CleanEnergy States Alliance

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A Directory of State Clean Energy Programs and Policies for Low- and Moderate-Income Residents

CleanEnergy States Alliance

Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) and Low- and Moderate-Income Clean Energy Programs and Policies

As distributed renewable energy is more widely adopted, many states are working to ensure that households with low and moderate incomes can benefit from solar, wind, energy storage, and other clean energy technologies. These technologies can offer communities both economic savings and health benefits, as well as serve as a driver for local economic development. CESA works to share information with its members about state programs and policies that benefit low- and moderate-income individuals and communities. Learn more at www.cesa.org/projects/low-income-clean-energy.

About this Guide

This directory, which surveys state clean energy programs and policies for low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents, was originally published in 2015. Since its original publication, new state clean energy programs and policies for LMI residents have emerged. Other programs have evolved or lapsed. CESA has periodically updated this directory to capture these changes. The directory is not intended to be a comprehensive guide to all state LMI clean energy programs, but to offer a broad sample of relevant programs.

The directory was prepared by CESA and written by Diana Chace, Justin Cooper, Nate Hausman, Warren Leon, Harsharon Sekhon, Georgena Terry, and Jack Wadleigh. Suggested changes or additional information about state programs and policies for LMI residents that should be included in this directory can be submitted to Diana Chace, CESA project director, at Diana@cleanegroup.org.

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State Clean Energy Programs and Policies for Low- and Moderate-Income Residents

Introduction

This summary document surveys current and planned state clean energy programs and policies for low- and moderate-income (LMI) residents. Lapsed programs are occasionally included where their existence served an important role in the evolution of a state's programmatic offerings. This directory focuses primarily on clean energy generation activities, but also covers energy efficiency programs that include clean energy technologies. It does not include federally-funded low-income weatherization programs.

Non-state actors, including private clean energy companies or cities, may operate clean energy programs focused on LMI residents. This guide does not cover those programs, unless the programs are funded or administered by a state entity.

Many states are developing LMI clean energy programs, and the landscape of programs is evolving rapidly. This guide does not attempt to capture every relevant program. Some types of programs that can enable LMI residents to benefit from solar, including commercial property assessed clean energy (C-PACE) and community solar, have been widely implemented across states. Such programs may benefit LMI residents, but their scope is often broader. As a result, this guide does not attempt to describe all state C-PACE and community solar programs. Instead, it includes only state programs that specifically include strategies for enabling clean energy for LMI residents.

Table 1, at the end of this report, provides a summary of the programs that are included in the directory.

Alaska

Alaska is focused on reducing energy costs for isolated communities that will not be connected to a North Slope natural gas pipeline. Many of these communities include a high percentage of LMI households.

Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy

Legislation in 2014 related to natural gas development required the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) to develop the Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy. The legislation specifically directed AEA "to prepare a plan to develop infrastructure that will deliver affordable energy to communities that will not have direct access to a North Slope natural gas pipeline" and "to identify the most cost effective means of generating, delivering, receiving, and storing energy for the targeted communities." AEA submitted a strategy report, the *Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy: A Framework for Consumer Energy Sustainability Outside of the Railbelt*, to the legislature on December 30, 2016. The report includes recommendations for policy, financing mechanisms, strengthened regulation and other administrative tools.

Additional Information

- The AEA has a page dedicated to the Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy, which includes a detailed report: www.akenergyauthority.org/Policy-Planning/AlaskaAffordableEnergyStrategy

California

The California Solar Initiative (CSI) is the solar rebate program for customers of California's investor-owned utilities. Legislation in 2006 required the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to "ensure that not less than 10 percent of the funds for the California Solar Initiative are utilized for the installation of solar energy systems on low-income residential housing." This led to the development of the Single-Family Affordable Solar Housing Program (SASH) and the Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing Program (MASH). Both the SASH and MASH program were scheduled to expire in 2015, but legislation enacted in 2013 added $108 million in new funding to extend the programs to "operate to Dec. 31, 2021 or when all funds available from the program's incentive budget has been encumbered, whichever occurs first." More recently, California has created the Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) program and other programs specifically to benefit residents of disadvantaged communities.

Single-Family Affordable Solar Housing Program

The overall goal of the Single-Family Affordable Solar Housing (SASH) program is "to provide existing low-income single-family homes with access to photovoltaic systems to decrease electricity usage and bills without increasing monthly household expenses." The program, which began in 2007, offers subsidized PV systems to LMI households (below 80 percent of the area median income). An incentive of $3.00/Watt is provided.

Participants must be in the service territory of Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE), or San Diego Gas and Electric (SGD&E). The residence must be code compliant and occupied by the homeowner/applicant. In addition to installing PV systems, SASH helps enroll LMI homeowners in the utilities'

Energy Savings Assistance programs and trains volunteers. GRID Alternatives, a non-profit solar contractor, is the statewide manager for the SASH program. As of July 2018, 7,703 PV systems had been completed through the SASH program, 166 were awaiting installation or interconnection, and 277 applications were under review. SASH is expected to continue operating through the program's statutory end-date of 2021.

Additional Information

- A page on the CPUC website includes an overview and links to various SASH program documents, including the July 2018 edition of the SASH Semi-Annual Progress Report, at www.cpuc.ca.gov/general.aspx?id=3043

Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing Program

The Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing (MASH) program began in 2008 with several goals, including stimulating "the adoption of solar power in the affordable housing sector" and decreasing "electricity use and costs without increasing monthly household expenses for affordable housing building occupants." When the program was re-funded by legislation in 2013, MASH was given three new public policy goals. The goals of the second round of MASH funding are: "maximize the overall benefit to ratepayers, require participants who receive monetary incentives to enroll in the Energy Savings assistance program, and provide job training and employment opportunities in the solar energy and energy efficiency sectors of the economy."

MASH provides upfront, capacity-based incentives for solar installations. The first of two different incentive rates is $1.10/Watt for projects that offset common area load, non-virtual net-metering tenant load, or virtual net-metering tenant load that has less than 50 percent tenant benefit. A higher incentive of $1.80/Watt is offered for projects that are virtual net metered and provide more than 50 percent tenant benefit. MASH also requires installation contractors to hire "at least one student or graduate of a job training program with at least one full paid day (8-hour day) of work for each 10 kW (CEC-AC) of system size up to 50 kW." The program is administered by PG&E, SCE, and the Center for Sustainable Energy in the service territory of SDG&E.

The additional $50 million incentive budget authorized in 2013 for the extended MASH program is fully subscribed in all IOU service territories. However, if funding becomes available in an IOU territory due to project cancellations, the program could reopen to new applications.

