



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(712) 890-5350

To: Potential Users of Solar Equipment in Council Bluffs, Iowa
From: Brandon Garrett, Director, Community Development
Date: June 1, 2021
Re: Solar Permitting Fees

The City of Council Bluffs encourages the continued development of solar in our community. We are committed to keeping solar permitting fees at a minimum to cover staff costs in administering the permitting program. If you are considering a residential solar project, this memo explains the fee breakdown for solar permits.

From Council Bluffs Municipal Code 13.16.120 Electrical Code Permit Fees:

- For the issuance of each electrical permit \$23.50
plus
- For services of 600 volts or less and not over 200 amperes in rating, each charge \$30.50
plus
- Power Apparatus, cost per kilowatt
 - Up to and including 1 kW, each \$4.75
 - Over 1 and not over 10 kW, each \$12.30
 - Over 10 and not over 50 kW, each \$24.60
 - Over 50 and not over 100 kW, each \$49.50
 - Over 100 kW, each \$74.50*plus*

From Council Bluffs Municipal Code 13.08.100 Building Permit Fees:

- Total valuations 2,001.00—25,000.00 69.25 for the first 2,000.00 plus 14.00 for each additional 1,000.00 or fraction thereof, to and including 25,000.00

See example calculations on next page.



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Example #1 =

A 7 kW rooftop system will be charged a total permit fee of \$489.35.

The electrical permit fee is calculated as \$23.50 for the permit issuance, plus \$30.50 for services of 600 volts or less and not over 200 amperes in rating, plus the power apparatus fee of \$86.10. The power apparatus fee was calculated by taking the total number of kilowatts (7) x \$12.30. Added together the total amount due for the issuance of the electrical permit is \$140.10.

The building permit fee is based on valuation of the project. If the up-front cost of the 7 kW rooftop system is \$21,859, the building permit fee is \$349.25.

Example #2 =

A 4.5 kW rooftop system will be charged a total permit fee of \$360.60.

The electrical permit fee is calculated as \$23.50 for the permit issuance, plus \$30.50 for services of 600 volts or less and not over 200 amperes in rating, plus the power apparatus fee of \$55.35. The power apparatus fee was calculated by taking the total number of kilowatts (4.5) x \$12.30. Added together the total amount due for the issuance of the electrical permit is \$109.35.

The building permit fee is based on valuation of the project. If the up-front cost of the 4.5 kW rooftop system is \$14,609, the building permit fee is \$251.25.

The City of Council Bluffs Building Permits and Inspections Fee schedule can be viewed at:

<https://www.councilbluffs-ia.gov/2278>