# **NY-Sun** Community Solar





ACCESS clean energy CHOOSE local power

SAVE money



visit: nyserda.ny.gov/ community-solar

# Information to help you make the right solar decisions

## Do your research

It is important that the Community Solar offering works for you. Whether you're looking to buy panels up front or to pay for electricity as you go, different options can be available to meet different needs. There are many ways a Community Solar project can save you money. Online reviews and customer references are excellent resources for getting background on the company that manages the project.

# Learn how you can save

The amount you'll save is completely dependent on the type of Community Solar project in your area and your financial situation. Be sure to take a look at your subscription contract, understand your return on investment, and know what tax credits are available to you—all of this will give you a much better understanding of the savings you can expect.

# Get to know your contract

- How long are you committing for?
- What happens if you move?
- What if you want to cancel?
- Are there late fees?
- What if the project doesn't produce as much electricity as expected?

Know the terms of your contract so you know what you're committing to and what you can expect down the road.



## **Membership types**

Developers of Community Solar projects determine which plans are available to their members. These are the basic options.

#### **Subscription Plans**

- Little to no up-front cash layout
- "Pay-as-you-go" subscription
- Different term options



#### **Purchase Plans**

- You own the panels located in the Community Solar project
- Financing options are usually available
- Potentially greater savings over time
- You may also be eligible for tax credits

### Questions to ask before you sign up

When you get to the point where you're speaking with a Community Solar developer, these are some good questions to ask.

#### Money and Financing



Is a payment or deposit required to hold my spot?

What will it cost me on a monthly or annual basis, and how do you determine that cost?

Are there any fees?

Are there any credits, rebates, or incentives available?

How much money do you estimate I can save over the whole term?

What financing options are available if I purchase the panels?



What membership options are available to me?

How long is the agreement term, and what happens if I move?

What are my options at the end of the agreement?

Can I change my solar share in the middle of my agreement?

Is there a financial penalty if I end the agreement early?



#### Power Generation



Will I be able to monitor how much electricity my panels generate?

Do you guarantee the amount of electricity generated by my panels?

If so, what happens if that amount is not reached?

# **Ready to get started?**

#### Learn more about Community Solar and if it's right for you. You can access resources and get answers at nyserda.ny.gov/community-solar

- Get information on how to become a Community Solar subscriber
- Find a Community Solar project in your area