Additional Information

- A page on the CPUC website includes an overview and links to various program documents, including several evaluation reports from 2011 and more recent progress reports: www.cpuc.ca.gov/general.aspx?id=3752
- A page with links to many CSI progress reports, including the July 2017 MASH Semi-Annual Progress Report, is at http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=3747

Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing Program (previously known as Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program)

In 2015, California enacted Assembly Bill 693, which directed the CPUC to create the program now known as Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH). The program seeks to install at least 300 MW of solar on

qualified properties by 2030. The goal of SOMAH is to make qualifying solar energy systems more accessible to low-income and disadvantaged communities.

During early stages of its development, SOMAH was known as the Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program (MAHSR).

The program plans to install solar panels on 210,000 affordable housing units in California. Properties must be multifamily residential buildings with at least five rental housing units and must be operated to provide deed-restricted low-income residential housing. One of two requirements must be met: either at least 80 percent of the households must have incomes at or below 60 percent of the area median income, or the property must be located in a CalEnviroScreen disadvantaged community. Additionally, the CPUC has established local hiring requirements to provide economic development benefits to disadvantaged communities. SOMAH will be funded at up to $100 million annually for 10 years. The funds will come from greenhouse gas auction proceeds.

The program is expected to launch in early 2019. SOMAH is administered by the SOMAH Program Administrator team under the auspices of the CPUC. The SOMAH Program Administrator is putting together an advisory council comprised largely of community advocate organizations to help assess program impact effectiveness and guide program changes.

Additional Information

- Assembly Bill No. 693 created the SOMAH (MAHSR) program: www.leginfo.ca.gov/pub/15-16/bill/asm/ab_0651-0700/ab_693_bill_20151008_chaptered.pdf
- The official program website is at www.calsomah.org

California Solar Initiative Thermal Program

The California Solar Initiative (CSI) Thermal Program offers incentives for the installation of solar hot water systems. Rebates are available to homeowners, landlords and business owners who install new solar water heating systems in the service territories of California's three main investor-owned electric utilities as well as those served by Southern California Gas Company. AB 797 requires that 50 percent of the total program budget be reserved for the installation of solar thermal systems in LMI residential housing or in buildings in disadvantaged communities. The program is designed so LMI households can qualify for higher rebates per thermal unit of natural gas displaced than households with higher incomes.

Additional Information

- The program website includes useful descriptions and detailed program statistics: www.csithermal.com

California Low-Income Weatherization Program

The California Low-Income Weatherization Program (LIWP) "helps property owners and their residents to lower utility costs, save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in large multifamily properties." The program is administered by the Association for Energy Affordability and is funded by the California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) with revenues from California's cap-and-trade program. By 2018, $192 million had been appropriated to CSD for the implementation of LIWP.

LIWP offers financial incentives, free property assessments, work scope development, contractor procurement, construction management assistance, and quality control. There are three categories of LIWP eligible upgrades: energy efficiency; solar photovoltaics; and solar thermal. To be eligible, participating properties must be located in a CalEnviroScreen disadvantaged community and install improvements that equate to at least 15 percent modeled energy savings above existing conditions, and the property owner must have access to supporting capital to finance the project.

Additional Information

- The program has published a one-page informational flyer with information about program offerings and incentives, eligibility, and five steps to participate: https://camultifamilyenergyefficiencydotorg.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/liwp-flyer_v-1-81.pdf
- The Department of Community Services and Development has a web page dedicated to the program: www.csd.ca.gov/liwp.aspx

California Community Solar Pilot Program

The Community Solar Pilot Program is a new program administered by California's CSD to provide solar energy benefits to LMI households. With program oversight and direction provided by the California Air Resources Board, CSD will provide up to $5 million in funding for two community solar projects for the purposes of making the benefits of solar energy more available to eligible LMI households, lowering residents' energy bills, and providing co-benefits to communities, including economic and workforce development. The two projects were selected in November 2018.

Additional Information

- Information about the Community Solar Pilot Program can be found on CSD's Low-Income Weatherization Program webpage: www.csd.ca.gov/liwp.aspx

Net Metering Program

Legislation passed by the California legislature in 2013 required the CPUC to develop a successor to the existing Net Energy Metering Tariff by the end of 2015. The legislation directed the CPUC to specifically address disadvantaged communities. In response to this directive, the CPUC created the Disadvantaged Communities - Single-family Solar Homes Program, the Disadvantaged Communities - Green Tariff Program, and the Community Solar Green Tariff Program. These three programs are summarized below.

Additional Information

- A CPUC order instituted Rulemaking to Develop a Successor to Existing Net Energy Metering Tariffs is at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Efile/G000/M152/K410/152410786.PDF

Disadvantaged Communities - Single-family Solar Homes Program

Modeled after the existing Single-family Affordable Solar Homes (SASH) Program, the Disadvantaged Communities - Single Family Solar Homes (DAC-SASH) program will provide up-front financial incentives of $3.00/Watt towards the installations of solar for LMI homeowners. The incentives will assist customers in overcoming barriers to the installation of solar, such as a lack of upfront capital or credit. The program will be

available to LMI customers who are resident-owners of single-family homes in disadvantaged communities. The DAC-SASH program will provide $10 million in incentives annually through 2030, to be funded by utility greenhouse gas allowance revenues or public purpose program funds. CPUC approved the program in June 2018. It is still in development as of October 2018.

Additional Information

- CPUC's order adopting the DAC-SASH program is at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M216/K736/216736432.PDF

Disadvantaged Communities - Green Tariff Program

The Disadvantaged Communities – Green Tariff (DAC-Green Tariff) program will provide a 20 percent electricity bill discount to LMI customers living in disadvantaged communities. Subscribing customers will receive 100 percent solar energy purchased by their utility. Modeled after the green tariff portion of the existing Green Tariff/Shared Renewables programs, the DAC-Green Tariff Program is available to customers who live in disadvantaged communities and meet the income eligibility requirements for the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) and Family Electric Rate Assistance programs. The DAC-Green Tariff program will be funded by utility greenhouse gas allowance revenues for public purpose program funds. CPUC approved the program in June 2018. It is still in development as of October 2018.

Additional Information

- CPUC's order adopting the DAC-Green Tariff program is at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M216/K736/216736432.PDF

Community Solar Green Tariff Program

The Community Solar Green Tariff program will allow customers in disadvantaged communities to benefit from the development of solar generation projects located in their own or nearby disadvantaged communities. Participants, a significant number of whom must be low-income, will receive a 20 percent bill discount. The communities will work with a local non-profit or local government "sponsor" to organize community interest and present siting locations to the utility; the sponsor can also receive an incentive for its efforts. The major differences between the DAC-Green Tariff program and the Community Solar Green Tariff program is that the Community Solar Green Tariff program requires community involvement with the solar project through a local sponsor and will result in a solar facility serving a nearby community. The program will be funded by utility greenhouse gas allowance revenues or public purpose program funds. CPUC approved the program in June 2018. It is still in development as of October 2018.

