

Illinois Solar for All Annual Summary

June 2024 – May 2025

Illinois Solar for All continues to ensure energy savings for income-eligible residents, organizations and Environmental Justice Communities by helping participants pay less for electricity through solar installations and subscriptions. ILSFA also supports Illinois’ renewable energy goals by powering the solar energy sector and the state economy.



ILSFA empowers income-eligible residents and organizations across the state to reduce their electric bills and participate in Illinois’ robust renewable energy economy.

In the 2024-2025 Program Year, ILSFA approved 626 projects, which created electric bill savings for residents and organizations across the state. Initiatives launched in the previous program year gained traction, helping build participation in new ways.

- In its second year, the **Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative** supported roof repairs and electrical upgrades for 179 homes, a substantial increase over 13 projects in the previous program year. Funding these improvements made Residential Solar available to more Illinois residents with properties that were not initially solar-ready.
- The **Bright Neighborhoods Initiative** continued testing an alternative program delivery model, using marketing and community engagement to bring new participants to the Residential Solar sub-program. The initiative yielded valuable insights and opportunities to address barriers to participation.

Program Impact

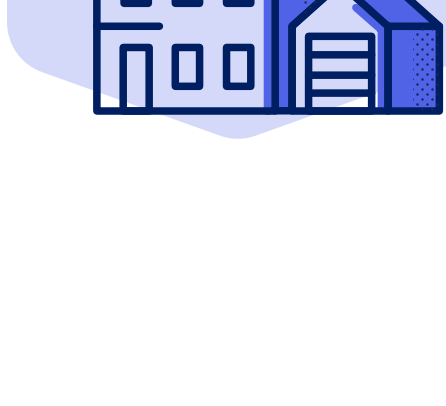


Tekeyra Moore, an ILSFA Residential Solar participant, had rooftop solar panels installed on her home and is thrilled with her electric bill savings. “I just received a bill of \$34 and thought my electric company made a mistake!”

In the 2024-2025 Program Year, ILSFA made a positive difference across the state.



626
Approved Projects



1,584
Illinois Households Served



17.96 MW AC
Total Capacity of Approved Projects

All ILSFA projects fully constructed and energized by program year-end are expected to produce more than **\$116 million in lifetime net bill savings** for participant households and organizations.*

In their first year of operation, projects energized in the 2024-2025 Program Year will prevent major air pollutants from entering the atmosphere, equivalent to **taking 3,871 cars off the road for a year**.*

ILSFA projects energized in the program year contributed more than **\$111 million in Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**, with \$90 million from Residential Solar (Small) and Community Solar projects.*

ILSFA investments powered income and job growth statewide, supporting **\$33 million in employee compensation** and creating demand for the equivalent of **560 full-time jobs**.*

* Findings from “Illinois Solar for All: Program Year 2024-2025 Annual Evaluation Report” from E Source, 2026. Includes energized projects from all ILSFA sub-programs.

Projects and Funding

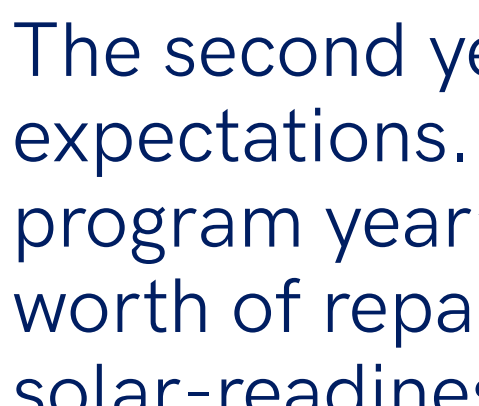
This single-family home in Alton got a new roof through the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative.



ILSFA continued to help Illinois residents and organizations reduce their electric bills while helping Illinois achieve its renewable energy goals.

Approved Projects

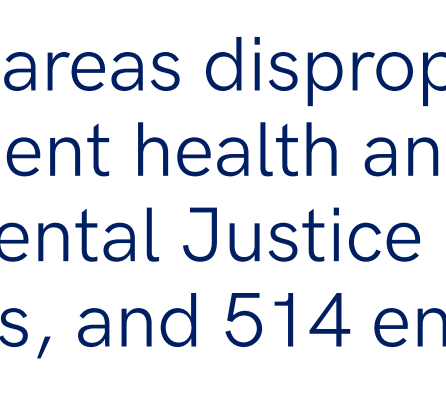
ILSFA approved 626 solar projects across Illinois during the program year.



