued a final approval notice, and your incentive payment will be processed and mailed to you in 6-8 weeks.

## ► Documentation

### Required

- **Pre-approval application:** Verify that all fields on pages two through five are completed and that page five is signed by the applicant.
- **Cut sheet/manufacturer specification sheet:** Include a cut sheet or manufacturer specification sheet for all equipment being installed as part of the project.
- **Project proposal:** Provide your contractor's proposal for the project.

### Recommended

- **Projected energy savings:** Using industry-accepted engineering algorithms or simulation models, calculate the annual natural gas savings by estimating the annual natural gas usage of both the existing and proposed equipment based on the current operation of the facility. Include appropriate documentation of sources and any assumptions used in the calculations.
- **Additional backup data:** Provide any relevant energy data, drawings, trend logs or diagrams. Supplying this data with your application reduces review delays related to requests for additional documentation.

If you are unsure of your business type, please call **877.886.4239**.

\* Please see page six for additional information on this building type.

## ► Project and customer information

Nicor Gas account number

Please write the first 10 digits of your account number. Include any leading zeros, but do not include dashes.

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Account holder name (as it appears on Nicor Gas account)

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Business name (if different)

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Nicor Gas meter number (if known)

Nicor Gas rate class (e.g. Rate 4: Gen. Service)

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Installation address

City

State

ZIP code

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Additional information if applicable (school district, store number, etc.)

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Customer contact first/last name

Customer contact title

--	--

Phone number

Email address

--	--

Desired project start date

Expected project completion date

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☐ Project resulted from Nicor Gas assessment ☐ Fuel Switching

## ► Building type (select one)

### Multi-family

☐ High-rise (5 stories or more)

☐ Mid-rise (up to 4 stories)

☐ Assisted living

New equipment impacts:

☐ Common area

☐ In-unit

Unit number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Assembly (theater, hall, arena)

☐ Auto dealership

☐ Convenience

☐ Drug store

☐ Emergency services

☐ Garage

☐ Grocery

☐ Healthcare clinic

☐ Hospital (CAV, no economizer)\*

☐ Hospital (CAV, economizer)\*

☐ Hospital (VAV, economizer)\*

☐ Hospital (FCU)\*

☐ Hotel/Motel (guest room only)

☐ Hotel/Motel (common area only)

☐ Hotel/Motel (common area/guest room)

☐ Manufacturing facility

☐ Movie theater

☐ Office - high-rise (10+ floors, CAV, no economizer)\*

☐ Office - high-rise (10+ floors, CAV, economizer)\*

☐ Office - high-rise (10+ floors, VAV, economizer)\*

☐ Office - high-rise (10+ floors, FCU)\*

☐ Office - mid-rise (5-9 floors)

☐ Office - low-rise (up to 4 floors)

☐ Religious facility

☐ Restaurant

☐ Retail - department store

☐ Retail - strip mall

☐ School - college/university

☐ School - elementary

☐ School - high school/junior high

☐ Warehouse

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

General contractor can be any company managing the project. This may include a general contractor, engineering firm, architectural firm, distributor, manufacturer, rebate processor, ESCO, etc.

Installing or sub contractors are the ones who performed the work or service.

Describe the facility, including typical uses, products manufactured or services provided, business hours, main uses of natural gas, etc.

## ► General contractor information

General contractor business name

Contact first name	Contact last name		
Address		City	State ZIP code
Phone number		Email address	

## ► Installing/Subcontractor information

☐ Installed by facility staff<sup>1</sup>  
(if checked, provide your company information below)

Contractor business name (as it appears on invoice or receipt)

Contact first name	Contact last name		
Address		City	State ZIP code
Phone number		Email address	

<sup>1</sup>For self-installations, the account holder/customer is responsible for ensuring the qualifying product(s) are installed according to all applicable building, local and state codes and manufacturer specifications. Nicor Gas does not assume any responsibility for the quality or safety of any installation.

## ► Project questionnaire

Facility description (size, sq. ft., etc.,)

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### Baseline summary

Describe the existing equipment or systems that the proposed project will impact. It will increase the speed and accuracy of the pre-approval review if you include the following, if relevant to your potential project:

- Equipment information (manufacturer, model, energy efficiency rating, size, etc.)
- Equipment use (process, space heating)
- Operating hours of equipment and facility
- Other information that will help us to understand current energy use

Is the existing equipment operational?

☐ Yes  
☐ No

If yes, what is its remaining useful life expectancy?

years

### Project description

Describe the proposed project and how it will provide energy efficiency gains beyond the baseline.

Please contact the program for assistance at **312.344.1569**.

Do not include internal labor in project cost. All costs should be calculated prior to applying for any incentives.