Additional Information

- CPUC's order adopting the Community Solar Green Tariff Program is at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M216/K736/216736432.PDF

Colorado

Colorado has created three programs focused on increasing access to renewables for LMI residents.

Additional Information

- In 2018, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory published a report on Colorado's low-income solar programs: www.nrel.gov/state-local-tribal/blog/posts/reducing-energy-burden-with-solar-colorado-strategy-and-a-roadmap-for-states.html

Colorado Rooftop Low-Income Program

In 2016, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) authorized the Colorado Energy Office to integrate rooftop solar installation into weatherization services as part of the state's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). Historically, the WAP program has only covered energy efficiency measures. Eligibility in the program is limited to households with maximum gross annual income not exceeding 60 percent of the estimated state median income. The installations must also meet certain criteria to ensure they will provide a high return on investment. In 2016 and early 2017, four rooftop projects were completed using WAP funding. In 2017, DOE approved continued use of WAP funding for rooftop solar in Colorado.

Additional Information

- The Colorado Energy Office has a web page dedicated to the rooftop low-income program: www.colorado.gov/pacific/energyoffice/rooftop-solar-pv
- The Colorado Energy Office issued a press release after the first WAP funded project was completed: www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Colorado%20Launches%20First%20Low-Income%20Rooftop%20Solar%20Project%20within%20its%20Weatherization%20Assistance%20Program.pdf

Colorado Community Solar Gardens

In 2010, Colorado enacted the Community Solar Gardens Act, which directed the state's investor-owned electric utilities to build community solar projects across the state. The Community Solar Gardens Act defines a community solar garden as a solar electric generation facility with a nameplate rating of 2 MW or less and in which subscriptions are owned by 10 or more customers of a qualifying retail utility. The legislation required project developers to reserve 5 percent of each community solar garden for low-income subscribers.

When program implementation began in 2012, the low-income requirement proved difficult to satisfy. Ultimately, many solar developers were forced to give away subscriptions to low-income customers, with other subscribers absorbing the increased cost. The higher subscription costs may have reduced enrollment and hindered project development.

In November 2016, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission approved a legal settlement between the state's largest investor-owned electric utility, Xcel Energy, and various stakeholder organizations. Under the terms of the settlement, Xcel agreed to manage the community solar garden's 5 percent low-income requirement that community solar garden developers had previously been responsible for. Through the settlement, Xcel also

agreed to contract for up to 4 MW of 100 percent low-income-customer-subscribed, community solar gardens. The first projects contracted by Xcel under the settlement may come on line in late 2018 or in 2019.

Additional Information

- The 2015 CESA report on *Clean Energy Champions: The Importance of State Programs and Policies* includes a case study of the Colorado Community Solar Gardens Act. The Colorado Solar Gardens case study starts on page 117: www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/clean-energy-champions-the-importance-of-state-programs-and-policies
- Before the 2016 legal settlement, the Colorado Energy Office commissioned an analysis of the program's low-income carve-out: www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Low-Income%20Community%20Solar%20Report-CEO.pdf

Low-Income Community Solar Demonstration Project

In August 2015, the Colorado Energy Office awarded a grant of $1.2 million to GRID Alternatives, a non-profit solar contractor, to develop and administer between five and twelve community PV systems for at least 300 "energy burdened" households (households that pay more than 4 percent of their income on utility bills). The Colorado Energy Office and GRID Alternatives worked with non-regulated utilities across the state to establish eight community solar demonstration models, totaling 1,485 kW of community solar installed capacity. The project has been completed. Over 350 households are subscribed to the community solar installations and are benefitting from the project.

The Colorado Energy Office hired Lotus Sustainability and Engineering to compile a report assessing the demonstration project. The report includes three sections: 1) an overview of energy burden; 2) case studies describing the programmatic and financial aspects of each community solar model; and 3) an evaluation of the low-income community solar demonstration project as a whole.

Additional Information

- The Colorado Energy Office has a web page dedicated to this project: www.colorado.gov/pacific/energyoffice/community-solar-0
- The 2017 Lotus report, titled "Insights from the Colorado Energy Office Low-Income Community Solar Demonstration Project" is at www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/Insights%20from%20the%20CEO%20Low-Income%20Community%20Solar%20Demonstration%20Project.pdf
- In 2018, NREL published a report which features an in-depth review of the largest project in the Low-Income Solar Demonstration Project program and a financial analysis of the utility return for six of the projects in the program, found here: www.nrel.gov/docs/fy18osti/70536.pdf (It may be necessary to copy and paste the link.)

Connecticut

In early 2018, the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) updated the state's Comprehensive Energy Strategy to assess and plan for all energy needs in the state. Key components of the 2018 update include reducing the energy burden of low-income households and assisting LMI customers with weatherization upgrades.

In May of 2018, Connecticut Governor Daniel Malloy signed into law "An Act Concerning Connecticut's Energy Future," (Public Act 18-50), which implements the 2018 Comprehensive Energy Strategy. Among other things, the law increased Connecticut's Renewable Portfolio Standards and launched a statewide shared clean energy program aimed at low-income customers.

Connecticut is home to the nation's first green bank. The Connecticut Green Bank works with a range of partners to provide low-cost financing solutions and appropriate credit policies for low-income market segments. These programs span the residential single family, multifamily owner-occupied, and rental markets.

In 2018, the Green Bank created a nonprofit called Inclusive Prosperity Capital, which will manage most of the Green Bank's LMI programs and will be able to work outside of Connecticut.

Additional Information

- Inclusive Prosperity Capital's website is www.inclusiveprosperitycapital.org

Residential Solar Incentive Program

The Connecticut Green Bank created the Residential Solar Incentive Program (RSIP) in 2012. This program provides declining production-based incentives for residential solar installations. Contractors must be approved in order to participate in the RSIP program.

In 2015, Connecticut Green Bank created an additional RSIP incentive specifically for LMI residents. In order to participate in the LMI RSIP, contractors must first be approved for the general RSIP program and then go through an additional approval process. The use of price escalators is not permitted for the LMI RSIP. As of July 2018, the level of the incentive for the LMI RSIP was $0.09/kWh, and for the non-LMI RSIP was $0.045/kWh. Customers must have a household income less than 100% of the area median income in order to qualify for the LMI incentive.

The contractors who have been approved for the LMI RSIP are PosiGen and Sunrun. PosiGen's LMI solar product is a lease, and Sunrun's product is a PPA. PosiGen was approved in 2015 and Sunrun was approved in 2018. PosiGen offers no-money-down solar leases for LMI consumers, as well as energy efficiency savings agreements. PosiGen's model includes an alternative underwriting approach that does not rely on credit scores, as well as a community-based marketing model that targets LMI communities. In addition to providing the LMI RSIP incentive, the Connecticut Green Bank supports PosiGen through subordinated debt contributions to its solar lease facilities in partnership with senior lenders and tax equity investors.

