

California Enhanced Community Renewables Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **California's Enhanced Community Renewables Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **D** because it **does not comport with many of the IREC-identified best practices, which could impede program effectiveness and market development.**

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✓
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✗
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✗
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
		State Program Grade:	D

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.**
- ✓ **Promotes LMI customer participation via a 100 MW capacity carve-out for disadvantaged communities.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Improve the value proposition for customers by increasing the bill credit rate.** This is one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success. Under the current program, customers only receive bill credits based on the class average generation rate.
- **Clarify the valuation methodology to ensure that it is clearly articulated and easy to understand.**
- **Explicitly allow a customer's subscription to be transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.** Transferability is not specified within the current regulations.
- **Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.** Currently, the facility must be located in the same municipality or county as subscribers or within 10 miles of subscribers.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

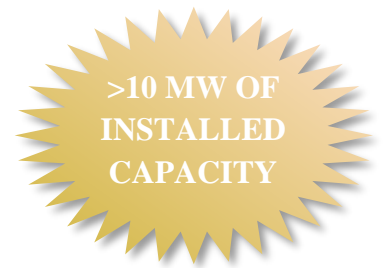
California Virtual Net Metering Program



IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **California's Virtual Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B-**, indicating that it has room for improvement but **reflects many best practices critical for shared renewable energy development.**

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
<p>KEY One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion; Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most critical criteria for program success. The gold star above indicates that the program has at least 10 MWs of capacity installed and received credit for demonstrating a basic level of market viability.</p>			
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✓
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✗
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
State Program Grade:			B-
<p>Program Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Values shared renewable energy generation at the retail rate minus non-bypassable charges, providing a strong value proposition for customers. Bill credit valuation is one of the most heavily weighted criteria for program success. ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology. ✓ Promotes expanded access to low- to moderate-income customers, with components addressing financial barriers and requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach. ✓ Explicitly allows customer subscriptions to be transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization. <p>Opportunities for Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Allow the facility to be located either on- or off-site. The current rules state that facilities must be located on-site. Allowing off-site facilities would help increase solar access to more consumers. ➤ Explicitly permit customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory. Portability is not specified within the current rules. ➤ Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory. Under the current program, the facility and subscribers must be located on same multi-tenant or multi-meter property. 			
<p>*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/.</p>			

Colorado Solar*Rewards Community Program



IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Colorado's Solar*Rewards Community Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B+**, indicating that it has room for improvement but **reflects many best practices critical for shared renewable energy development.**

KEY | One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion; Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most critical criteria for program success. The **gold star** above indicates that the program has at least 10 MWs of capacity installed and received credit for demonstrating a basic level of market viability.

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✓
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
State Program Grade:			B+

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Values shared renewable energy generation at the "Total Aggregate Retail Rate" and uses REC incentives to supplement the bill credit rate.**
- ✓ **Clearly articulates the valuation methodology in the statute, rules, and tariff.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory, as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit is 2 megawatts.
- **Add provisions to expand access to low- to moderate-income customers, such as a financing component or requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach.** The program does not currently have such components.
- **Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.** Currently, the facility must be located in the same municipality or county as subscribers, within some exceptions.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

Connecticut Shared Clean Energy Facility Pilot Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Connecticut's Shared Clean Energy Facility Pilot Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **D-** because it **does not comport with many of the IREC-identified best practices, which could impede program effectiveness and market development.**

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✗
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			D-

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Values shared renewable energy generation at a rate close to the utility's retail rate through a competitive bid process.** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ **Permits third-party facility ownership and management.**
- ✓ **Promotes LMI customer participation by requiring that at least 20% of annual facility output go to LMI subscribers. Additionally, the projects selected for the program do not require subscribers to provide an upfront investment to participate.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Allow shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.** The current rules only allow off-site projects.
- **Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit is 4 megawatts.
- **Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory, and to transfer their subscriptions to other customers or back to the subscription organization.** Neither portability nor transferability is addressed in the current rules.

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Connecticut Virtual Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Connecticut's Virtual Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C-** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.		
Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✗
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✗
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✗
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C-
Program Strengths			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Compensates shared renewable energy generation at a rate that includes values for generation and a portion of the transmission and distribution rate components. ✓ Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site. ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory. 			
Opportunities for Improvement			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education, or outreach. The current program does not have any such components. ➤ Add specific tracking and reporting requirements for data regarding installed and queued capacity. The current program does not require the utility or other relevant entity to collect and make publicly available such data. ➤ Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts. Currently, the system capacity limit is 3 megawatts. ➤ Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory. Portability is not addressed in the current rules. 			
<p>*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/.</p>			
			October 2018

Delaware Community Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Delaware's Community Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✗
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Values shared renewable energy generation at either the utility's retail rate or a combination of the generation and transmission rate components, depending on the location of the facility.**
- ✓ **Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation.** The current program does not have any such components.
- **Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.** Portability is not addressed in the current rules.
- **Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit varies by customer but the maximum limit is 2 megawatts.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

District of Columbia Community Renewable Energy Facilities Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded the **District of Columbia's Community Renewable Energy Facilities Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B+**, indicating that it has room for improvement but **reflects many best practices critical for shared renewable energy development.**

