

0% business loans from the Carbon Trust



Unsecured interest free loans

The Carbon Trust's 0% loans are designed to reduce carbon emissions by enabling businesses to overcome the capital barrier of purchasing energy saving equipment. Loans are interest free, provided on an unsecured basis and you can borrow a sum flexible to your business needs of between £3,000 to £400,000. Repayments are offered on a 12 to 48 month basis.

Examples of eligible energy saving equipment purchases include replacement lighting, warm air heaters, air compressors and boilers.

Loan applications and the amount of loan to be offered, are assessed on the expected energy savings.

A loan that pays for itself

Loan repayments are calculated to be offset by your monthly energy savings. A Carbon Trust loan is actually designed to pay for itself, and save you money year after year.

A Government-backed scheme

The Carbon Trust is an independent, not for profit company set up by the Government to work with UK business and the public sector to cut carbon emissions through practical advice and support. Our interest free loan scheme is one important way in which we are supporting investment in energy efficiency to reduce carbon emissions.

What companies are eligible?

Small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can borrow from £3,000 to £400,000.

SMEs are defined as companies with fewer than 250 full time employees and with less than €50 million in turnover (approximately £43m) or less than €43 million in assets (approximately £37m).

In addition, larger businesses that do not qualify for participation in the Carbon Reduction Commitment are eligible for a loan. As a guideline, this typically includes

businesses with an annual electricity spend of less than £500,000.

In Northern Ireland and Wales all enterprises could borrow from £3,000 to £400,000.

All enterprises need to have been trading for at least 12 months.

State Aid Restrictions

Companies operating in primary agricultural, fisheries and aquacultural, transport, coal or export-related activities are not currently eligible.

How much can you borrow and for how long?

The value of the loan offered will depend on the amount and type of energy saved. Different energy sources release different amounts of CO₂ into the atmosphere as they are consumed (this is called the CO₂ intensity). The CO₂ intensity affects the value of the loan that the Carbon Trust will offer. To help you work out how much you could borrow, you can use our online loan calculator at:

www.carbontrust.co.uk/loancalculator

The Carbon Trust will assess and verify the amount of CO₂ that will be saved as a result of investing in the energy saving equipment. We will use the verified CO₂ saving to quantify the size of loan we are able to offer, as well as the payback period for the loan.

The minimum loan value is £3,000 and the maximum loan value is £400,000.

What energy saving equipment is eligible?

Loans are offered on the basis of on-site CO₂ savings, and any equipment that saves enough energy will be considered.

The types of projects that can be funded include the installation of replacement lighting, boilers, or larger-scale refurbishments of steam generating plant. Each application is individually assessed on the basis of its energy savings and the technology involved.

So what's the catch?

There really isn't one. Our loans are simply designed to make it easier for you to invest in energy saving equipment. You should receive an unconditional loan offer within 10 working days of submitting your application.

Taking out a loan will help you:

- Overcome the capital cost barrier.
- Make your business more profitable.
- Benefit the environment by reducing your business's CO₂ emissions.

Specify your equipment and supplier

When you apply for a loan we will ask for details of your existing equipment, proposed replacement and supplier, including quotations from your supplier on headed paper.

Choosing your equipment:

If you would like some impartial advice call us free on **0800 917 3030**. We will arrange a free telephone consultation with a technical specialist who will talk through ideas with you. If your energy bills are over £50,000 a year, you may also qualify for a free on-site survey from the Carbon Trust, to help you assess energy saving opportunities in your business.

Choosing a supplier:

For help finding a supplier, visit www.carbontrust.co.uk/loans where you will find links to useful

websites. The Energy Technology List at www.eca.gov.uk/etl lists suppliers whose equipment may qualify for the Enhanced Capital Allowance Scheme.

Apply online – it's simple and straightforward

To apply for an interest free Energy-Efficiency Loan visit www.carbontrust.co.uk/loans where you'll find further information on the loans scheme and how to apply, and can then complete our online application form.

The following information is required to apply:

- Your company details.
- Full details of your proposed energy saving equipment purchase(s).
- Estimated energy savings.
- Quotation(s) from your chosen equipment supplier(s). (please remember the application for a loan must be made prior to equipment being installed or a firm order being placed).

The online application process allows us to determine your company status, undertake a commercial credit check and establish your business' estimated energy savings. Based on the information you provide we will normally be able to make a conditional loan offer to you by return email.

Once we have made a conditional loan offer, a technical consultant will telephone you to verify the equipment details and then conduct an energy saving assessment. You should then receive an unconditional offer within 10 working days.

Any questions?
Call our Advice Line on
0800 917 3030

The Carbon Trust was set up by Government in 2001 as an independent company.

The Carbon Trust's mission is to accelerate the move to a low carbon economy, by working with organisations to reduce carbon emissions now and develop commercial low carbon technologies for the future.

We cut carbon emissions now

- By providing business and the public sector with expert advice, finance and accreditation.
- By stimulating demand for low carbon products and services.

We cut future carbon emissions

- By developing new low carbon technologies through project funding and management, investment and collaboration.
- By identifying market barriers and practical ways to overcome them.

The Carbon Trust is funded by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR), the Scottish Government, the Welsh Assembly Government and Invest Northern Ireland.

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