

Solar for All FAQs

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded Kentucky with a \$62,450,000 Solar for All grant to deliver solar to low-income and disadvantaged households and communities state-wide. The Kentucky Office of Energy Policy is now revising the proposed program from the initial application requesting \$100 million and will submit the revised program to the EPA by September 2024.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Solar for All?

Solar for All is a grant opportunity for states, territories, Tribal governments, municipalities, and eligible nonprofits to expand the number of low-income and disadvantaged communities that have access to residential and community solar. Solar for All is managed by the EPA and authorized by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund in the Inflation Reduction Act.

How will the program work?

Our SFA plan aims to reach low-income households in disadvantaged communities across the state providing access to renewable energy and jobs/training in renewable energy. An average of 20 percent financial savings will be seen on monthly energy bills on the homes that participate. During the one-year planning period, OEP will curate a comprehensive approach with input from low-income disadvantaged communities. Within this period, OEP will also work with key stakeholders and partners to determine optimal program design.

What is the timeline for the overall program, including for resident, contractor and stakeholder participation?

Once awarded the funds in September a one-year planning period will begin. During this time money could be dispersed for some projects as soon as late 2024 to early 2025, however this is subject change.

Stakeholder engagement will take place during this one-year period. There will be a webinar/video released via our newsletter and website with more detailed information on the program. More updates to come.

Will there be job or workforce development opportunities?

Yes, one of the goals of our SFA plan is to “... invest a significant portion of funds into local workforce development programs to support the successful deployment of the Solar for All program, improve the number of available qualified technicians and installers, and create new high-quality job opportunities statewide.”

Scholarships for certifications, apprenticeships, wrap around services, etc. are all components of our solar workforce development plan.

What projects will be eligible to be funded?

Our program will support residential rooftop solar installations in eligible single-family homes, residential-serving community solar programs, and there are plans to include multi-family housing pilot programs in the revised workplan. EPA’s Solar for All guidance also allows up to 20 percent of the funding to be used on enabling upgrades to prepare residences for solar installations.

What factors will determine eligibility?

OEP will disperse funding to projects that benefit low-income individuals and families, with a focus on serving disadvantaged and underserved communities. Per EPA's definition, low-income and disadvantaged communities include [Climate and Economic Justice Screen Tool \(CEJST\)-identified disadvantaged communities](#), [EJScreen-identified disadvantaged communities](#), geographically dispersed low-income households and properties providing affordable housing. For more information on this, please visit [EPA's Inflation Reduction Act Disadvantaged Communities Map](#).

Our office will also be using programs like LIHEAP and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) to determine eligibility, as they have the same or higher level of income verification.

Are there any IRA benefits I can access now?

Federal residential energy tax credits (including both energy efficiency and solar power) are currently available through the IRS for certain qualifying projects. Visit [DOE's Homeowners Guide to Residential Solar Tax Credits](#) or consult your tax professional for more information. Additionally, visit the [Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency](#) to find other energy incentives that you may be eligible for.

Where can I learn more about Solar for All?

Read the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's FAQ](#) to keep up to date on developments at the federal level, and for more detailed information.

For program updates, visit these websites and sign up for our newsletter:

[Solar for All | Office of Energy Policy - Project Explorer \(arcgis.com\)](#)

[Energy - Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet](#)

[Signup Form \(constantcontactpages.com\)](#)

If you have additional questions, send them to emma.strong@ky.gov .
