

# Illinois Solar for All Program

8/21/2025

# Agenda

- ILSFA overview
  - Sub-programs
  - Benefits
- Approved Vendor Role
- AV Requirements & Registration
- Program Requirements
- Small & Emerging Business Initiative
- Q&A



# **About Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA)**

- Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) is one of two flagship state solar programs
- ILSFA provides incentives to bring solar to income-eligible households and non-profit and public facilities
- Approved Vendors (solar companies) drive projects



## **ILSFA Project Types: Residential Solar**

### Single-family homes

Must have an income of 80% or less of the Area Median Income (AMI). Landlords can apply for single-family homes they own if tenants are income-eligible.

#### Two to Four Units

At least two units must be occupied by households with incomes of 80% or less of the AMI.

### Five units or larger

At least half of units must be occupied by households with incomes of 80% or less of the AMI.



# **ILSFA Project Types: Non-Profit/Public Facilities**

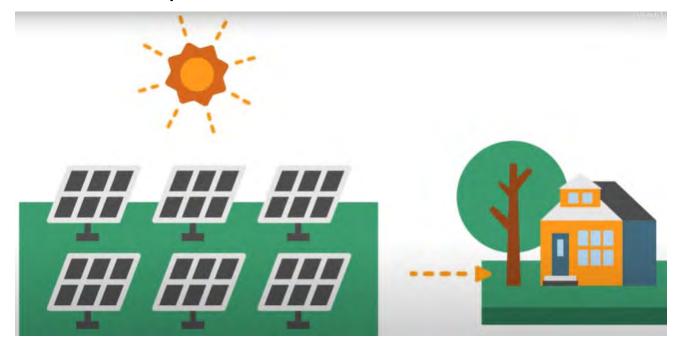
Organizations must meet all of the below criteria to be eligible for Illinois Solar for All:

- Occupy a property within an ILSFA environmental justice or income-eligible community.
- Be a critical service provider—a non-profit or public entity that offers critical services (including hospitals, houses of worship, senior centers, food pantries, and libraries).
- Be a public facility that hosts a department or agency that is a critical service provider.
- Demonstrate community engagement.



# **ILSFA Project Types: Community Solar**

- Households must have an income of 80% or less of the Area Median Income (AMI).
- Subscribers can enroll in an ILSFA CS project located anywhere in ComEd service territory.





### **ILSFA Benefits**

- Statewide solar program
- Opens market to income-eligible and non-profit and public facility participants
- 15-year REC contract (paid upon energization)
- Aligns with mission-driven companies
- Support for the duration of your participation



## **How the Program Works**

# WE ENSURE EQUITABLE PARTICIPATION



The program provides solar options for income-eligible residents as well as non-profits and public facilities that serve income-eligible or environmental justice communities.

### PARTICIPANTS WILL SEE GUARANTEED SAVINGS



Through the program, income-eligible participants see no or low upfront costs, and ongoing costs and fees will not exceed 50% of the value of the energy generated from their solar project.

### WE WORK WITH PRE-QUALIFIED SOLAR COMPANIES



We evaluate and approve only the solar companies that prove they meet our stringent requirements to protect consumers and ensure quality workmanship.



## **Approved Vendor Role**

- Approved Vendors develop project pipelines
- Find sites and customers
- Assess site suitability
- Complete ILSFA project applications
- Resolve issues and move projects forward
- Provide ongoing maintenance of their projects



### **Approved Vendors cont.**

#### What it Means to be an Approved Vendor



#### **Illinois Shines**

Solar companies interested in becoming Approved Vendors with Illinois Solar for All must first qualify as Approved Vendors with Illinois Shines, another state solar incentive program. Once approved, companies can register as Illinois Solar for All Approved Vendors.



#### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement plays a role in becoming an Approved Vendor. Illinois Solar for All strives to create an environmental impact in underserved communities. Like Illinois Shines, prospective Approved Vendors must present a community engagement plan during registration and project development, particularly for community solar projects.



#### **Job Training**

Illinois Solar for All aims to expand access to individuals seeking a career in the solar industry through Job Training requirements. Approved Vendors must demonstrate that a minimum number of hours performed during the installation process are completed by Qualified Job Trainees. The registration process requires applicants to submit a plan for achieving these requirements.



#### **Guaranteed Savings**

Illinois Solar for All requires that all eligible solar projects are offered to participants with no or low upfront costs and any ongoing costs and fees do not exceed 50% of the value of energy generated by the system in the first year, regardless of whether the system is owned, leased, or financed.



#### **Consumer Protection**

Illinois Solar for All protects participants by working with Approved Vendors to ensure safe and fair business practices. This includes guidelines around marketing and providing a clear, accurate, and transparent experience for participants. Other protections include standard disclosure forms, no prepayment penalties, and a cancellation policy.



