



## **I've seen social media posts that say I can get free solar panels; is that true?**

There is no such thing as free solar panels, but they're becoming more affordable. Read this post on the [Citizen's Utility Board \(CUB\) blog](#) about free solar panel claims.

## **Where can I find information about residential solar energy?**

The Illinois Solar Energy Association has published a "[Residential Consumer Guide to Solar Power](#)". This guide is a good place to find basic information for a person just starting to consider solar energy for their home.

The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) provides [consumer resources](#) that assist homeowners in making an informed decision about whether or not solar is a good option for them. These resources include options for going solar, what to look for in an offer, questions to ask a solar company, your rights, and more.

The CUB provides an informative fact sheet "[Introduction to Rooftop Solar](#)" that answers a wide range of questions related to incentives, financing options, determining if solar is a good option for your roof, locating installers, and more.

The Department of Energy has published a "[Homeowners Guide to Going Solar](#)" webpage that provides a wide range of information related to residential scale rooftop solar.

## **Where can I find general information that explains financing options?**

Read "[A Homeowner's Guide to Solar Financing – Leases, Loans, and PPAs](#)" published by the Clean Energy States Alliance.

## **What is net metering?**

Net metering allows residential customers who generate their own electricity from solar power to sell the electricity they aren't using back into the grid. To participate in net metering, the eligible system must be less than or equal to 2,000 kW (AC-rated) for the homeowner's use and should be sized to produce no more than 110% of the homeowner's most recent 12-months of energy use. If you are a new homeowner, or your house is new construction, ComEd will base the 110% of usage on what an "average customer" uses in the area. ComEd has an informative Frequently Asked Questions [guide](#) on Net Metering and how it works.

The CUB has an informative [fact sheet](#) that explains net metering, what systems qualify, electric bill credits, and more.

## **Interconnection to ComEd**

When your contractor submits a permit application to install a solar energy system on your rooftop, they will be asked to submit a copy of the approved ComEd Interconnection Agreement. More information about the ComEd interconnection process and fees can be found [here](#).



### **What credits will I receive on my ComEd bill?**

When you have a solar system and are being billed for net metering, you are charged only for the net amount of energy you use during each billing period (i.e., the amount of energy ComEd delivers to you minus the excess amount you send back to the smart grid). And, if you send more energy to the grid than ComEd delivers, you can receive credit on your bill for the excess energy you send back to the smart grid. Please note that you will not receive credits toward any delivery charges, taxes or fees.

### **Does Schaumburg have a list of recommended installers?**

The Village cannot recommend an installer for your project; however, a list of certified installers is maintained by the following organizations:

[Illinois Solar Energy Association](#)

[Illinois Commerce Commission](#)

### **If I install solar panels on my home, am I eligible to participate in the Community Solar Program?**

If you will be installing solar panels and would like to know if you qualify for the Community Solar Program, contact MC Squared Energy Services at 833-970-3552.