Additional Information

- The Connecticut Green Bank's website provides information about its programs, including a short description of its partnership with PosiGen: www.ctgreenbank.com/programs/all-programs
- The collaboration between the Connecticut Green Bank and PosiGen won a State Leadership in Clean Energy (SLICE) award. CESA provides case studies of all SLICE award winners in its report, *Advancing Clean Energy Progress: Past, Present, and Future*, at www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/advancing-clean-energy-progress-past-present-and-future.

Smart-E Loans

The Connecticut Green Bank offers a loan product called Smart-E, which funds interest rate buy-downs and a loan loss reserve to attract local lending. Smart-E Loans can be used to finance efficiency improvements, new heating and cooling systems, efficient water heaters, and renewable generation. Eligibility in the program is limited to Connecticut properties that are owner occupied, individually metered, and in 1-to-4-unit residential housing. The Connecticut Green Bank offers the Smart-E loan through a network of local lenders including credit unions and a community development financial institution (CDFI). The Smart-E Loans require a FICO score above 640 and a debt-to-income ratio of 45 percent.

In December 2016, the Connecticut Green Bank's CDFI Smart-E partner launched a credit-challenged version of the loan that opened the underwriting requirements to a minimum 580 FICO and a debt-to-income of 50 percent. Four other credit unions and one community bank in the program launched their own credit-challenged products in March-April 2017. Other lenders in the program that do not offer a credit-challenged option refer their customers to the participating CDFI to be served.

The Smart-E Loan encourages deeper penetration of clean energy and energy efficiency measures by offering a lower, "bundled" rate of .99 percent when financing multiple energy improvements (e.g., solar PV, insulation, ductless heat pumps, etc.). More than 85 percent of Smart-E Loan volume consists of these bundled measures. Smart-E special offers are also available for certain qualifying measures.

Additional Information

- The Connecticut Green Bank has a web page dedicated to Smart-E: www.ctgreenbank.com/smarte

Solarize State-Sponsored Housing Portfolio

The Connecticut Green Bank partnered with Connecticut Housing Finance Authority to launch a Solarize campaign for State Sponsored Housing Properties (SSHP) in 2015. Solarize SSHP provides access to low-cost renewable energy opportunities for residents and owners of properties in the SSHP. The Solarize program uses a group purchasing model to drive down aggregate solar PV costs. This financing mechanism has been applied to a group of 20 solar PV projects in 10 housing authorities.

The program is funded on a property-by-property basis using Power Purchase Agreements whereby the Connecticut Green Bank owns, operates, and maintains the solar PV systems, and the property owner agrees to purchase the system's electric output for 20 years.

Shared Clean Energy Facilities Program

In 2015, the Connecticut legislature mandated the development of a two-year pilot program for shared clean energy facilities in the state. The resulting program, which was administered by Connecticut's Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, allowed for up to 6 MW of shared clean energy facilities in the state. In May 2018, the Connecticut legislature ratified Public Act 18-50, which established a statewide Shared Clean Energy Facilities (SCEF) program that included many of the same elements as the pilot program. The 2018 legislation required, among other things, that 20% of each facility's output go to LMI subscribers or LMI service organizations. The statewide SCEF program is not expected to launch until January 2020.

Additional Information

- 2015 legislation established the Shared Clean Energy Facilities Pilot Program: www.cga.ct.gov/2015/ACT/pa/pdf/2015PA-00113-R00SB-00928-PA.pdf
- 2018 legislation establishing the Shared Clean Energy Facilities Program: www.cga.ct.gov/2018/act/pa/pdf/2018PA-00050-R00SB-00009-PA.pdf

Low-Income Multifamily Energy

The Low-Income Multifamily Energy (LIME) program finances energy efficiency and renewable energy in LMI multifamily properties with loan terms of up to twenty years. To be eligible for LIME, multifamily properties must have five or more units and at least 60 percent of the units must be designated affordable to households at no greater than 80 percent of Area Median Income. Preferred consideration is given to "high impact" properties, such as U.S. Housing and Urban Development-financed properties, CHFA-financed and Federal Housing Administration-insured developments, properties in LMI geographies, and transit-oriented development complexes.

Additional Information

- The Connecticut Green Bank has made an infographic available on the LIME program: http://ctgreenbank.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/LIME_Sheet_Final_082416.pdf

District of Columbia

D.C. Solar for All

The Solar for All program aims to "reduce by at least 50 percent the electric bills of at least 100,000 of the District's low-income households with high energy burdens by December 31, 2032." The program was established by the District's Renewable Portfolio Standard Expansion Amendment Act of 2016.
Solar for All is funded by the Renewable Energy Development Fund (REDF). The REDF is a special purpose revenue fund to be used for promoting solar energy projects in the District; it is funded through compliance fees paid by electricity suppliers as required by the District's Renewable Energy Portfolio standard. In February of 2017, DOEE announced two Requests for Applications for Solar for All Innovation and Expansion Grants. In late 2017, DOEE selected nine grant proposals to fund. The nine projects will receive approximately $13 million in grants from DOEE and will include about 7 MW of capacity. As DOEE expands Solar for All, it will identify other

program offerings and strategic partnerships to meet the Fiscal Year 2017-2019 initial implementation goal of 30 to 60 MW of solar capacity.

Additional Information

- The District of Columbia has a page dedicated to the Solar for All program: https://doee.dc.gov/solarforall
- In 2017, DOEE developed its Solar for All Annual Report: https://doee.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddoe/service_content/attachments/2017%20Solar%20for%20All%20Annual%20Report.pdf
- In 2017, DOEE developed an implementation plan for the District's Solar for All program: https://doee.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddoe/service_content/attachments/DOEE-%20Report-%20Solar%20for%20All%20Implementation-%20Final%20for%20Transmittal.pdf

Hawaii

Hawaii's aggressive energy goals include using 100 percent renewable energy for the state's electricity sector by 2045.

Green Energy Market Securitization On-Bill Repayment Program

The Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) program is administered by the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA). HGIA was created by the Legislature to make clean energy investments accessible and affordable to a broader cross-section of Hawaii's utility ratepayers, with a portion of its funds to benefit underserved communities, LMI households, renters, and nonprofits. One hundred and fifty million dollars of initial capital for the program was raised through state-issued "rate-reduction" bonds. The bonds are repaid through a monthly fee on the electric bills of all residential electric customers.

In 2018, Hawaii's Public Utilities Commission approved the GEMS On-Bill Program, an innovative financing program for homeowners and renters, designed to help low-income Hawaiians access solar. The program is designed to provide renters, low-income households, nonprofits and other Hawaiian Electric ratepayers on most rate schedules the opportunity to install solar hot water heaters, solar photovoltaic systems and/or commercial energy measures, effectively removing significant barriers such as installation costs and conventional credit underwriting requirements.

