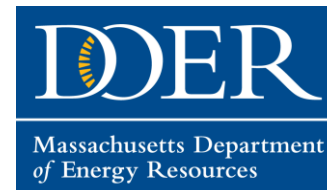




# Massachusetts Solar For All Program Overview

**\$156 million 5-year award to expand equitable access to solar**



# Program Overview

**\$156 M**

Massachusetts' Solar for All Award—the largest award size for "medium programs"



**All funding** will support implementation of solar that will benefit qualifying households



Funding will expand access to solar for “**Low Income and Disadvantaged Communities**” over the next 5 years



Projects funded by SFA must provide a minimum **20% savings** through bill credits or direct non-financial benefits to participating households.



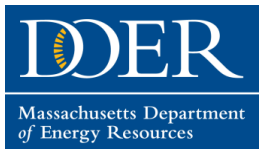
SFA is aligned with MA’s **solar targets, environmental justice objectives**, and ongoing reassessment of state **solar policy**

## The Massachusetts Solar for All Coalition consists of:

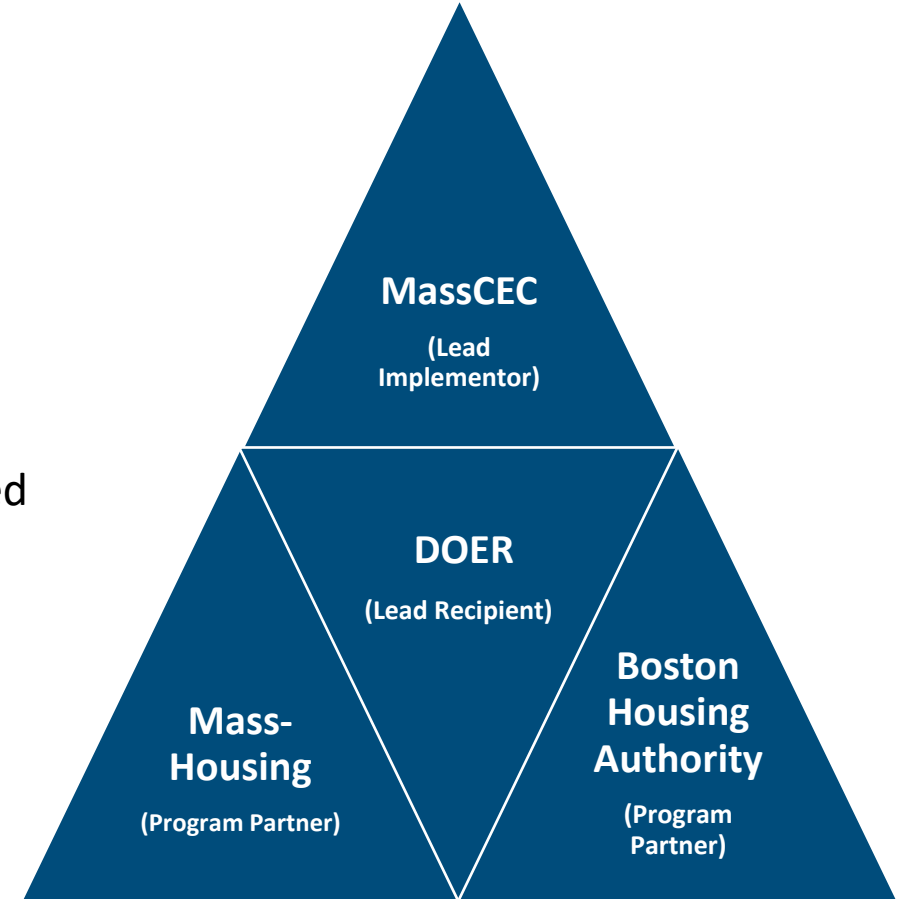
- Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources
- Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
- MassHousing
- Boston Housing Authority

The Coalition will engage and partner with municipalities and community-based organizations throughout program design and implementation periods.

Opportunities for engagement will be publicized.



