



New Mexico Community Solar Program

Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham signed the Community Solar Act into law in 2021, which created the state-sponsored New Mexico Community Solar Program. The Program expands access to the benefits of solar energy for New Mexicans and supports the development of new solar projects in New Mexico.

BENEFITS

Community solar allows electric utility customers to benefit from solar energy without installing solar panels on their home or business.

ELIGIBILITY

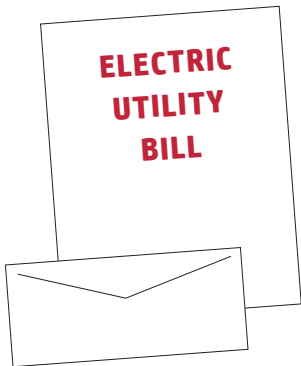
Beginning mid-2023, any resident with an electric bill can subscribe to a New Mexico Community Solar Program project. Renters, small businesses, and homeowners who cannot or choose not to install solar panels can subscribe to a community solar project.

HOW TO SIGN UP

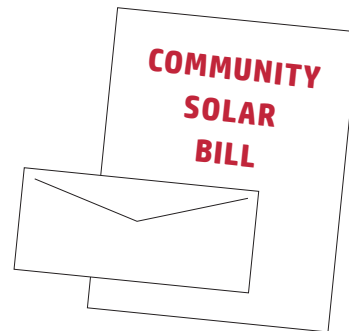
Contact a community solar provider to learn more. To confirm a project is in the New Mexico Community Solar Program, please check the list of approved projects here: csnewmexico.com/project-selection-and-waitlists/

How does community solar work?

When you participate in community solar, you subscribe to a portion of a community solar project. To save money with community solar, make sure that the price you pay for the electricity produced by your community solar subscription is less than the price you pay to your utility. If you enroll in community solar, you will receive two monthly bills:

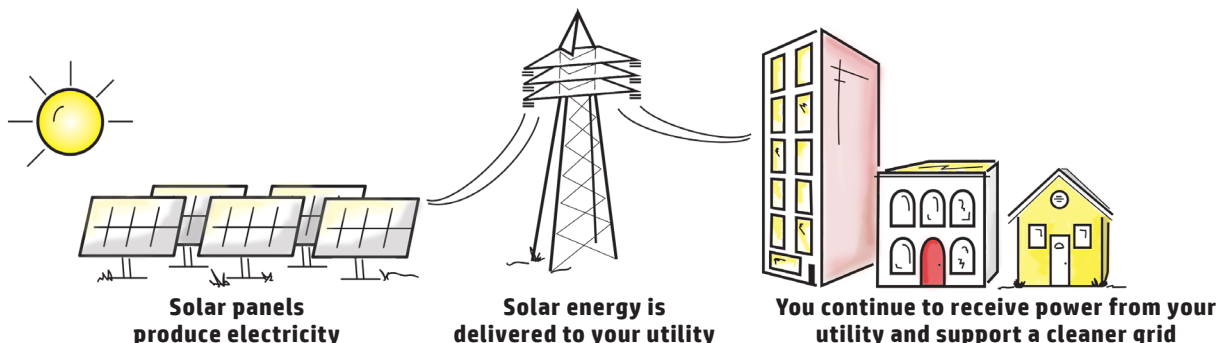


You will still pay monthly electric utility bills to your electric utility. Your electric utility bills will have credits for the solar energy produced by your community solar subscription. These credits will reduce what you owe to your utility.



You will pay a **second** bill to your community solar provider for the electricity generated by your community solar share.

IMPORTANT: Confirm that your utility rate is compatible with community solar. Some programs, like Time of Use (TOU) or Time of Day (TOD) pricing may impact your ability to save money with community solar.



Low-Income Consumers

The New Mexico Community Solar Program emphasizes low-income participation and requires that at least 30% of each community solar project be subscribed by low-income consumers. Low-income is defined as anyone with a household income below 80% of Area Median Income (AMI). If you qualify for Medicaid, SNAP, LIHEAP, a first-time homeowner program, a housing rehabilitation program, live in a low-income/affordable housing facility, or qualify for a state or federal income tax program, you can pre-qualify as low-income.

Some community solar providers may offer more affordable community solar rates to customers who qualify as low-income. **If you believe you qualify as low-income, be sure to shop around and ask community solar providers if you qualify for a better price on your community solar subscription.**

Consumer Protection

Community solar providers must provide customers with the following: a copy of this flyer, a complete Disclosure Form, and a complete Disclosure Form Appendix. The Disclosure Form and Appendix summarize important information about your community solar contract. The community solar provider must receive your signature on the Disclosure Form before they receive your signature on the subscription agreement.

If you have any concerns about community solar sales activity, please contact the New Mexico Community Solar Program Administrator at (877) 794-0109 or admin@csnewmexico.com.

Consumer Tips:



TIP #1: Compare Multiple Quotes

There are multiple companies offering community solar subscriptions in New Mexico. Comparing quotes can help ensure that you are receiving the best offer and that you are working with a reputable company.



TIP #2: Know the Length and Terms of Your Contract

Always read your contract. Make sure you know the following:

- How long is the contract and will it auto-renew?
- How are savings calculated? Will your payments increase at any time?
- Will your provider conduct a credit check?
- When will your first payment be due?
- Can you cancel your contract and how much notice is required?



TIP #3: Debunk Misinformation

If something sounds too good to be true – it might be! Some common things to look out for include claims that your utility requires you to enroll in community solar, claims that you will eliminate your electric bill, or sales representatives falsely representing themselves as your electric utility or as endorsed by the state or local government.