Additional Information

- Hawaii has a website dedicated to the GEMS program: www.gems.hawaii.gov
- The application form for the GEMS program can found here: https://gems.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/GEM-Residential-HomeOwner-Packet_Download-pdf_6-1-18.pdf
- CESA's *Clean Energy Champions* report includes a case study on the GEMS program. The GEMS case study starts on page 115 of the report: www.cesa.org/resource-library/resource/clean-energy-champions-the-importance-of-state-programs-and-policies

Illinois

Illinois Solar for All Program

Illinois' Solar for All program promotes solar development and job training initiatives in low-income communities. Development of the program began on June 1, 2017 when the state's Future Energy Jobs Act took effect. The program seeks to provide the energy and economic benefits of solar to households in single-family residences and multifamily affordable housing and to households participating in community solar projects. In general, eligible households will have income levels of 80 percent of the Area Median Income or less.

Illinois Solar for All is funded through using the Renewable Energy Resources Fund (RERF) and through a portion of funds collected by the utilities under their RPS tariff. A total of $150 million from Illinois' RERF is dedicated to the Solar for All program. The Solar for All program allocates $33.6 million in incentives for low-income rooftop solar projects, $56.25 million for LMI families to subscribe to community solar projects, $22.5 million in incentives for solar projects that help public facilities and non-profits serving LMI communities, and $37.5 million for innovative LMI community solar pilot projects in partnership with community organizations.

The Illinois Power Agency's Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan, including the Solar for All program, was approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission in May 2018. Solar for All uses REC purchases to subsidize solar for LMI residents. The program is expected to launch in the spring of 2019.

Additional Information

- Public Act 99-0906 (the "Future Energy Jobs Act") authorized Illinois' Solar for All program: http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/99/PDF/099-0906.pdf
- The Illinois Power Agency's Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan describes the implementation of the Solar For All Program: http://illinoisabp.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Long-Term-Renewable-Resources-Procurement-Plan-8-6-18.pdf

Maryland

Community Solar Pilot Program

In June 2016, the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) approved rules creating a pilot community solar program. The program allows for 218 MW of community solar generation, with about 60 MW set aside for projects focused on LMI customer participation. The Maryland PSC defines low-income as a subscriber whose gross annual household income is at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty level for the year of the subscription. It defines moderate-income as a subscriber whose gross annual household income is at or below 80 percent of the state median income for the year of subscription. Community solar projects under the program are limited to 2 MW each.

Customers may subscribe to any community solar energy generating system that is located in the same electric company service territory as the customer. Prior to execution of any contract, a subscriber organization must

present all prospective customers with a completed contract summary and notice of subscription. Subscriber organizations began applying to the PSC in April 2017 for authorization to participate in the program, and some projects began signing up subscribers by mid-2018.

Additional Information

- The announcement from the Public Service Commission is at www.psc.state.md.us/wp-content/uploads/Maryland-PSC-Adopts-Community-Solar-Regulations_06152016.pdf
- The Public Service Commission Rulemaking docket with all filings is at https://webapp.psc.state.md.us/newIntranet/AdminDocket/CaseAction_new.cfm?CaseNumber=RM56
- The official website of the Maryland Community Solar Pilot Program is at www.psc.state.md.us/electricity/community-solar-pilot-program

The Community Solar LMI-PPA Grant Program

Through the Community Solar LMI-PPA Grant Program, the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) provides grants to subscriber organizations that provide favorable terms to LMI subscribers. Grants will be given to subscriber organizations based on the sum of the "Subscription Incentive" and a "Term Incentive." The Subscription Incentive provides funds proportional to the difference between the net present value of the proposed subscription rate and the net present value of the assumed baseline subscription rate. The Term Incentive provides funds to support shorter subscription periods; shorter subscription periods receive higher incentives than longer subscription periods. One or more grants totaling up to $3,000,000 will be chosen on a competitive basis. Participating projects must produce creditable power by June 1, 2019.

Additional Information

- The official program website is at https://energy.maryland.gov/residential/Pages/CommunitySolarLMI-PPA.aspx

Massachusetts

Commonwealth Solar

From 2005 to early 2015, Massachusetts offered a series of solar rebate programs. Homeowners with low incomes or relatively low home values qualified for "rebate adders," increasing the size of their rebate. From 2008 to 2010, the rebate program was known as Commonwealth Solar and was administered by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC). The program offered large upfront rebates for solar PV systems of all sizes and was the primary state-level solar incentive. In 2010, with the start of the Commonwealth's Renewable Portfolio Standard Solar Carve-Out (or SREC-I) program, the Commonwealth Solar II program was launched, which offered modest rebates for small-scale solar PV systems (15 kW and smaller). From 2010 to 2015, $32 million in rebates were provided to more than 12,600 Massachusetts homes, small businesses, and institutions. Declining solar costs and the prospect of the Mass Solar Loan program (then under development) made it possible for Massachusetts to phase out its Commonwealth Solar II program in 2015.

Additional Information

- Information about Commonwealth Solar II is available on the MassCEC website: www.masscec.com/programs/commonwealth-solar-ii

SREC II

Massachusetts' SREC II program, launched in 2014, credited different solar projects with different amounts of SRECs for the same generation. Projects under 25 kW received the highest SREC factor. The next highest SREC factor went to projects larger than 25 kW that were solar parking canopies, emergency power facilities, LMI housing, or community shared solar. SREC II was phased out as the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target program was implemented in 2018.

Additional Information

- The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center has an overview of the SREC II program at http://files.masscec.com/innovate-clean-energy/prod-track-system/RPSSolarCarve-OutIIProgramOverview.pdf

SMART Program

The Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) program offers bonuses for specific types of installations in addition to a baseline incentive amount. These "adders" increase the per kWh incentive for building a solar canopy, using energy storage, building a system on a landfill, and other innovative solar systems. Like the SREC II program, the SMART program includes adders for low-income customers (defined as those who qualify for reduced utility rates). Under the program, systems under 25 kW that serve low-income customers will receive 15 percent more than other similar-sized systems. Community solar systems serving primarily low-income customers will receive an adder of $0.06/kWh. (Other community solar systems will receive a $0.05/kWh adder.) The SMART Program began accepting applications on November 26, 2018.