\*Working closely with EOHLA, other Housing Authorities



# Program Design

Massachusetts Solar for All will support solar deployment through direct financial assistance and supporting initiatives. As contracting with EPA is ongoing, adjustments to programming outlined in the following slides may be made

## Direct Financial Assistance

1. Small Residential Solar
2. Multifamily Affordable Housing-Sited Solar
3. Community Solar

## Supporting Initiatives

1. Education and Outreach
2. Workforce Development
3. Enabling Upgrades
4. Technical Assistance

# Program Eligibility

**Solar for All will support residential-serving solar for low-income and disadvantaged communities exclusively. All projects must deliver minimum 20% savings to residents.**

Households can qualify in one of three ways:

- **Household Income:** Households demonstrate that income is below 80% of Area Median Income.\*
- **Categorical Eligibility:** Households can demonstrate enrollment in another income-qualified program that uses aligned income parameters (i.e. income qualified housing, energy assistance and nutrition assistance programs, etc.).
- **Geographic Eligibility:** Households demonstrate they are in either a federally defined Climate and Environmental Justice Census Tract or a federally defined Environmental Justice Supplemental Index Census Block.

To ensure funds can have the maximum impact, exact eligibility criteria may vary by program. Updated and specific eligibility guidelines will be published with all program solicitations.

*\*Note that EPA bases exact household income definitions on several detailed geographic characteristics. Full definitions with geographic specificity will be published on the MASFA website.*





# Small Residential

**Small Residential initiatives will enable low-income homeowners and renters to install rooftop solar through direct and third-party ownership pathways.**



Small residential initiatives apply to 1-4 unit residences. The MA SFA program contains funding to support direct ownership of solar arrays through a loan initiative, as well as third-party ownership through a specialized lease program.

All initiatives will prioritize consumer protection and maximizing benefits and impacts to residents. Small residential programs will be paired with technical assistance to ensure residents have access to information and guidance on the appropriate pathway for individual situations. See “Supporting Initiatives” for more information.

# Multifamily

**The Solar on Affordable Housing initiatives help affordable housing providers deliver meaningful benefits to tenants by installing solar arrays on multifamily dwellings.**

The MA SFA Program contains funding to support lease and ownership options for state and federally funded public housing and restricted affordable housing (e.g. LIHTC properties).

Financial assistance to overcome capital and operating barriers to onsite solar may be delivered via grants or financing. When not possible to provide direct energy savings to tenants, non-financial benefit equivalents may be provided.



MassHousing / Mass Community Climate Bank will assist in development and implementation of SFA private affordable housing programming



BHA will act as main program partner for public housing initiatives, helping to ensure that MASFA programs serve all housing authorities in the commonwealth

Technical assistance offerings will help identify feasible properties and support building owners and may include some support for naturally occurring affordable housing properties to pursue solar.



