

## Incentive Overview and Payment Guidelines

- Incentives are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Incentives will not be approved for systems already installed (partially or completely).
- The approved incentive amount will appear on the approval letter that Eligible Installers and customers received directly from NYSERDA. This amount will not change assuming your PV System is **installed, as approved, and within the Terms and Conditions of NYSERDA's PV Program.**
- Incentives are only available to Eligible Installers and must be passed on to customers. Incentives will not be provided directly to customers purchasing or installing PV Systems. The full amount of the approved NYSERDA incentive must appear in the customer purchase agreement.
- Incentives are only available for new equipment and PV Systems that have not been installed (partially or completely) prior to NYSERDA approval of an incentive application submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Incentive Program.
- Customer incentive caps shall include PV Systems already installed and funded from the Renewable Portfolio Standard. Residential or commercial status is determined by the electric utility.
- PV Systems must be sized to meet specific on-site electric needs. PV System output cannot exceed 110% of the demonstrated annual historical energy use for the site, taking into account any other on-site electrical power generation systems. Incentive applications for PV Systems that are sized to produce significantly more energy than the customer uses will be rejected.
- System sizes may be greater than the maximum size allowed for incentives, however, the incentives will be provided only for the eligible portion of the PV System.
- NYSERDA reserves the right to limit the number of incentives per customer/site.
- Incentives are based on direct current module ratings at standard test conditions.
- All potential system output losses (kilowatt hours or kWh generated after all equipment losses are applied) associated with shading, system orientation, tilt angle, etc., must be analyzed and detailed for each PV System by the Eligible Installer. Such losses must be detailed in each application package using industry accepted shading and orientation tools, verifiable assumptions and calculations. Systems that are shaded by trees or buildings do not face south, or are not at the ideal tilt, will not generate electricity to their maximum potential. In cases where trees or any other obstruction must be removed or moved in order to meet the program rules, incentive payment will not be made until a new shading analysis has been submitted and reviewed by NYSERDA. Photos may also be required in order to determine that the system meets the shading and orientation requirement. All impacts on system output must be quantified and are considered during the review of applications submitted by the Eligible Installer. Incentives are reduced in proportion to output losses when losses from factors such as shading and orientation exceed 20% for a traditional PV System and 40% for building integrated PV Systems.
- Incentive levels may be changed at any time while the incentive is open. Any revisions in the incentive or incentive levels will be posted on NYSERDA's website.
- Incentives may be combined with loan assistance from NYSERDA through the NYS Energy Smart Loan Fund <sup>SM</sup> to the extent they are available.

- Customers may also be eligible for State and federal tax credits.
- Additional financial assistance may be considered, on a case-by-case basis, for unique or unforeseen issues related to New York State interconnection requirements or other issues for approved installations.

The **Clean Power Estimator** has been designed to help estimate system costs for you. The Clean Power Estimator takes into account NYSEDA incentives and potential tax credits. The Clean Power Estimator can be located at <http://nyserdawebsite.com/cleanpowerestimator.com/nyserdawebsite.htm>

## Incentive Amounts

Residential (as determined by your utility) – Incentives available for systems up to 8 kW

**Standard Residential Systems** - \$\$2.50 per watt or \$2,500 per kW for standard residential systems up to the first 4 kW and \$1.50 per watt or \$1,500 per kW after the first 4 kW up to a maximum of 8 kW per site/meter, not to exceed 50% of the total installed system costs. *For example: If you have a 6 kW residential system you may be eligible to receive \$2,500 per kW for the first 4 kW:  $\$2,500 \times 4 \text{ kW} = \$10,000$ . Then, you receive \$1,500 per kW for the next 2 kW: or  $\$1,500 \times 2 \text{ kW} = \$3,000$ . Add the two together to get your total funding: Total incentive = \$13,000, or 50% of the total installed system cost, whichever is less.*

**New York State ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Labeled Homes** – An additional \$.50 per watt or \$500 per kW for systems that are installed on houses participating in the New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Labeled Home Program up to a maximum of 8 kW per site/meter. To be qualified at this incentive level, the system must be installed by an Eligible Installer, the builder must be a participating builder in the New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Labeled Home Program, and the home must be registered with the New York State Builders Association. Visit [www.GetEnergySmart.org](http://www.GetEnergySmart.org) for more information.

**Building Integrated PV Systems** – An additional \$.50 per watt or \$500 per kW for building integrated PV (BIPV) for residential customers up to a maximum of 8 kW per site/meter. A BIPV system generates electricity while also serving as an integral building component. To be considered building-integrated, a system must obviate the need for a conventional building material (e.g. asphalt shingles), and cannot merely apply energy generating capability to another building component at the site.

Commercial - Incentives available for systems up to 80 kW

**Commercial Systems** - \$2.50 per Watt or \$2,500 per kW for commercial systems up to the first 40 kW and \$1.50 per watt or \$1,500 per kW after the first 40 kW up to a total of 80 kW per site/meter, not to exceed 50% of the total installed system costs. *For example: The incentive for a 60 kW PV System would be \$130,000, or 50% of the total installed system cost, whichever is less*

**Building Integrated PV Systems** – An additional \$.50 per Watt or \$500 per kW for commercial BIPV up to a total of 80 kW per site/meter.

Not-for-Profit – Incentives are available for systems up to 25 kW

**Not-for Profit School, Not-for-Profit, and Government Systems** - \$4.00 per Watt or \$4,000 per kW for not-for-profit schools, not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, and state/federal agencies up to a maximum of 25 kW per site/meter, not to exceed 50% of the total installed system costs. Any organization applying for this incentive level must submit a signed copy of IRS Tax Form 990 or other evidence of not for profit status to be eligible for this enhanced incentive.

**Building Integrated PV Systems** – An additional \$.50 per Watt or \$500 per kW for not-for-profit BIPV, up to a total of 80 kW per site/meter.

## INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

- Any system modifications or equipment changes must be approved by NYSERDA in writing before a system is installed. Failure to get NYSERDA approval on any and all modifications may result in revocation of the incentive reservation or nonpayment of the incentive.
- Incentives will be paid to Eligible Installers in two increments and will be tied to specific installation milestones. The first incentive payment, or 75% of the total incentive amount approved by NYSERDA, will be paid after all approved system components have been delivered to a customer's site, all permits and approvals have been obtained, and Attachment D is completed, submitted, and approved by NYSERDA. Eligible Installers have 90 days from the date the initial invoice is approved by NYSERDA to complete the installation. The BIPV adder should be included when determining the 75% value.
- The second incentive payment, or the remaining 25% of the total incentive amount approved by NYSERDA, will be paid after a PV System has been connected to the utility grid, inspected by all authorities having jurisdiction, and/or inspected by NYSERDA or its representatives, and Attachment E has been completed, submitted and approved by NYSERDA. Installers must provide a list of names for all primary crew members working on the installation with the Final Payment paperwork (Attachment F).
- Documentation for all applicable utility, state, city, town, and other inspections and approvals must be provided with Attachments D, E and F as appropriate.
- New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Labeled Homes – To receive this additional incentive, the New York ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Labeled Home must be registered with the New York State Builders Association and Attachment G must be completed and sent to NYSERDA. Attachment G may be provided at any time up to six months after NYSERDA received the final invoice.
- Where necessary, NYSERDA reserves the right to structure incentive payments differently to accommodate unique situations as determined by NYSERDA.