Residential Solar
Small (1-4 unit buildings): **577** approved projects
Large (5+ unit buildings): **2** approved projects (196 units)
\$21.95 million in incentives



Non-Profit and Public Facilities
41 approved projects
\$15.98 million in incentives



Community Solar
6 approved projects
811 validated subscriptions
\$36.98 million in incentives

The second year of the Home Repairs and Upgrades Initiative exceeded expectations. Approved Vendors submitted projects that far surpassed the program year’s goal of 50-75 projects. The initiative provided \$1.5 million worth of repairs for 179 homes, reflecting the widespread need for solar-readiness repairs within the ILSFA program.

Late in 2024, an additional \$11 million in funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund expanded the Community Solar budget, enabling ILSFA to finance more projects.

ILSFA continued to prioritize projects in areas disproportionately affected by environmental hazards that impact resident health and quality of life. Residential Solar projects included 195 in Environmental Justice Communities, 225 in income-eligible or qualified census tracts, and 514 energy sovereignty projects.

Project Funding

ILSFA allocated almost \$75 million for Illinois solar projects during the program year.

Project Funding in Vulnerable Communities

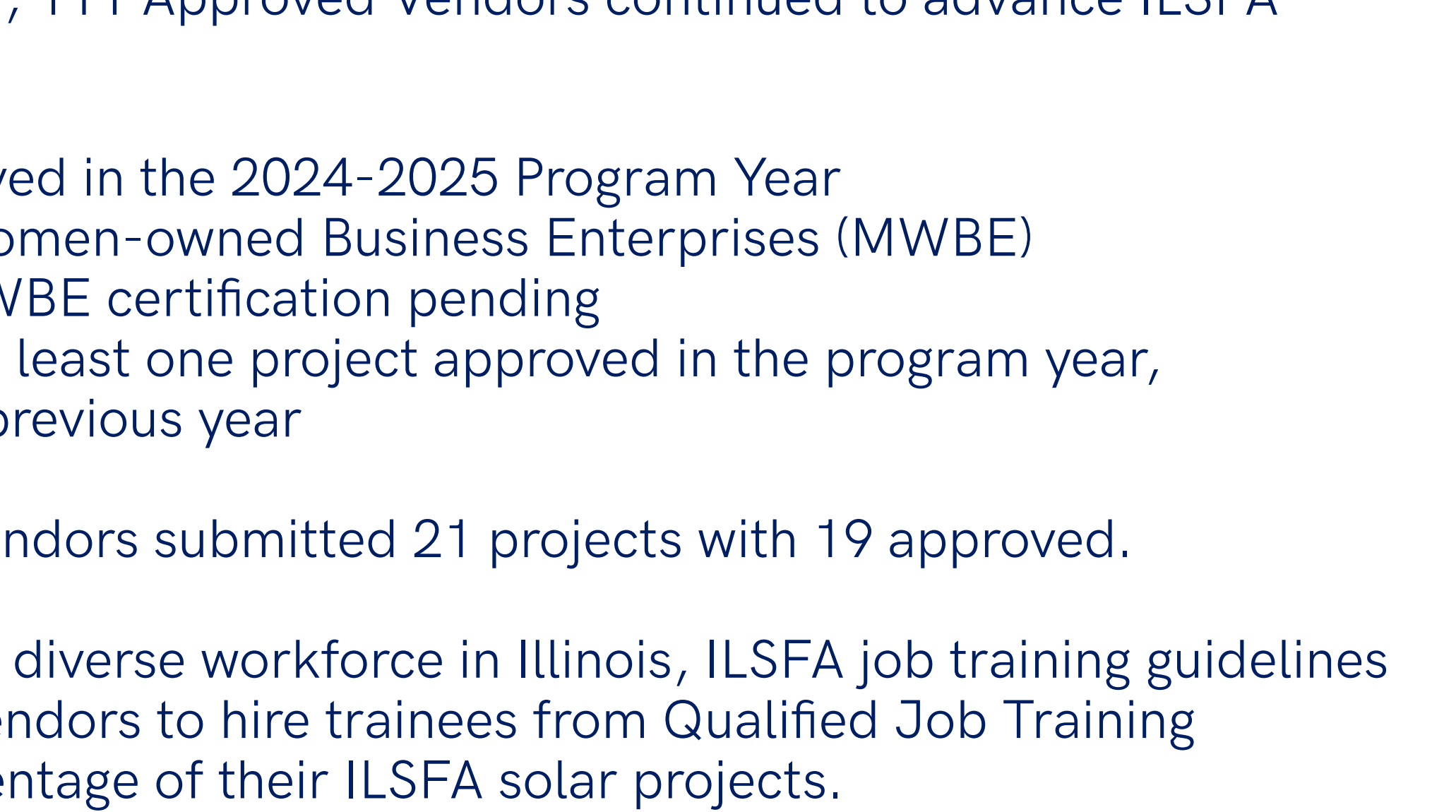
- **78%** in income-eligible census tracts
- **59%** in designated Environmental Justice Communities