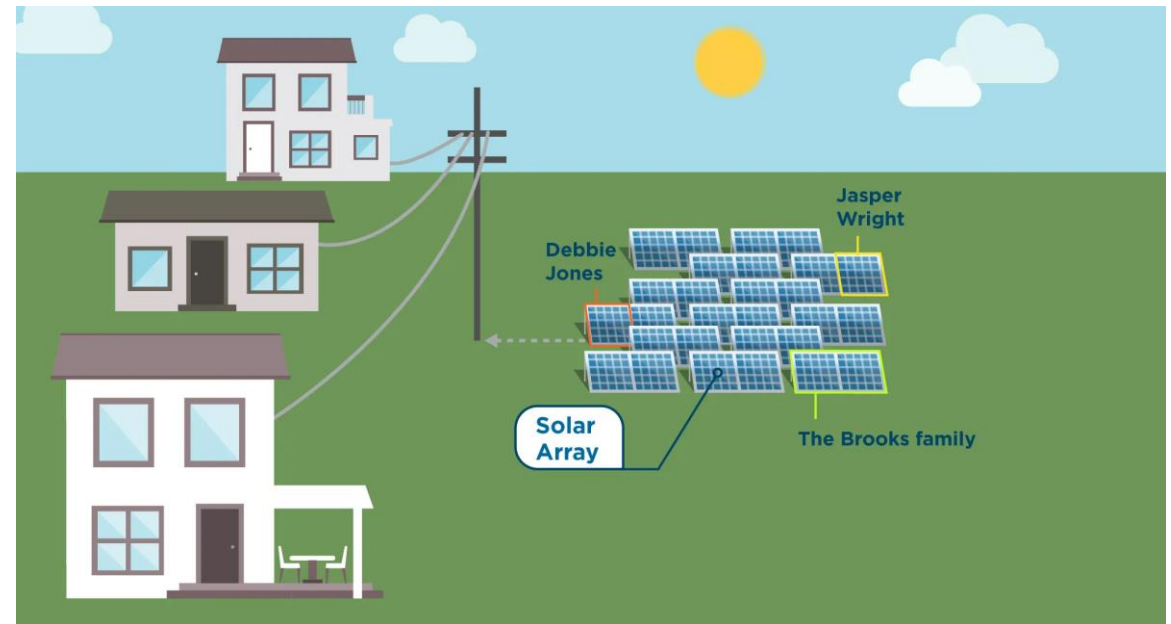
# Community Solar

**Community shared solar (CSS) programs allow residents to access the benefits of solar without installing an array on their place of residence.**

The MA SFA Program includes funding for grants and targeted financial assistance to enable community solar that delivers enhanced benefits to customers in LIDACs, including deeper savings and other community impacts.

Within Solar for All, a residential-serving community solar array can be up to 5MW, and it must deliver at least 50% of the benefits derived from the power generated by the community solar system to residential customers within the same utility territory.

Massachusetts' proposed approach includes carve outs and targeted financial support for Municipal Light Plant located projects, and for innovative community ownership models.





# Supporting Initiatives

## Up to 25% of Solar for All funding can fund Supporting Initiatives— Massachusetts has proposed:

1

**Education and Outreach:** Outreach grants and training for municipalities and community-based organizations, to help facilitate consumer education and acquisition.

2

**Workforce Development:** Grants and programming to enable increased opportunity for apprenticeships and support for LIDAC residents engaging with the solar workforce.

3

**Enabling Upgrades:** Targeted grants for limited cases in which other funding sources are inaccessible. Funds can address adoption barriers such as roof repairs and electrical service upgrades.

4

**Technical Assistance:** Participant support through procurement, siting, energy storage or resilience considerations, and more. Decision support to help participants determine what ownership model best fits their needs, and how to pair MA SFA programs with other MA-based initiatives. Other support will include quality assurance and inspections for SFA-funded projects.



# Project Timeline

**April 22, 2024**

EPA announced intent to fund the Massachusetts coalition \$156 million to roll out its Solar For All program.

Stakeholder engagement and opportunities for feedback on proposed programming will begin **fall 2024**.

**2025 - 2029**

Program Launches and ongoing operation.

**May - December 2024**

EPA will finalize award agreements with DOER by **September 30, 2024**, and workplans and budget by **December 2024**.



# Next Steps

## STAY ENGAGED

### ➤ Residents:

- Explore resources such as [Clean Energy Lives Here](#) to learn about solar and financing options.
- If applicable, enroll in low-income assistance programs (R2 rate code, nutrition benefits, LIHEAP, etc.).

### ➤ Installers:

- Begin early planning for how SFA can fit into your offerings.

### ➤ Affordable Housing Providers:

- Engage with technical resources like [the STAR program](#) offered by LISC to help you understand your solar potential and existing financing options.
- Consider potential projects and how you might deliver benefits to residents.

### ➤ Municipalities and Community-Based Organizations:

- Think about how you can assist low-income residents with finding and accessing these incentives.

## STAY IN TOUCH

- Read [more details](#)
- Sign up for email list  
<https://tinyurl.com/bdzjvh98>
- Reach out with questions at  
[solar@masscec.com](mailto:solar@masscec.com)

