

Scam Alert – Solar Offer Scam

Australians are being warned to be wary of scammers offering bogus government rebates for the installation of solar panels.

How the scam works

- You may receive an unexpected phone call, email or house visit from somebody offering either free solar panels or a government rebate/grant on solar panels after payment of an upfront fee.
- Scammers may pose as government representatives or mention government affiliation or programs.
- The scammer may ask for your bank account details or request a fee payment prior to the rebate/grant being processed.
- In some instances the scammer may offer free solar panels in exchange for placing advertising signs on your property. They will request an upfront fee and claim to repay the money over the duration of the advertising.
- The scammer may pressure you into making a hurried decision claiming that the false grants or rebate schemes are due to close soon.

Protect yourself

- Australian Government departments will never phone or email you asking you to pay upfront amounts in order to claim a rebate.
- Never confirm or provide personal information over the phone or email unless you have initiated the contact and trust the other party. If in doubt, verify who they are by finding the agency or company's contact details from an independent source and contact them directly.
- If you think you have provided your account details to a scammer or believe that you are the victim of a scam, report the matter to MyState Financial on 138 001 as soon as possible.

More Information

[Find out more](#) and read MyState Financials information regarding Card Security.

Further information about electronic banking security is available from the following external sites

- [SCAMwatch](#)
SCAMwatch is a website run by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). The aim of SCAMwatch is to provide information to consumers and small business about how to recognise, avoid and report scams.
- [Australian Securities and Investments Commission \(ASIC\)](#)
View ASIC's 'Consumer Alert 10 tips for safer electronic banking and protecting yourself under the EFT Code'
- [Stay Smart Online](#)
An Australian Government Initiative.