Project Funding by Utility Territory



Approved Vendors and Job Training

An ILSFA Community Solar project in Rockford produces solar energy for participants via a 6,600-panel installation built on an 11-acre former landfill.



At program year end, 111 Approved Vendors continued to advance ILSFA projects including:

- 40 vendors approved in the 2024-2025 Program Year
- 16 Minority- or Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBE)
- 2 vendors with MWBE certification pending
- 25 vendors with at least one project approved in the program year, up from 11 in the previous year

MWBE Approved Vendors submitted 21 projects with 19 approved.

To develop a strong, diverse workforce in Illinois, ILSFA job training guidelines require Approved Vendors to hire trainees from Qualified Job Training programs on a percentage of their ILSFA solar projects.

In this program year:

- 12 Approved Vendors hired 97 trainees from qualified job training programs.
- Trainees typically worked on installation and other projects with the same vendor.
- Trainees logged more than 39,000 work hours.

Grassroots Education



Grassroots Education organizations are trusted in their communities and essential to building participation in Illinois Solar for All.

Deepening its commitment to Grassroots Education, ILSFA selected 10 community organizations that coordinated an unprecedented 665 events, double the number offered the previous year. Grassroots Educators engaged more than 16,000 attendees in workshops, community meetings, online sessions, and lunch-and-learns.

To build educators’ knowledge and outreach skills, the ILSFA Program Administrator coordinated 87 one-on-one meetings with Grassroots Educators. In addition, 10-15 educators regularly attended office hours for training on 12 topics, including ILSFA sub-program overviews, effective social media use, how to answer common questions, and income verification and savings.

Public Engagement



Media coverage raised community awareness of ILSFA projects, like the 592-panel solar addition to the Bloomington Public Library featured in local publication, The Pantagraph.

Public engagement is a core component of Illinois Solar for All. ILSFA coordinated partnerships, events, and promotional opportunities throughout the year to drive awareness and participation.

ILSFA partnered with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to implement the **Clean Energy Connector**, a resource developed by the U.S. Department of Energy. Community agencies used the tool to introduce ILSFA Community Solar to households participating in government-run, low-income support programs.

The **Small and Emerging Business Initiative** hosted workshops across the state to help business owners understand how to enter the solar market, particularly in income-eligible and Environmental Justice Communities.

The two-year **Bright Neighborhoods Initiative** increased program visibility in three community areas in Illinois. Marketing and community engagement activities, such as running digital ads, sending direct mail, and attending community events, led 169 residents to indicate interest in participating. Through the initiative, the ILSFA Program Administrator also identified improvements to the income verification process to increase participation in the Residential Solar sub-program.

The **ILSFA Advisory Committee** met quarterly to guide and advise ILSFA program improvements. Meeting topics included the Environmental Justice Project Selection Protocol, program messaging, and program evaluation reports.

A **redesigned website** helped participants and Approved Vendors more easily find and understand program information.

Three **newsletters** emailed to 3,000 subscribers drove awareness and engagement by promoting ILSFA initiatives, accomplishments, and participant stories. Additionally, 101 email **announcements** with key program updates reached 900 subscribers.

Media coverage continued to grow organically: 54 local and national publications and outlets mentioned ILSFA, including the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun-Times, NPR Illinois, Kankakee Daily Journal, and Canary Media.

The **ILSFA Call Center** answered 767 calls and made 929 outbound calls, reflecting greater program interest and proactive external engagement.