Additional Information

- The official website of the SMART program is at www.mass.gov/solar-massachusetts-renewable-target-smart
- For the program rules, procedures, and eligibility criteria, stakeholders should consult the Department of Energy Resources' (DOER) SMART regulation (225 CMR 20.00), which was promulgated on August 25, 2017 and can be accessed at: www.mass.gov/files/documents/2017/10/16/225cmr20.pdf
- Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources has created a presentation summarizing the SMART Program, which can be found here: www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/04/26/SMART%20Program%20Overview%20042618.pdf
- The program's low-income generation units guidelines are at www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/04/26/Low%20Income%20Guideline%20042518.pdf

Mass Solar Loan

In 2014, Massachusetts concluded that a program that made solar financing easier and more accessible would better leverage the Commonwealth's resources and meet the state's clean energy aims than continuing Commonwealth Solar II, which by that time offered only small rebates. The Massachusetts Department of

Energy Resources (DOER) and MassCEC worked together to develop the $30 million Mass Solar Loan program, which launched in late 2015.

The Mass Solar Loan program connects homeowners interested in installing solar PV systems with financing opportunities through low-interest loans. The program initially provided loan support for customers without any income limitations, but since 2017 provides loan support for LMI participants only.

Although loan terms may vary by lender, homeowners who are approved for the Mass Solar Loan program can expect a tenure of at least ten years, a low fixed interest rate, loan amounts between $3,000 and $60,000, and a $500 maximum on closing costs. Loans may be unsecured or secured. The Mass Solar Loan program uses funds in three ways: an interest rate buy-down; a loan loss reserve to encourage lenders to loan to those without top credit scores; and an additional incentive applied directly to the loan principal.

Additional Information

- MassCEC and DOER operate a website dedicated to the Mass Solar Loan program: www.masssolarloan.com

Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Initiative

In February 2016, Massachusetts launched the Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Initiative. The initiative broadly coordinates the agencies that serve the energy and housing needs of the Commonwealth's LMI residents and identifies the most effective strategies to direct funding. The initiative has $15 million in funding to increase use of clean energy and energy efficiency technologies by LMI residents in Massachusetts. DOER and MassCEC are among the participating agencies, and each has new and existing programs in this area. Part of the development of this initiative involved a stakeholder process to identify barriers that prevent LMI consumers from accessing energy solutions, and strategies for overcoming those barriers. The stakeholder process resulted in recommendations that were published in April 2017.

Additional Information

- The Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Initiative has a dedicated website: www.mass.gov/eea/grants-and-tech-assistance/guidance-technical-assistance/agencies-and-divisions/doer/affordable-access-to-clean-and-efficient-energy-initiative.html
- A press release announcing the Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Initiative was issued by Governor Baker's Office in February 2016: www.mass.gov/governor/press-office/press-releases/fy2016/funding-to-increase-affordable-access-to-clean-energy.html
- A stakeholder process to identify barriers that prevent LMI consumers from accessing energy solutions resulted in a report which offers recommendations for overcoming those barriers. The Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Final Working Group's report was published in April 2017: www.mass.gov/eea/docs/doer/aacee-report.pdf

Minnesota

Xcel Energy's Solar*Rewards Program

Xcel Energy is adding a low-income component to its existing Solar*Rewards incentive program for Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Commerce has been working closely with Xcel as they design the low-income component and set the new incentive levels. The Minnesota PUC began reviewing the proposed tariff, which includes both an upfront incentive and a production-based incentive, on September 25, 2018, and the program is scheduled to launch on January 1, 2019.

Additional Information

- All documents submitted in the PUC docket can be found within E dockets 13-1015 at: www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/edockets/searchDocuments.do?method=eDocketsResult&docketYear=13&docketNumber=1015#

New Hampshire

Low-income Solar Grants

A low-income solar RFP was issued in the spring of 2018, and three projects were selected to receive grants. Total funding available under the RFP was $405,000, which came from Alternative Compliance Payments made by the utilities under New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard. One of the three projects was on a multifamily housing complex, one was at a resident-owned mobile home park, and one was a more traditional community solar project. Each participant in the third project receives a $20 - $25 credit on their monthly electric bill for two years. None of the three projects involves any cost to the recipients.

Additional Information

- The RFP can be found at https://puc.nh.gov/Home/RFPs/2018-003/RFP%202018-003%20Renewable%20PV%20Projects.pdf

New Jersey

Community Solar Pilot

In May 2018, Governor Murphy signed A3723/S2314, which mandated the creation of the Community Solar Energy Pilot Program. In August 2018, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) proposed a rule establishing a three-year Community Solar Energy Pilot Program. The Pilot Program would earmark 40 percent of the overall program capacity for LMI projects. The rule would set the annual capacity limit for community solar projects approved for participation in the Pilot Program at 75 megawatts for the first year of the program and at least 75 megawatts for the second and third years.

Additional Information

- A press release about the program from the NJBPU is at https://www.bpu.state.nj.us/bpu/newsroom/2018/approved/20180829.html
- The official website for the program, including a link to the proposed rule, is at http://njcleanenergy.com/renewable-energy/programs/community-solar

New York

In recent years, New York has undertaken an ambitious state energy planning process called Reforming the Energy Vision (REV). The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) administers the Clean Energy Fund, one of the three strategic pillars of REV.

The order authorizing the Clean Energy Fund framework was dated January 21, 2016. Over the first three years of the Clean Energy Fund, NYSERDA planned to invest a minimum of $234.5 million in the LMI market segment. The Clean Energy Fund includes a three-pronged strategy to improve energy affordability and access to clean energy solutions for LMI residents: traditional incentives and other standard offer programs, market development initiatives, and enhanced statewide coordination. NYSERDA defines the low-income market segment as households with annual incomes at or below 60 percent of the State Median Income (SMI), and the moderate-income market segment as households with an annual income between 60 percent and 80 percent of the SMI or the Area Median Income, whichever is greater.

Additional Information

- NYSERDA's Clean Energy Fund web page includes links to a helpful fact sheet, FAQs, and other documents: www.nyserda.ny.gov/About/Clean-Energy-Fund
- NYSERDA's has developed a Clean Energy Fund investment plan. The investment plan includes a chapter focused on the LMI market segment under its market development portfolio: www.nyserda.ny.gov/-/media/Files/About/Clean-Energy-Fund/CEF-Low-to-Moderate-Income.pdf
- The official website for Reforming the Energy Vision is at https://rev.ny.gov/

NY-Sun and Affordable Solar

The $1 billion NY-Sun initiative is designed to build a self-sustaining solar industry in New York and help achieve strategic energy goals under the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) strategy and the Clean Energy Standard, which requires that 50 percent of electricity generated in New York come from renewable sources by 2030. Through the NY-Sun program, NYSERDA provides financial incentives and financing options for the installation of new grid-connected solar photovoltaic systems that will offset the use of grid-supplied electricity.
NY-Sun includes a range of programs, including some that are focused on LMI residents.
The Affordable Solar program, a component of NY-Sun, provides LMI residents with assistance to develop solar projects. Under the Affordable Solar program, households earning less than 80 percent of the area's or the state's median income are eligible for a doubling of incentives provided by the NY-Sun program. Through the end of 2017, 296 projects were completed using the added incentive, with an additional 53 projects in the pipeline