#### **Business Development**

Illinois Solar for All is committed to ensuring Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) and small and emerging businesses have opportunities in the program. Dedicated ILSFA program team members are available to support these businesses, and project selection prioritization is available for projects developed by Minority and Women-Owned Businesses.



### **Approved Vendor Registration**



### **Approved Vendor Requirements and Registration**

The Illinois Solar for All program is looking for solar companies to apply to become Approved Vendors. Interested solar companies should review the Approved Vendor Manual before beginning the registration process.

#### Page 1

The Illinois Solar for All Approved Vendor registration process can be initiated from this page. Before beginning the registration process, the applicant should download and read the Approved Vendor Manual, which provides guidance on the scope of the program and the requirements necessary to complete this registration process. It is highly recommended that the process outlined below be followed by all applicants.

- 1. Download and read the manual
- Register with the Adjustable Block Program (if applicable)
- 3. Prepare your responses
- 4. Submit responses
- 5. Sign attestations (e-signature)
- 6. Program Administrator evaluation
- 7. Assessment and revisions as needed
- Program Administrator will attempt to return an approval determination within 14 business days

- Download and read the Approved Vendor manual
- Register with the Illinois Shines Program (if applicable)
- 3. Prepare and submit your responses and request documents
- 4. Sign attestations (e-signature)
- Program Administrator evaluation with revisions as needed
- 6. Program Administrator will attempt to return an approval determination within 14 business days



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### **Program Requirements**

- All work under ILSFA is expected to meet industry technical and ethical standards, and meet all relevant codes and regulations (municipal, state and federal)
- Issues and disputes are to be resolved promptly, constructively and toward participant satisfaction
- The Approved Vendor must submit accurate documentation to the Program Administrator and meet prevailing wage and trainee work requirements.
- Maintain collateral requirements and provide ongoing information and reporting, and coordinate information from installers/developers and system owners.
- Maintain ongoing REC reporting requirements

Note: Grassroots Educators cannot refer customers to specific AVs and there cannot be any financial or legal relationships between Approved Vendors and Grassroots Educators.

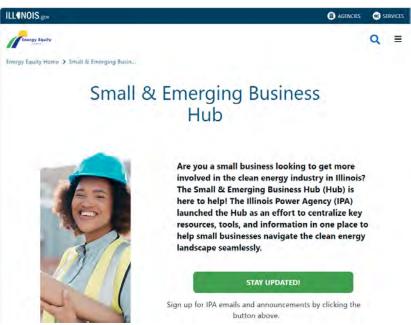


### **ILSFA Small and Emerging Business Initiative**

• The Small & Emerging Business initiative supports Approved Vendors and prospective Approved Vendors through 1:1 meetings, workshops, webinars, partnerships, information and resources.

### **Small & Emerging Business Hub**

- Solar incentive programs
- Growing a Small Business
- Grants and Funding
- Workforce & Training Programs



https://energyequity.illinois.gov/small-emerging-business-hub.html



### **Small and Emerging Business Guide**







### A Small and Emerging Business's Guide to Participating with Illinois Shines and Illinois Solar for All

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### **Annual Report - Supporting Small and Emerging Businesses in Illinois**



# Supporting Small and Emerging Businesses in Illinois

JULY 23, 2025

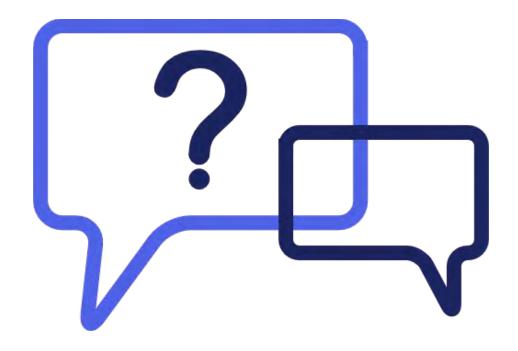
### Introduction

Section 1-56 (b)(2) of the Illinois Power Agency Act requires the Illinois Power Agency (IPA) to "make every effort to ensure that small and emerging businesses (SEBs), particularly those located in low-income and environmental justice communities, are able to participate in the Illinois Solar for All Program" and to report on progress and barriers to participation of small and emerging businesses in Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA). The Small and Emerging Business team was launched in the fall of 2023 to help businesses overcome barriers to participation. This report provides an overview of strategies, efforts, and key outcomes toward fostering a solar industry inclusive of

https://www.illinoissfa.com/resource-library/



# **Questions?**





# **Contact Us**

Jan Gudell Jan.Gudell@elevatenp.org

Tonya Johnson@elevatenp.org

Illinois Solar for All Team 888-970-ISFA Info@illinoisSFA.com

