



NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY.

NY-Sun



Customer Guide to Solar in New York

NY-Sun Incentive Program

This guide provides residents, small businesses, and not-for-profit organizations connected to the grid with important information on how to participate in the NY-Sun Incentive Program.

NEW YORK'S COMPREHENSIVE SUITE OF SOLAR OFFERINGS ARE NOW UNDER ONE UNIFIED BANNER - NY-SUN.

NY-SUN INCENTIVE PROGRAM

offers incentives to residents and businesses to install solar electric.

COMMUNITY SOLAR NY and K-SOLAR

bring together communities and schools to realize the benefits of group purchasing and education.

NEW YORK'S UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT

streamlines the permitting and inspection processes.

BALANCE-OF-SYSTEM research and development projects reduce the overall cost of going solar.

NY-SUN.NY.GOV
1-866-NYSERDA

** Photovoltaic (PV) is another term used for a solar electric system.*

✓ Find a participating contractor to learn about installation options and requirements.

Only a NY-Sun participating contractor may apply for support through the program. Visit ny-sun.ny.gov/pv-contractor to view a list of participating contractors.

Questions to ask the participating contractor:

- Do you charge for a site survey?
- How long have you been participating in NYSERDA solar electric programs?
- Are you certified by the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) as a PV* Installation Professional, have you completed IBEW PV training, or are you certified by UL as a PV System Installer?
- How many systems have you completed through NYSERDA solar electric programs? How many in my town?
- What other approvals are required in my municipality?
- Do you provide production guarantees? What type of warranty terms do you provide?
- If my roof needs repairs in the future, what is the process to remove and replace the solar electric system?
- Do you offer any financing options?
- Can you provide me with two references from completed solar electric projects that you have installed?

✓ Inquire about financing options.

Your contractor may offer financing options. If not, NYSERDA offers low-interest loans for residential and small business customers. Your contractor can help you apply.

For residential customers (with existing homes of 4 units or less), Smart Energy Loans or On-Bill Recovery Loans are available for up to \$13,000, or up to \$25,000 with higher cost-effectiveness standards, and repayment periods of 5, 10, or 15 years. Smart Energy Loans are a more traditional loan that offers affordable interest rates and simple repayment options. On-Bill Recovery Loans provide the convenience of paying for energy improvements on your utility bill. Apply online or download an application at energyfinancesolutions.com

For small business and not-for-profit organizations, Participation Loans of up to \$100,000 at a below market interest rate and On-Bill Recovery loans of up to \$50,000 at 2.5% interest are available, with repayment periods of up to 10 years. To access financing, request that your contractor submit a Request for Financing Form to NYSERDA on your behalf. Customers whose solar electric projects have been approved for financing can then take the NYSERDA approval letter to a participating lender to apply for financing. Visit nyserdera.ny.gov/small-commercial-financing for more information.

✓ Check with your municipality and electric utility to learn more about the requirements for a solar electric system.

Discuss with your contractor who is responsible for obtaining and paying for any and all permits, inspections and approvals. These responsibilities should be addressed in a written agreement with your participating contractor.

✓ Complete a project application.

After selecting a participating contractor, they will provide you with the following documents:

Customer Purchase/Lease Agreement. The agreement is between you and the contractor for the installation of a qualified solar electric system. This agreement should include details such as system costs, installation and payment schedules, responsibilities related to all permitting, interconnection, and other required approvals. The agreement should clearly identify what the contractor will provide with respect to the installation and must clearly apply the full amount of the NY-Sun support toward the price of the system. Be aware that if the agreement is a lease or power purchase agreement (PPA), the agreement will include terms with respect to your ability to transfer or otherwise terminate the agreement should you wish to sell your home during the lease period. You may wish to consult an attorney before signing either a purchase or a lease/PPA.

Addendum. The addendum, which includes provisions designed to protect you, must be signed by you and the contractor. The eligibility of your solar electric system for payment support will depend on the contractor's adherence to the terms of the addendum.

Project Application. The contractor is responsible for submitting the project application package to NYSERDA. Consider asking your contractor for a copy of the package for your records.

✓ Receive notification.

The contractor will be notified directly of the approval or denial of each project application package. Notices of approval will specify the amount of the support and the timeframe within which the solar electric system must be installed.

Notices of denial will detail deficiencies in the application, allowing you and your contractor to make corrections and re-submit the application. Contractors who proceed with construction prior to submittal of a project to NYSERDA do so at their own financial risk. It is the responsibility of the contractor to notify their customer of the status of their project application.

NYSERDA does not notify customers. **All projects must be completed within 210 days from the date of NYSERDA approval.**

It is important that you, the customer, keep track of this deadline, to avoid cancellation of the financial support. Project extensions may be granted, upon written request, on a case-by-case basis, if there are legitimate and verifiable issues or delays related to new construction or equipment availability. Project extensions may be granted in 90-day increments. If the installation of your solar electric system is not progressing according to schedule, contact your contractor.

Visit **NY-SUN.NY.GOV** or call **1-866-NYSERDA** to learn more about the NY-Sun Incentive Program and how NY-Sun is significantly expanding the growth of solar energy across all sectors in New York State.

NY-Sun, a dynamic public-private partnership, will drive growth in the solar industry and make solar technology more affordable for all New Yorkers. NY-Sun brings together and expands existing programs administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), PSEG Long Island, and the New York Power Authority (NYPA), to ensure a coordinated, well-supported solar energy expansion plan and a transition to a sustainable, self-sufficient solar industry.