Additional Information

- The official NY-Sun webpage is at www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/NY-Sun
- A link to the Affordable Sun Incentive Eligibility Application is at www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/NY-Sun/Solar-for-Your-Home/Paying-for-Solar/Incentives-and-Financing

New York Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance

The Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance program is part of the New York Clean Energy Fund's market development efforts. The program provides funding to address resource gaps and solve market barriers preventing the development of solar installations serving LMI households. The program seeks proposals that will lead to 1) the implementation and operation of solar installations for multifamily affordable housing buildings or 2) shared solar installations that will provide the benefits of solar to LMI households. Eligible applicants include multifamily affordable housing providers, community organizations or agencies, and technical service providers working in partnership with any of these entities. Proposals may request up to $200,000 for predevelopment and technical assistance work on a proposed solar project or group of projects. The funding does not apply to system design, engineering, hardware, installation, or other costs related to construction of a solar project. Instead, it can be used to fund project activities in finance, legal, procurement, customer outreach, and business model design. Funding for this solicitation is currently closed, but funded projects are still under development.

Additional Information

- NYSERDA has a webpage detailing the Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance program, which includes links to information on program rules and how to apply: www.nyserda.ny.gov/All%20Programs/Programs/NY%20Sun/Communities%20and%20Local%20Governments/Predevelopment%20and%20Technical%20Assistance

Shared Renewables Program

In July 2015, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced a major shared renewables initiative. Similar to a community solar program but encompassing a wider range of clean energy technologies, New York's Shared Renewables program was designed to allow ratepayers to "join together to share in the benefits of local solar, wind, and other renewable energy projects." During the first phase of the program, from October 2015 through April 2016, eligible projects had to be sited to "provide the greatest locational benefits to the larger power grid" or to support "economically distressed communities" by ensuring that at least 20 percent of project participants were low- or moderate-income customers. Phase Two, which began in May 2016, does not include these restrictions. Projects under the New York's Shared Renewables program are limited to 2 MW and must have a minimum of 10 participants.

Additional Information

- NYSERDA announced New York's Shared Renewables program in July 2015: www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-expanded-access-renewable-energy-millions-new-yorkers

Solar for All

In December 2017, NYSERDA filed a plan for a low-income community solar initiative, called Solar for All, that will enable approximately 10,000 low-income New Yorkers to participate in community solar subscriptions that reduce their total electricity bill. NY-Sun will, through a competitive solicitation process, secure community solar subscriptions and provide them to low-income customers at no cost. NY-Sun will also work with low-income energy efficiency programs, utilities, community agencies, solar project developers, investors, and other stakeholders to market the program to low-income customers. To qualify for Solar for All, participants must, among other things, pay their own electric utility bills, meet income eligibility requirements (below 60 percent of state median income), and have used a minimum of 2,000 kWh over the last twelve months of their electric bills. The program began signing up participants in the summer of 2018.

Additional Information

- The official project page for Solar for All is at www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/NY-Sun/Solar-for-Your-Home/Community-Solar/Solar-for-All

Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE)

New York's LIFE fosters an ongoing dialogue that "encourages an interactive exchange of information and collaboration among the programs and resources that assist low-income energy consumers." LIFE seeks to engage a broad range of stakeholders to share best practices and to identify and address low-income energy issues. LIFE is jointly supported by the New York State Public Service Commission and NYSERDA. It holds regional events across the state and biennial statewide conferences. In addition, LIFE hosts a monthly webinar series and disseminates a monthly newsletter.

Additional Information

- For more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/LIFE

REVitalize

Through REVitalize, NYSERDA seeks to bridge the gap in access to clean energy solutions for LMI communities and environmental justice areas by supporting the planning of community-scale clean energy projects that benefit these communities and areas. REVitalize helps community-based organizations plan for, develop, and implement clean energy projects for the areas they serve. These community-scale clean energy projects can include community solar, district geothermal or biomass, microgrid, and aggregated energy efficiency and weatherization, among other types of projects. As of August 2018, NYSERDA has awarded four contracts to community-based organizations that serve LMI communities, as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or environmental justice areas as defined by the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Additional Information

- For more information, visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/REVitalize

Oregon

Energy Trust of Oregon, a nonprofit organization that helps Oregon utility customers benefit from energy efficiency and renewable energy, is a key player in the state's low-income clean energy programs.

Oregon Community Solar Program

In 2016, Oregon enacted legislation authorizing a community solar program. Final rules for Oregon's community solar program were adopted in July 2017. Consistent with statutory requirements, the rules require "that at least 10 percent of the total generating capacity of the program be allocated exclusively for use by low-income residential customers." The program rules call for a "low-income facilitator" to identify and subscribe qualifying low-income participants. Further Oregon Public Utility Commission proceedings took place in late 2017 to develop a program implementation manual and inform the role of the low-income facilitator. A concurrent Resource Value of Solar docket is expected to be completed by early 2019 and will coincide with the anticipated implementation of the program's first community solar projects. The Resource Value of Solar docket will determine the compensation that community solar participants receive.

Additional Information

- The docket on the Oregon Public Utility Commission's website relating to implementation of the community solar program is at https://apps.puc.state.or.us/edockets/docket.asp?DocketID=21222
- Oregon Public Utility Commission's Final Order adopting rules to implement community solar program: https://apps.puc.state.or.us/orders/2017ords/17-232.pdf

Rhode Island

In cooperation with the state, the electric utility that serves almost all of Rhode Island has launched two new community solar programs, the Community Remote Distributed Generation (CRDG) program and the Community Remote Net Metering (CRNM) program. The state has created an incentive program, called Community Renewables, which is intended to increase the number of LMI residents who participate in the CRNM program. In addition, the state Office of Energy Resources is working with LMI communities to learn how community solar developers can best meet the needs of LMI customers and to spread the word about the benefits of community solar. As of October 2018, community solar developers in Rhode Island were not yet signing up customers.

Community Renewables

Through the Community Renewables program, Rhode Island's Renewable Energy Fund will provide an incentive to developers in the CRNM program who sign up residential customers, and a larger incentive to developers in the CRNM program who sign up LMI residential customers. Eligibility is based on existing utility customer classifications; developers receive $300 for signing up each A-16 customer, and $500 for signing up each A-60 customer.

Additional Information

- For more information and application instructions for developers to participate in the Community Renewables program, see https://commerceri.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Community-Renewables-Requests-5.11.18-1.pdf

Washington

Washington has prioritized ensuring that new LMI housing is efficient and sustainable.