Maximum project incentive: For CHP projects, \$500,000 or 35% of the project cost, whichever is less. For all other applications, \$350,000 per project or 35% of the total project cost, whichever is less

Maximum total incentive per site: \$350,000 per year, \$500,000 for CHP projects

Minimum project payback: 1 year (before incentive is applied)

## Gas savings calculation methodology

If you or your contractor are able to, please provide an overview of calculations and methodology used to generate gas savings calculations. Submit actual calculations in electronic format with complete application. *Technical support with gas savings calculations is available upon request.*

☐ Need Assistance

Technical contact first/last name	Technical contact title
Phone number	Email address

## ► Incentive calculator

### Find your incentive tier

Under your business type, select the estimated annual therm savings based on this project.

#### Business and Public Sector

- ☐ <15,000 therms saved/year = \$0.60 per therm saved
- ☐ ≥ 15,000 therms saved/year = \$0.80 per therm saved
- ☐ Gas heat pump projects - \$4 per therm saved
- ☐ RCx projects - \$0.10 per therm saved
- ☐ CHP projects - \$1 per therm saved, up to \$500,000

#### Multi-family (3 units or more)

- ☐ <7,500 therms saved/year = \$0.60 per therm saved
- ☐ ≥ 7,500 therms saved/year = \$0.80 per therm saved

#### Small business

- ☐ <7,500 therms saved/year = \$0.60 per therm saved
- ☐ ≥ 7,500 therms saved/year = \$0.80 per therm saved

## Calculate your total incentive

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \text{Estimated annual gas savings} & = & \text{therms} \\ \times & & \text{Incentive tier} \\ & & \text{Incentive rates listed} \\ & = & \$ \end{array}$$

Total incentive

## Calculate your total proposed project cost

(Do not subtract incentive amount, as that will impact incentive cap)

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \$ & & \\ & = & \end{array}$$

Total proposed project cost

## ► Influence questionnaire

Please select any and all of the following options that describe how Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program services and the requested incentive would provide assistance in regards to the project implementation.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Requested incentive would reduce project payback period to acceptable range.  | <input type="checkbox"/> The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program has or will provide technical support with identifying opportunities and potential projects. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program and requested incentive will generate interest or support from company decision makers.     | <input type="checkbox"/> The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program will provide administrative support with completing application.                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Requested incentive is a defining variable for project planning and inception.  | <input type="checkbox"/> The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program would assist with coordination between project team members.                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program's review of energy savings calculations has or will create confidence in savings estimates. |   |

Please elaborate on why the project would not be able to be completed without the requested incentive from the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program (e.g., payback period without the incentive is too high and project would not be approved).

## ► Account holder signature

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions on the following pages. I certify that the information I have provided in this application and attachment(s) is true and correct, and request consideration for participation in the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program. I certify that I have the authority to submit this application on behalf of the account holder/installation site noted above. I consent to sharing this project data with my contractor.

Account holder name (print)	Account holder title
Email address	Phone number
Account holder signature	Date

- ☐ Provide a copy of the pre-approval to the contractors identified on the application.

# Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program rebate terms and conditions

These Standard Terms and Conditions for Participating Customers and the Customer Participation Agreement (collectively, the "Agreement") are made and entered into by and between CLEAResult Consulting Inc., a Texas corporation and/or an affiliate thereof ("CLEAResult"), and Customer for the purpose of evaluating and installing energy efficient measures ("EEM") funded by Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program ("Program"). CLEAResult and Customer may be referred to in this Agreement individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties." In consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth below, the Parties hereby agree to the following:

## Program effective dates

- Program energy efficiency incentives are offered until approved funds are exhausted or through December 31, 2026, whichever comes first. The effective dates of the Program and application submittal requirements are as follows:
- Decisions to acquire and install energy efficiency measures must be made after January 1, 2026 in order to be eligible. Any energy-efficient equipment or services purchased or installed, contracted for, or work conducted prior to January 1, 2026, without a Pre-Approval Notice, are not eligible for an incentive.
- Installation of pre-approved projects should be completed by December 31, 2026 and final documentation must be received by the Program no later than December 31, 2026, or within 30 days of installation completion, whichever comes first.

## Program and project eligibility

- Program incentives are available under the Program to active non-residential customers on all rate classes, including customers purchasing natural gas from a third-party broker. The energy savings from installed measures must occur on a meter with an eligible rate schedule.
- Program determines eligibility of Customers at its sole discretion. CLEAResult may request verification of eligibility requirements at any time during the Program period. Custom projects must involve improvements to existing systems or processes that result in a permanent reduction in natural gas energy usage. Projects that result in reduced energy consumption without an improvement in system efficiency are not eligible for a custom incentive (i.e.: equipment removal or behavioral). However, projects that involve an automated control technology, such as energy management system programming, may be eligible for an incentive. Any measures installed at a facility must provide 100 percent of the energy benefits as stated in the application for a minimum period of five years or for the life of the product. If the Customer ceases to be a delivery service customer of Nicor Gas or removes the equipment or systems at any time during the five year period, or the life of the product, the Customer may be required to return a prorated amount of incentive funds to Nicor Gas.
- All projects must obtain Program approval prior to advancing the project. Any action taken prior to receiving written notification of Program pre-approval that alters the existing system operations or baseline conditions will void incentive eligibility.
- Projects that are NOT eligible for an incentive include the following:
  - Projects that involve peak-shifting (and not therm savings)
  - Renewable energy projects
  - Any project or equipment eligible for rebates or incentives under any other Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program offering

