



Summary of State Approaches to Low-income Community Solar, by Program, Carveout, Incentive

STATE	LEGISLATION	RULEMAKING OR PROCEEDING	PROGRAM	CARVEOUT	INCENTIVES	NOTES
CA	Community Solar - Green Tariff program (CS-GT) and the DAC Green Tariff program (DAC-GT)	Rulemaking 14-07-002	Community Solar Green Tariff Program (CS-GT) DAC Green Tariff Program (DAC-GT)	50% of a project's output must be subscribed by customers eligible for CARE or FERA	Eligible community sponsors can receive 20% off their electric rate on up to 25% of a CGST projects energy output	This program is structured similarly to the DAC-Green Tariff program but requires each solar project to be located in proximity to the customers it serves. If it's serving a DAC, the project location needs to be within 5 miles. If it's serving a pilot community in the San Joaquin Valley, it needs to be within 40 miles.
			Community Department of Community Services and Development Community Solar Pilot Program	This program is only for income eligible residents in disadvantaged communities (DACs)	Eligible residential customers in DACs can receive 20% off their electric rate	DAC-GT allows customers who are not in a position to take advantage of SOMAH or DAC-SASH through onsite solar, to still benefit from solar energy.



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CO	2010 Solar Gardens Act Community Solar Gardens Modernization Act	19A-0369E	Low-Income Community Solar Demonstration Project	10% low-income eligible customer carveout, applied on a portfolio basis	<p>Low-income customer standard offer incentives offered for CSGs up to 500 kW</p> <p>Can solicit through the RFP process up to 4 MW of community solar gardens that commit to provide 100% of their output to qualified low-income customers. Utilities consider LMI participation when evaluating bids from the RFP process and award incentives for project RECs 0.5 MW will be set aside annually for a low-income standard offer. The REC incentive to be paid for standard offer participants will be the average annual awarded REC for the low-income community solar gardens RFP plus \$0.01/kWh. The REC incentive for the standard offer shall be paid on an up-front basis within the first quarter that the community solar garden is providing energy to the system</p>	<p>Updated CSG include separate definitions of eligible low-income CSG subscriber (up to 185% of FPL) and eligible low-income service provider (nonprofits that provide essential services to low-income customers, and affordable housing providers). Rules also allow for subscribers to donate excess bill credits to low-income customers.</p> <p>Nonprofit affordable housing buildings or public housing authority buildings are also considered “low-income subscribers” and qualify for projects and incentives</p>



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CT	<p>Public Act 18-50 2018 legislation establishing the Shared Clean Energy Facilities Program</p> <p>SB 928 (Public Act 15-113)</p> <p>HB-5427 (Public Act 16-116)</p> <p>SB 9</p>	<p>Docket: 19-07-01</p> <p>Docket: 17-06-28</p>	<p>Shared Clean Energy Facilities Pilot Program</p> <p>Shared Clean Energy Facilities Program</p>	<p>20% of enrollees in each project must be low-income customers</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The SCEF Pilot Program requires the monetary value of the subscribed energy and associated RECs generated by a SCEF to initially flow through the SCEF subscribers' electric bills as on-bill credits. Each subscriber's monthly electric bill from the EDC will include an on-bill credit representing the value of the subscribed energy allotment. Most of that on-bill credit must be passed through, by the subscriber to the subscriber organization, as the subscription payment.</p>



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DC	Renewable Portfolio Standard Expansion Amendment Act of 2016	Funded by the Renewable Energy Development Fund and administered by DOEE	Solar for All Program	Goal of providing the benefits of solar electricity to 100,000 low-income households (at or below 80% Area Median Income), and to reduce their energy bills by 50% (based on the 2016 residential rate class average) by 2032	Competitive grant-based funding, Solar for All Innovation and Expansion Grant Projects	In addition to the Solar for All Innovation and Expansion Grant Projects, DOEE has funded additional projects aimed at increasing solar access across the District: (1) Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Audit and Solar Tool for Affordable Housing; (2) Low-Income Energy Efficiency and Solar-Ready Roof Demonstration; and (3) Community Solar Pilot - 100 Low income residents.



