



Illinois Solar for All

Job Training

Illinois Solar for All (ILSFA) promotes equitable access to solar energy through incentives that help make solar more affordable for low-income and environmental justice communities. A key component of the program is to ensure that low-income populations benefit not only through energy savings but also through the creation of jobs.

To help achieve this, individuals who stand to benefit the most from clean energy investment are trained and connected to the jobs that are being created by the growing clean energy economy in Illinois. Many graduates of these job training programs are returning citizens, foster care alumni, and members of environmental justice communities.

What job training opportunities are available?

Training is available for both individuals and small businesses interested in growing a career or business in solar energy. Training programs offer electrical apprenticeship training, customer service and administrative training, solar installation training, job readiness training, and more. Some training opportunities may provide a stipend. Please check with the individual training provider for more details.

There are already job training opportunities and new programs continue to be developed. This includes a number of programs initiated through the Future Energy Jobs Act (FEJA) as well as other programs across the state. Interested individuals or contractors may locate a job training provider at [IllinoisSFA.com](https://www.illinoisSFA.com) and contact the provider directly to sign up.

What are the requirements for the contractors or developers who hire trainees?

The solar contractors and developers that complete projects through ILSFA are referred to as Approved Vendors. Approved Vendors must apply to be a part of the program and must follow rigorous consumer protection guidelines, including quality workmanship, financial protections, providing disclosure forms, cost and savings requirements, marketing requirements, and job training requirements.



To create opportunities for a new and diverse workforce, Approved Vendors must demonstrate that a minimum number of hours worked on ILSFA projects will be done by graduates from qualified job training programs. The requirement is calculated by hours per projects per year for all the sub-programs, with an additional requirement for the Low-Income Distributed Generation sub-program. Approved Vendors are required to have a Qualified Job Trainee, who has graduated from an eligible job training program, on 33% of their Distributed Generation installations.

How can workforce development providers help get people into these programs?

Workforce development providers can direct people to the ILSFA website to identify a training provider and discuss collaboration and support. Job training programs will teach workers the necessary skills for installing solar projects. The Program Administrator will connect job training programs with Approved Vendors, and Approved Vendors will recruit workers from eligible job training programs.



Who is eligible to be hired as a Qualified Job Trainee?

To be eligible to serve as a Qualified Job Trainee, individuals must have successfully completed a qualified job training program. This includes three categories of FEJA-funded courses (the FEJA Solar Jobs Training Program, the Craft Apprenticeship Program, and the Multi-Cultural Jobs Program) as well as other job training programs across the state. Trainees must have completed the course within 36 months of participating in an Illinois Solar for All project.

Additional Job Training Opportunities

Approved Vendors may also request to use trainees from other qualifying programs that are not funded by FEJA to meet the job training requirements. This may include:

- An apprenticeship as a journeyman electrician from a USDOL-registered or an applicable state-agency-registered electrical apprenticeship and training program
- An electrical training program for in-house employees established and administered by a qualified electric utility
- An Associate in Applied Science degree from an Illinois Community College Board-approved program in solar generation technology
- A North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) distributed generation technology certification program

For more information about ILSFA:

Online: IllinoisSFA.com

Phone: 1-888-970-ISFA (4732)



Contact information for grassroots education organization:

Organization: _____

Contact: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____