## Incentive payment limits

- Payments made to contractors, business customers or landlords may be taxable under federal and state tax codes. If payments total more than \$2,000 per calendar year, they will be reported to the Internal Revenue Service. Nicor Gas is not responsible for providing advice regarding any taxes that may be imposed as a result of participation in the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program. Participants should consult a tax accountant or advisor regarding potential tax liability. Nicor Gas is not responsible for any taxes that may be imposed on your business as a result of these payments.
- Incentive payment amounts are based on the final project gas savings approved by the Program review process, and according to the appropriate incentive rate (noted below). The total incentive paid cannot exceed 35 percent of the total project cost or \$350,000 per project, whichever is less, with the exception of CHP project caps, which are \$500,000 per project. Contractor labor costs can be considered in project cost, but internal customer labor costs cannot.
- To receive a rebate, you must not have received/will not receive a rebate for the same equipment, product or service from more than one Illinois investor-owned utility or third-party energy efficiency program offering rebates or financing funded with ratepayer funds.
- Funds are limited and applications are processed on a first-come, first-serve basis. Program is subject to change and may end without prior notice.
- Program year incentive limits per facility for custom incentives are shown on page 4. A facility is defined as contiguous property for which a single customer is responsible for paying the Nicor Gas natural gas bill. Customers may receive up to \$350,000 per year - \$500,000 for CHP - (January 1 through December 31, annually), per facility.
- Please note: For replacement measures, the incremental measure cost is defined as the cost to purchase and install the energy-efficient equipment minus the cost to purchase and install similar equipment that would meet federal and local energy standards (but not qualify for an incentive under this Program). For retrofit measures, the incremental measure cost is simply the cost to purchase and install the qualifying measures.

## Confidentiality

- CLEAResult shall keep Customer non-public information confidential. Only Program and the state regulatory body (PUC) shall be granted access to Customer data as needed or required. CLEAResult will not use the name or identifying characteristics of Customer in advertising sales promotion or other publicity without Customer's written approval.
- Customer agrees not to use the name or identifying characteristics of Program or its contractors for any advertising, sales promotion, or other publicity of any kind.

## Pre-approval application

- Pre-approval of the project is required for incentive eligibility and must be obtained by the applicant within the Program period (January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026). Any action taken prior to receiving written notification of Program pre-approval will void project incentive eligibility. The Program reserves the right to request additional supporting documentation if necessary to ensure measure eligibility and verify existing system performance and baseline conditions. Pre-approval applications must be complete before Program review and project evaluation will occur, and are reviewed in the order in which complete applications are received.
- Customer-provided documentation included with the application forms the basis for estimating potential gas savings, measure eligibility and estimated incentive. Incentive funds are reserved when the Program determines that a project meets the Program eligibility requirements. Applicants will be notified of approval status, at which time the project can begin. The applicant will be informed of any deficiencies resulting in project ineligibility, and will be given the opportunity to correct deficiencies if appropriate. Submission of a pre-approval application grants the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program access to the Customer's Nicor Gas account information.
- Program pre-approval of a project does not guarantee Program acceptance of the final project installation or incentive values included in the pre-approval application.

## Final application

- The final application must be submitted within 30 days of project completion and is the applicant's method of notifying the Program of project completion. Final applications and all required supporting documentation should be received by December 31, 2026 to be applicable for the 2026 Program year.
- Examples of required documentation include, but are not limited to: dated invoices/receipts for the purchase and installation of equipment; product specification sheets, proof that the equipment is operating; manufacturer specifications and warranty information. The location or business name on the invoice must match the application information. The project invoice should provide sufficient detail to separate the project cost from the cost of other services such as repairs and building code compliance. All questions regarding final application documentation requirements should be directed to the Program implementer contact. The Program reserves the right to request additional supporting documentation as deemed necessary, both prior to final project approval and after installation is completed, to ensure measure eligibility and verify that the expected energy savings will occur. Supporting documentation may include production data needed to calculate energy savings. All Customer non-public information will be held in confidence except to the extent provided to Nicor Gas or the regulatory commission ("PUC") as required to implement the Program.