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HI	Act 100 (SB 1050)	Docket No. 2015-0389	<p>Green Energy Market Securitization --- On-Bill Repayment Program (GEM\$)</p> <p>Community-Based Renewable Energy (CBRE) Program</p>	To secure financing, a proposed project must be projected to lower the applying customer's net annual costs by at least 10%	<p>Borrowers pay for energy-saving devices made over time through their electricity bill and their energy savings. This financing tool enables the program to lend to riskier borrowers while also mitigating associated risk.</p> <p>Phase 2 will be open to 235 MW of renewable generation across Hawaiian Electric's five-island service territory. The second phase places special emphasis on opportunities for moderate-income residential customers to participate such as exploring Pay-As-You-Go, On-Bill repayment options for customers, and other financing mechanisms to encourage broad participation.</p>	<p>\$150 million was the initial program capital raised through state-issued rate reduction bonds. The bonds are repaid through a monthly fee on customers electric bills. The program provides access to solar PV and only criteria for joining is 12 months of consecutive on-time bill payment.</p> <p>Phase 2 of the project was initiated in April 2020. The PUC's goal for Phase 2 is to expand access to the economic, environmental, and societal benefits of renewable energy. The PUC's Phase 2 Order is available here. A draft tariff for small projects; a draft request for proposal ("RFP") for projects dedicated to low and moderate income customers; and draft RFPs for projects on Molokai and Lanai were submitted by the Hawaiian Electric Companies.</p>



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IL	Public Act 99-0906	IPA Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan, Filed Revised Plan (October 21, 2019)	Solar for All Program	\$56.25 million for LMI families to subscribe to community solar projects, and \$37.5 million for innovative LMI community solar pilot projects in partnership with community organizations.	Solar for All uses Renewable Energy Credits purchases to subsidize solar for LMI residents.	Illinois Solar for All Approved vendors must demonstrate a partnership with community stakeholders in the community where the project will be located. Funding is also provided for community education about community solar.
ME	LD 1711	Docket No. 2020-00014	Maine Public Utility Commission Distributed Generation Programs, Shared Projects	At least 10% carveout for LMI or by organizations serving low or moderate income households if the subscriptions serve to directly reduce the electricity costs for low and moderate income households		



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MA	SD 1632	Program Rules and Procedures	Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) Program		SMART offers bonuses for specific types of installations plus a baseline incentive amount. The SMART program includes adders for low-income customers, adders increase the per kWh incentive. Systems under 25 kW that serve low-income customers receive 15% more than similar-sized systems. Community solar systems serving primarily low-income customers receive an adder of \$0.06/kWh.	As of April 2020, SMART is undergoing Emergency Rulemaking. SMART incentives differentiate between low-income customers and low-income property owners. SMART program also includes low-income specific tariffs.



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MD	HB 1087	Subtitle 62: Community Solar Energy Generation Systems	Maryland Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Pilot Program Community Solar LMI-PPA Grant Program	<p>Allocates 30% of program capacity & 60 MW for LMI customers; LMI customers subscribe to at least 20% of output. Also has a carveout for "small projects," including projects serving at least 50% LMI subscribers.</p>	<p>LMI customers who subscribe to community solar under an ownership model receive an incentive of \$300/kW (compared with \$100/kW for non-LMI customers).</p> <p>The Community Solar LMI PPA Incentive Grant Program is designed to help extend the benefits of community solar projects to Low and Moderate Income communities. The grant is only for LMI subscriptions that are offered along with a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) model. MEA will determine grant award amounts for a successful applicant based on the sum of the "Subscription Incentive" and the "Validation Incentive."</p>	<p>Low to moderate (LMI) residents who subscribe to a community solar array under an ownership model are incentivized at a higher rate than other subscribers.</p> <p>The grant application window opens on September 15, 2020, and the initial application deadline is January 5, 2021. To qualify for the Community Solar LMI PPA Grant Program, the applicant must: (1) be authorized to conduct business in Maryland; (2) be a Maryland PSC approved Subscriber Organization; and (3) have developed a community solar array that allots capacity either under the LMI category; or in the "Small/Brownfield/Other" category. If capacity is allotted in the "Small/Brownfield/Other" category, then 51% or more of its energy credits must be provided to certified LMI to members.</p>



