



# Exploring Illinois Shines & Illinois Solar for All



Illinois Shines (also known as the Adjustable Block Program) and Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) are state incentive programs that support solar project development in Illinois.

To participate in either of these Illinois Power Agency (IPA) programs, customers must work with solar developers and contractors registered with one or both of the programs. These companies will submit an on-site (distributed generation) solar project to the applicable program or subscribe a customer to an established community solar project. Solar developers and contractors participating in these programs are vetted and approved by the Program Administrator(s) and must meet rigorous consumer protection requirements.

## What are the financing and ownership options for solar under the IPA's programs?

Financing and ownership options vary by project. Here are the three most common options:

### Purchase of Solar Project

- Customer purchases a solar project outright. Customer may take out third-party loan to finance the purchase, if needed.

### Lease of Solar Project

- Customer leases a project. The project is located on customer's property but is owned by a solar contractor.

### Purchase of Electricity from Solar Project

- Customer purchases electricity generated by a solar project through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). The project is located on customer's property but is owned by a solar contractor that sells electricity back to customer at a discounted rate.

## What consumer protection efforts are in place?

To ensure that customers participating in the Programs have a positive experience, the IPA has incorporated comprehensive, robust, and effective consumer protection guidelines into both Illinois Shines and ILSFA. To prevent misleading sales practices and facilitate comparison of multiple solar offers, solar developers and contractors are required to provide customers with a standard Disclosure Form, which they must review and sign before signing a contract. Disclosure Forms are designed to provide customers with clear and consistent information about solar projects and transactions, including system equipment, size, cost, operations, warranties, and financing benefits.

## Learn more about which program may be right for you:

### Who is eligible to participate?

#### Illinois Shines

- All Illinois residents
- Commercial and industrial customers
- Public schools

#### Illinois Solar for All

- Income-eligible households (renters and homeowners)
- Nonprofit organizations and public entities located in environmental justice or low-income communities

## Exploring Illinois Shines & Illinois Solar for All (continued)

### What options are there to participate?

#### Illinois Shines

- Residential, commercial, and industrial customers can participate by **installing solar panels directly** on their roofs or mounting them on their property through the Distributed Generation (DG) category.
- Residential, commercial, and industrial customers can **participate as subscribers** in a community solar project through the Community Solar (CS) categories.
- Public Schools can participate by installing on-site solar projects, through Small and Large Distributed Generation projects or through the Public Schools category as a community solar project anchor tenant.

#### Illinois Solar for All

- Income-eligible households can participate by **installing solar panels directly** on their roof or mounting panels on their property through the Residential Solar sub-programs.
- Income-eligible renters or homeowners can **participate as a subscriber** in an ILSFA community solar project.
- Nonprofit organizations and public entities can participate by installing on-site solar projects or as subscribers in community solar projects through the **Non-Profit and Public Facilities sub-program**.

### How do the programs ensure safe and fair business practices?

#### Illinois Shines

- In Illinois Shines, a seller may not claim that customers are guaranteed to save money, or save a certain amount of money, unless the customer contract includes an explicit and binding savings guarantee mirroring that claim. Customers purchasing, leasing, or entering a PPA contract for a distributed generation system sized less than or equal to 25kW have the right to rescind an on-site project offer within at least three calendar days
- Customers may file complaints with the Illinois Shines Program Administrator using the [Consumer Complaint Center](#) on the Illinois Shines website. Consumer complaints received by the Illinois Shines are published on the [Illinois Shines Consumer Complaints Database](#).

#### Illinois Solar for All

- With the ILSFA program, income-eligible participants see no upfront costs and a minimum specified savings. Additionally, ILSFA participants have the right to cancel an on-site project offer within 14 calendar days of executing the contract, and community solar subscribers have the right to cancel a subscription agreement within 3 calendar days after initially subscribing, or to cancel a subscription at any time by providing a 30-day notice.
- Customers may file complaints with the ILSFA Program Administrator by emailing [info@IllinoisSFA.com](mailto:info@IllinoisSFA.com) or by calling 1-888-970-ISFA. Consumer complaints received by ILSFA are published on the [ILSFA Consumer Complaints Database](#).

### Learn More or Get Started



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**Illinois Solar for All**



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