

Statewide Solar for All

Frequently Asked Questions

Version 1.0, Released March 2025

Version 1.0 of the Statewide Solar for All (S-SFA) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document is intended to provide guidance to project developers who are considering enrolling projects in the S-SFA program. This FAQs document is in conjunction with the rules outlined in the [NY-Sun Program Manual](#). In the event of any discrepancies between the FAQs and the Program Manual, the Program Manual is the controlling document. The FAQs may be updated periodically.

General Program Questions

#	Question	Answer
1	Are the compensation levels for S-SFA locked in for 25 years?	Yes. The Compensation Level accepted by a project would remain with the project for 25 years, consistent with the VDER compensation term.
2	Can customers who want to own the system be part of S-SFA and get payments directly from the utility?	Only community distributed generation (CDG) projects can participate in S-SFA. Behind-the-meter and net metered projects are not eligible.
3	Can non-operational projects switch between tariffs without penalty?	Yes.
4	If a project opts in to S-SFA before the deadline of March 31, 2025, does the project need to wait for commercial operation until December 1, 2025 since that is when the credit distribution to customers begins?	No. When a project reaches commercial operation the utility will start to pay the project for its monthly generation via the net crediting mechanism. The utility will pool and disperse credits to customer in its low-income energy affordability program (EAP) starting on December 1, 2025.
5	After enrolling in S-SFA, does a project have to reach commercial operation within a certain time frame?	No.
6	How and when will the pooled credits be distributed to customers? Is it going to be monthly based on the value generated the month before? Or will they wait a year and distribute a fixed charge monthly based on the year of pooled credits (similar to the REACH program)?	Each utility will distribute a fixed credit each month to all participating customers, with the credit calculated based on the previous year's pooled credits.
7	Can projects with an Inclusive Community Solar Adder (ICSA) award not elect to participate in S-SFA at all after March 31, 2025?	The S-SFA election process for a project receiving the Community Adder, Community Credit, Market Transition Credit and/or the ICSA incentive is a one-time option that ends on March 31, 2025. Therefore, a project that was awarded an ICSA incentive (prior to March

		1, 2025) has until March 31, 2025 to opt into the S-SFA program, after which it must cancel its ICSA incentive. Past that date, the project cannot, as per the S-SFA Order and utility tariffs, enroll into S-SFA.
8	Is the S-SFA program separate from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Solar for All grant program? Does the federal funding freeze impact NYSERDA's ability to administer the S-SFA program?	They are two separate programs, the similar name is a coincidence. Recent federal actions do not impact the implementation of S-SFA.
9	Are S-SFA projects compliant with federal low-income Investment Tax Credit awards?	NYSERDA cannot give tax advice and recommends consulting with a tax professional or attorney regarding tax credit eligibility and any other tax-related questions. As described in the S-SFA Order and S-SFA Compensation Level Schedules, projects that receive allocations of Low Income Communities Bonus Tax Credit in Category 4 will have their compensation level adjusted to 76%, which is the equivalent to a customer bill credit discount of 23% (accounting for the 1% utility administrative charge).
10	Low Income Category 4 is different than Energy Communities. If we have Energy Communities projects, we're still at the 86% discount [or discount applicable to the utility territory in which the project is located]? Correct ?	Correct.

Incentive Questions

#	Question	Answer
1	Are standalone battery projects eligible for the S-SFA Adder?	No, only solar projects are eligible for the S-SFA Adder (including solar projects paired with battery storage).
2	Is an incentive available for S-SFA projects in the Con Edison region?	Yes. Con Edison projects enrolled in S-SFA are eligible to receive \$0.20/W if they meet all eligibility requirements.
3	Is this incentive available for a limited time or will it be available indefinitely?	The S-SFA Adder will be available until funding is exhausted. Available program capacity for the S-SFA Adder will be shown on a forthcoming real-time dashboard on the NY-Sun website .
4	Is the S-SFA Adder paid out to a given project entirely in Year 1 following commercial operation, or is it split across Years 1, 2, and 3?	The S-SFA Adder is fully paid out as part of the commercial operation payment.