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NJ	A3723/S2314	N.J.A.C. 14:8-9	Community Solar Energy Pilot Program	The pilot program reserves 40% of capacity for projects that serve low- and moderate-income customers.	Community solar projects will be eligible to apply, via a one-time election prior to the delivery of any energy from the facility, for SRECs or Class I RECs, as applicable, or to any subsequent revision to the solar compensation mechanisms as determined by the Board pursuant to the Clean Energy Act. Any incentive established to replace the current SREC program will be determined via the Board's Solar Transition pursuant to the P.L.2018, c.17.	The Board received a total of 252 applications and 45 community solar projects were granted conditional approval. 50% RPS by 2030; community solar program enabled with special direction for Board of Public Utilities to include low-income and environmental justice participants



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NY	DG Program PSC Order Establishing a Community DG Program	Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) Order Establishing a Community Distributed Generation Program and Making Other Findings, Proceeding on Motion of the Commission as to the Policies, Requirements and Conditions for Implementing a Community Net Metering Program, Case 15-E-0082 (July 17, 2015)	New York’s Community Distributed Generation (“CDG”) program; NYSERDA Solar for All Program offers shared solar credits to low-income customers who qualify for electric bill assistance programs	The Commission first issued the CDG order in July 2015, it included a carve out for an initial phase of 20% for low- to moderate-income (LMI) subscribers in the Phase 1 of the CDG roll-out. Staff commenced a Low-Income Collaborative process to brainstorm and develop solutions but elected to not take up any of the recommendations and declared that there was effectively a market failure in the low-income sector requiring alternative utility ownership interventions.	NY-Sun offers incentives for technical assistance and community adders	New York’s CDG policy seeks to address energy-related burdens for low-income and environmental justice communities.



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OR	SB 1547	AR 603 and UM 1930	The Oregon Community Solar Program	10% of the total program capacity serve low income customers. Each project will have 5% allocated to low income customers.		The program's low-income facilitator, Community Energy Project, is available to assist low-income subscribers and communities.
RI	HB 8354	Docket 4589-A/4589-B	Community Renewables		The Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund provides incentives to developers who sign up LMI customers at a higher rate than the basic residential. LMI-rate code: A-60: \$500/host customer and the Basic residential - rate code: A-16 \$300/host customer	The Community Renewables program provider is Rhode Island Commerce Corporation. The program is intended to increase the number of LMI residents who participate in the Community Remote Net Metering (CRNM) program. Through the Community Renewables Program, the Rhode Island Renewable Energy Fund provides incentives to developers in the CRNM program who sign up residential and LMI customers.



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VA	H 1634 / S 629	SCC Docket PUR-2020-00125	Shared Solar Programs	30% for LMI Customers (of up to 200 MW program)	The initial program capacity is set at 150MW, of which 30% (45MW) must be subscribed by LMI customers. Opening additional program capacity is contingent on achieving that 30%. Then an additional 50MW can be added to the program.	<p>Dominion territory only</p> <p>In Virginia, the Multifamily Shared Solar program eligibility will apply to Dominion Energy Virginia (Dominion) and Kentucky Utilities (Old Dominion Power).</p>
	HB 710 / 572 / 1184 / 1647	SCC Docket PUR-2020-00124	Multi Family Shared Solar	None		

Table last updated December 2020