



How to Get Involved

Overview for Community-Based Organizations

The Oregon Community Solar Program gives customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power and Idaho Power an easy way to go solar. Customers can subscribe to a community solar project—such as a large solar system on a business, school or church—and receive a credit on their monthly utility bill for the electricity from their portion of the project.

For **community-based organizations (CBOs)** like nonprofits and churches, community solar provides a new way to support community members in accessing solar energy. If you represent a CBO, there are multiple ways you can get involved:

1 Manage a Community Solar Project.

The most far-reaching way you can participate is by becoming a project manager. Project managers are responsible for developing and maintaining solar projects, conducting outreach to potential customers, signing contracts with participants and their utility, and various other duties required by the program.

The project manager does **not** need to implement every part of the project—for example, they can work with a construction partner that develops and owns the solar installation—but they are responsible for the coordination of all tasks.

Being a project manager requires a significant amount of resource and time commitment (utility contracts last twenty years), but it gives you the greatest degree of control in shaping a community solar project.



Visit [oregoncsp.org/p/ProjectManagerResources/](https://www.oregoncsp.org/p/ProjectManagerResources/) to learn more about a project manager's roles and responsibilities.

2 Support an Existing Project as a Partner.

If you would prefer not to enroll as a project manager, you can still support the program by partnering with another entity. For example, you could assist a project manager by taking on customer outreach and engagement without being responsible for customer contracts or solar development. And if you have access to a viable site for a solar installation, you could offer to host a project on that site. By taking on a more limited partnership role, you're able to limit your involvement to the areas that suit your organization best.

If you're interested in identifying potential project managers to partner with, visit the program website at www.oregoncsp.org and review the roster of registered project managers. Project managers also have access to a list of CBOs interested in partnerships. To be added to this list, contact the program administration team at administrator@oregoncsp.org.



3 Connect Your Community to Solar.

If there isn't a specific project you would like to partner with, you can promote the Oregon Community Solar Program in general and serve as an educational resource to your community. The community solar project finder tool, available online at www.oregoncsp.org, provides information about all available community solar projects. By providing outreach through your usual channels and sharing the program website, you can help your community research the program, compare projects, and select the one that is right for them.

In addition to referring community members to the program, you can also coordinate with the administrative team, low-income facilitator, or individual project managers to host a workshop about the program.



By getting involved with community solar, you can help shape a project to better serve your community and contribute to a statewide movement toward sustainability energy. Visit us online to learn more about the program, its development, and the progress we're making.