5	What NY-Sun incentives can be stacked with the S-SFA Adder?	Projects enrolled in S-SFA are eligible for the Base MW block incentive, the Prevailing Wage Adder, the Landfill/brownfield adder, the Parking/rooftop canopy adder, and the Floating PV Adder. Projects enrolled in S-SFA are not eligible to receive the Community Adder, the Multifamily Affordable Housing Incentive, or the ICSA. Projects with the Community Adder or Multifamily Affordable Housing Incentive can enroll their project in S-SFA with the utility but are not eligible for the S-SFA Adder.
6	If a project has already been awarded the Community Adder, is it eligible to receive the \$0.07/W S-SFA Adder after opting into S-SFA?	No. Projects cannot receive both the Community Adder and the S-SFA Adder. Projects that already have the Community Adder can keep it and enroll in S-SFA with the utility.
7	Are S-SFA projects in the Con Edison region eligible to claim the ICSA incentive as well?	No. S-SFA projects cannot receive the ICSA, and ICSA projects cannot receive the S-SFA Adder. They are not stackable.
8	For projects that have NYSERDA MW Block 21 and the Prevailing Wage Adder, if we choose to add the S-SFA Adder, will we be able to drop it if we choose not to go forward with an S-SFA project at the time of commercial operation? And if so, Block 21 and Prevailing Wage will still remain if we drop S-SFA?	Yes, but we encourage projects to make a decision about whether or not they plan to participate in S-SFA before enrolling and seeking the S-SFA Adder to avoid administrative delays at commercial operation payment.
9	We know from the NY S-SFA Webinar that projects with ICSA awards can keep the fixed portion of those awards. One of the webinar slides provided an example of a project keeping its \$.07/W fixed incentive, which would be applicable to Upstate projects. Is that the same for Con Edison projects?	A project that has received an ICSA incentive can enroll in S-SFA, cancel the ICSA incentive, and receive the S-SFA Adder. The S-SFA Adder is equivalent to the fixed portion of the ICSA for both Upstate (\$.07/W) and Con Edison (\$.20/W) so this process does not change the total incentive a project in this situation would receive.

Application Process Questions

#	Question	Answer
1	How do we enroll in S-SFA with the utility?	Projects enroll in S-SFA directly with the interconnecting utility: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Con Edison’s application process is housed in their Value Stack Customer Portal, and registrants are provided links to the forms/contracts after logging in. • Central Hudson’s application process is housed in their Interconnection Online

		<p>Application Portal (IOAP). Developers can choose S-SFA as a drop down selection in IOAP after logging in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orange & Rockland’s application process is completed and uploaded to PowerClerk as part of the SIR/Interconnection process. Program enrollment and billing questions can be directed to: dl-O_RCDGBilling@coned.com. • National Grid has information about the program, including how to apply and the S-SFA Participation Agreement, on their S-SFA Knowledge page. • NYSEG/RG&E’s S-SFA documents are on their website at the bottom of the page under “Community Distributed Generation Documents.” Any questions can be directed to: nyseg.rge.ssf@nyseg.com.
2	<p>How do we apply for the S-SFA Adder with NYSERDA?</p>	<p>Projects that have already submitted a NY-Sun Commercial & Industrial program application can opt into the S-SFA Adder by notifying NYSERDA at commercial.industrialpv@nyserda.ny.gov. Included in that email should be utility documentation that the project has enrolled in S-SFA prior to March 31, 2025. Once the project is confirmed as enrolled in S-SFA, a new project application must be signed and uploaded into the NYSERDA Portal. Please note, projects that were previously awarded the ICSA or have a project application submitted, may receive the S-SFA Adder, but must cancel their ICSA award first. Contractors should include in their opt in email if their project has an ICSA award.</p> <p>New projects can apply for the S-SFA Adder during the NY-Sun Commercial & Industrial application process. Applicants can select the S-SFA Adder on the Site Address step of the application (Step 1 of 8).</p>