## Inspections

- Customer agrees to support CLEAResult and assign a representative to facilitate services provided under this Agreement. Customer agrees to allow CLEAResult to access its facilities, energy use and cost information for the purposes of implementing this Agreement.
- The Customer must allow access to project documents and the facility where the measures were installed at all reasonable times and for a period of five years after receipt of incentive.
- The Program requires inspection of all projects to verify compliance with the Program rules and the accuracy of project documentation. This will include, but will not be limited to, pre-installation inspections prior to granting project pre-approval status, as well as post-installation inspections prior to final determination and payment of incentives. Site inspections may include metering, site or operating data collection, deployment of system monitoring equipment, photographic documentation of equipment, site occupant interviews and utility bill analysis.

## Requirements for Program savings

- Any customer receiving a Program incentive may be contacted by a third-party evaluator to verify service/equipment installation or be asked to complete a participant survey. As a part of this process, Program participants and trade allies agree to participate in required on-site verification and survey activities. The annual natural gas savings must be calculated for projects using industry-accepted engineering algorithms or simulation models, with appropriate documentation of sources included in the pre-approval and final applications. The applicant must estimate the annual natural gas usage of both the existing and proposed equipment based on the current operation of the facility. If the existing equipment is at the end of its useful life, the applicant must substitute equipment that would meet the applicable federal and local energy codes when calculating the baseline for determining annual energy savings. The applicant must be able to clearly describe the method used to calculate the savings. The applicant must provide all assumptions used in the calculations and document the source for these assumptions.
- The method and assumptions used by the applicant to calculate the annual savings will be reviewed by the Program, which is solely responsible for the final determination of the annual energy savings to be used in calculating the incentive amount. The Program also reserves the right to require the applicant to conduct specific measurement and verification activities, including monitoring both before and after the retrofit, and to base the incentive payment on the results of these activities.
- The applicant would be responsible for the costs of these activities. However, in certain cases, the Program may provide an additional incentive of up to 10 percent of the final incentive amount to subsidize these costs.

# Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program rebate terms and conditions

## No warranty

CLEAResult, NICOR GAS AND THE PUC MAKE NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES, AND ASSUME NO LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO QUALITY, SAFETY, PERFORMANCE, ENERGY SAVINGS, OR OTHER ASPECT OF ANY EEM INSTALLED PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY SUCH REPRESENTATION, WARRANTY OR LIABILITY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to create any duty to, any standard of care with reference to, or any liability to any third party. Neither the PUC, Nicor Gas, nor CLEAResult shall be responsible for costs or corrections of conditions already existing in the facilities inspected which fail to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

## Indemnification; Limit on liability

TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, CUSTOMER AGREES TO INDEMNIFY THE PUC, NICOR GAS, AND CLEAResult AGAINST ALL LOSS, DAMAGES, COSTS AND LIABILITY ARISING FROM ANY CLAIMS RELATED TO ANY PRODUCTS INSTALLED OR SERVICES PERFORMED DURING THE INSTALLATION OR MAINTENANCE OF EEM. NEITHER THE PUC, NICOR GAS, CLEAResult, NOR CUSTOMER SHALL BE LIABLE TO EACH OTHER FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RELATED TO THIS AGREEMENT.

## Miscellaneous

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of Illinois, without regard to conflict of law rules. The Parties agree that all actions, disputes, claims and controversies arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the work performed hereunder will be subject to binding arbitration administered in the county where the Customer is located by the American Arbitration Association under its Commercial Arbitration Rules and judgment on the award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. Customer shall not assign, delegate or subcontract this Agreement or its duties thereunder, in whole or in part, voluntarily or involuntarily (including a transfer to a receiver or bankruptcy estate) without the prior written permission of CLEAResult. CLEAResult may assign its rights and delegate its duties under this Agreement to any third party at any time without Customer's consent. If any provision of this Agreement is invalid or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, the other provisions in this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect in such jurisdiction and shall be liberally construed in order to effectuate the purpose and intent of this Agreement. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement in any jurisdiction shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any such provision in any other jurisdiction. The failure of either Party to enforce strict performance by the other of any provision of this Agreement, or to exercise any right available to the Party under this Agreement, shall not be construed as a waiver of such Party's right to enforce strict performance in the same or any other instance. Specifications on access, participation, eligibility, no warranty and indemnification; limit on liability shall survive the term of this Agreement.

Customers as outlined in Section 8-104(m) of the Illinois Public Utilities Act are ineligible to participate in Nicor Gas energy efficiency offerings. More specifically, those customers are described as customers that have a North American Industry Classification System code number that is 22111 or any such code number beginning with the digits 31, 32, or 33 and (i) annual usage in the aggregate of four million therms or more within the Nicor Gas territory or with aggregate usage of eight million therms or more in Illinois; or (ii) using natural gas as feedstock and meeting the usage requirements described in item (i) of subsection (m), to the extent such annual feedstock usage is greater than 60% of the customer's total annual usage of natural gas.