Evergreen Sustainable Development Standard (ESDS)

ESDS, currently in Version 3.0, is a green building performance requirement for all affordable housing projects that receive capital funds from the Washington State Housing Trust Fund. The standard seeks to increase energy and water efficiency, promote sustainable living, improve the economics of managing affordable housing, and enhance quality of life for residents. It contains 79 criteria that broadly aim to safeguard health, safety, and the environment. In addition to complying with all mandatory provisions, new construction projects must achieve 50 points from among optional criteria, while rehabilitation projects must achieve 40 points from the optional criteria. Projects can earn up to 15 points by including renewable generation.

Additional Information

- The Washington Department of Commerce has a website dedicated to ESDS, which includes links to program resources: www.commerce.wa.gov/building-infrastructure/housing/housing-trust-fund/housing-trust-fund-evergreen-sustainable-development/

Table 1 - Summary of State Clean Energy Programs for Low-and Middle-Income Residents

State	Program Name	Technology	System-level Incentives	Program-level Grants	Finance Assistance	Shared Solar	Mandate	Workforce Training	High-level and conceptual
Alaska	**Alaska Affordable Energy Strategy**	Unspecified							✓
California	**Single-Family Affordable Solar Housing (SASH) Program**	Solar PV	✓					✓	
California	**Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing (MASH) Program**	Solar PV	✓					✓	
California	**Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) Program**	Solar PV	✓					✓	
California	**California Solar Initiative Thermal Program**	Solar hot water	✓						
California	**Low Income Weatherization Program**	Solar PV, Thermal, Energy Efficiency	✓						
California	**Community Solar Pilot Program**	Solar PV	✓			✓			
California	**Net Metering**								✓
California	**Disadvantaged Communities – Single-Family Solar Homes (DAC-SASH) Program**	Solar PV	✓						

State	Program Name	Technology	System-level Incentives	Program-level Grants	Finance Assistance	Shared Solar	Mandate	Workforce Training	High-level and conceptual
California	**Disadvantaged Communities – Green Tariff (DAC- Green Tariff) Program**	Solar PV	✓						
California	**Community Solar Green Tariff Program**	Solar PV	✓			✓			
Colorado	**Rooftop Low Income Program**	Solar PV and Energy Efficiency	✓						
Colorado	**Colorado Community Solar Gardens**	Solar PV				✓	✓		
Colorado	**Low-Income Community Solar Demonstration Project**	Solar PV		✓		✓			
Connecticut	**Residential Solar Incentive Program (RSIP)**	Solar PV	✓		✓				
Connecticut	**Smart-E Loans**	Solar PV, Energy Efficiency, and possibly others			✓				
Connecticut	**Solarize State Sponsored Housing Portfolio (SSHP)**	Solar PV			✓				
Connecticut	**Shared Clean Energy Facilities**	unspecified				✓	✓		
Connecticut	**Low-Income Multifamily Energy (LIME)**	Solar PV + Efficiency			✓				

State	Program Name	Technology	System-level Incentives	Program-level Grants	Finance Assistance	Shared Solar	Mandate	Workforce Training	High-level and conceptual
District of Columbia	**Solar for All**	Solar PV		✓					
Hawaii	**Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) On-Bill Repayment Program**	Solar PV			✓				
Illinois	**Solar For All**	Solar PV	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Maryland	**Community Solar Pilot Program**	Solar PV				✓	✓		
Maryland	**Community Solar LMI-PPA Grant Program**	Solar PV		✓		✓			
Massachusetts	**Commonwealth Solar**	Solar PV	✓						
Massachusetts	**SREC II**	Solar PV	✓						
Massachusetts	**SMART Program**	Solar PV	✓						
Massachusetts	**Mass Solar Loan**	Solar PV			✓				
Massachusetts	**Affordable Access to Clean and Efficient Energy Initiative**	Unspecified							✓
Minnesota	**Xcel Energy's Solar*Rewards Program**	Solar PV	✓						

State	Program Name	Technology	System-level Incentives	Program-level Grants	Finance Assistance	Shared Solar	Mandate	Workforce Training	High-level and conceptual
New Hampshire	**Low-Income Solar Grants**	Solar PV		✓					
New Jersey	**Community Solar Pilot**					✓	✓		
New York	**NY-Sun and Affordable Solar**	Solar PV	✓						✓
New York	**New York Affordable Solar Predevelopment and Technical Assistance**	Solar PV		✓					
New York	**Shared Renewables Program**	Solar PV, wind, other				✓			
New York	**Solar for All**	Solar PV	✓			✓			
New York	**Low-Income Forum on Energy (LIFE)**	Unspecified							✓ (Information exchange of LMI programs and resources)
New York	**REVitalize**	Solar PV, Energy Efficiency, geothermal, biomass, microgrid		✓					

State	Program Name	Technology	System-level Incentives	Program-level Grants	Finance Assistance	Shared Solar	Mandate	Workforce Training	High-level and conceptual
Oregon	**Community Solar Program**	Solar PV				✓	✓		
Rhode Island	**Community Renewables**	Solar PV	✓			✓			
Washington	**Evergreen Sustainable Development Standards (ESDS)**	Unspecified							✓ (Green building performance standard for state-funded affordable housing)

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About Clean Energy States Alliance

The Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) is a national, nonprofit coalition of public agencies and organizations working together to advance clean energy. CESA members—mostly state agencies— include many of the most innovative, successful, and influential public funders of clean energy initiatives in the country. Learn more at www.cesa.org.

About the State Strategies to Bring Solar to Low- and Moderate-Income Communities Project

CESA manages a multi-year effort to expand solar access through a project focused on developing State Strategies to Bring Solar to Low- and Moderate-Income Communities. With funding from the U.S Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office, five states – Connecticut, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, and Rhode Island – and the District of Columbia, with coordination and support from CESA, are developing and implementing programs to increase adoption of solar among low- and moderate-income residents and communities. Each state is working with key stakeholders to identify and implement the approaches that are most promising, based on the state's demographics, the maturity of the solar market, and other circumstances. For more information, visit www.cesa.org/projects/low-income-clean-energy or contact CESA Project Director Diana Chace at Diana@cleanegroup.org.

About the Solar Energy Technologies Office

The U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office supports early-stage research and development to improve the reliability and performance of solar technologies. Learn more at www.energy.gov/eere/solar/solar-energy-technologies-office.




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The Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) is a national, nonprofit coalition of public agencies and organizations working together to advance clean energy. CESA members—mostly state agencies—include many of the most innovative, successful, and influential public funders of clean energy initiatives in the country.

CESA works with state leaders, federal agencies, industry representatives, and other stakeholders to develop and promote clean energy technologies and markets. It supports effective state and local policies, programs, and innovation in the clean energy sector, with emphasis on renewable energy, power generation, financing strategies, and economic development. CESA facilitates information sharing, provides technical assistance, coordinates multi-state collaborative projects, and communicates the positions and achievements of its members.

www.cesa.org