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✗
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
State Program Grade:			B+

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Values shared renewable energy generation at either the utility's retail rate or a combination of the generation and transmission rate components, depending on the customer type.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory, as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.**
- ✓ **Requires utility to submit biannual reports to the Commission on installed capacity and other information.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education, or outreach.** The current program does not have any such components.
- **Explicitly address whether facilities can be co-located.** Co-location is not addressed in the current rules.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>. October 2018

Hawaii Community-Based Renewable Energy Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded the **Hawaii's Community-Based Renewable Energy Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✓
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✗
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✗
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C

Program Strengths

- **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.** This is a heavily weighted criterion.
- **Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory, as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization.**
- **Requires utility to file biannual status reports that will include capacity data for each facility.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Improve the value proposition for customers by increasing the bill credit rate.** This is one of the most critical criteria for program success. Under the current program, customers receive credits that are slightly above the utility's avoided cost, which is well below the retail rate.
- **Explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located.** Co-location is not addressed in the current rules.
- **Increase the system size limit to 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit depends on the island, but the maximum limit is 3 megawatts.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

Maine Community Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Maine's Community Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✗
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Compensates shared renewable energy generation at a rate that includes values for generation and a portion of the transmission and distribution rate components.**
- ✓ **Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation.** The current program does not have any such components.
- **Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.** Portability is not addressed in the current rules.
- **Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit depends on the utility, but the maximum limit is 660 kilowatts.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

Maryland Community Solar Energy Generation Systems Pilot Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Maryland's Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Pilot Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B-**, indicating that it has room for improvement but **reflects many best practices critical for shared renewable energy development.**

KEY		One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.	
Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✓
	Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
		State Program Grade:	B-
Program Strengths			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Values shared renewable energy generation at the utility's full retail rate. This is one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success. ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology. ✓ Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on- or off-site. This is another heavily weighted criterion. ✓ Explicitly permits customer subscriptions to be moved with the customer within a utility's service territory as well as transferred to another customer or back to the subscription organization. 			
Opportunities for Improvement			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts. Currently, the system capacity limit is 2 megawatts. ➤ Add provisions to expand access to low- to moderate-income customers, such as a financing component or requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach. The program does not currently have such components. 			
<p>*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/.</p>			

Massachusetts Neighborhood Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded *Massachusetts's Neighborhood Net Metering Program* using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Compensates shared renewable energy generation at a rate that includes values for the generation, transmission and transition rate components.**
- ✓ **Clearly articulates the valuation methodology.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Allows the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory, and to transfer their subscriptions to other customers or back to the subscription organization.** Neither portability nor transferability is addressed in the current rules.
- **Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.** Currently, the facility must be located in the same "neighborhood" as subscribers.
- **Expand access to low- to moderate-income customers through additional requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach.** The program does not currently have such components.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.



IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Massachusetts's Community Shared Solar/Virtual Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **B+**, indicating that it has room for improvement but **reflects many best practices critical for shared renewable energy development.**

KEY One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion; Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most critical criteria for program success. The gold star above indicates that the program has at least 10 MWs of capacity installed and received credit for demonstrating a basic level of market viability.

Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			B+

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Compensates shared renewable energy generation at a rate that includes values for the generation, transmission and transition rate components.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Allows the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.**

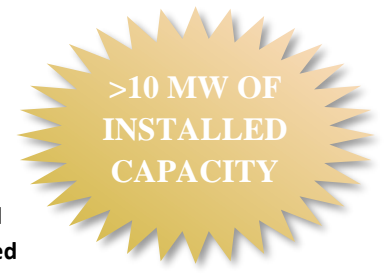
Opportunities for Improvement

- **Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory, and to transfer their subscriptions to other customers or back to the subscription organization.** Neither portability nor transferability is addressed in the current rules.
- **Expand access to low- to moderate-income customers through additional requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach.** The program does not currently have such components.

Note: The Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) program is currently under development and was not evaluated as part of the grade for this program.

*The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

Minnesota Solar*Rewards Community Program



IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Minnesota's Solar*Rewards Community Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives an **A** because it **incorporates the majority of shared renewables best practices**, offering a strong foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	<i>One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion; Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most critical criteria for program success. The gold star above indicates that the program has at least 10 MWs of capacity installed and received credit for demonstrating a basic level of market viability.</i>
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✓
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✓
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✗
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✓
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
State Program Grade:			A

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Values shared renewable energy generation at the Value of Solar (VOS) rate, which includes values for avoided generation, transmission and distribution costs, among other values.**
- ✓ **Promotes access to low-income residents of the Railroad Island neighborhood in Saint Paul, Minnesota through its Rehabilitation and Efficiency: Neighborhood Energy Works (RENEWs) three-year pilot program.**
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit is 1 megawatt.
- **Allow the facility and customers to be located anywhere within the utility service territory.** Currently, the facility must be located in the same county or contiguous county as subscribers.
- **Increase residential and small commercial customer participation through a targeted incentive or mandate.** The program does not currently have a mechanism to ensure that large commercial customers are not subscribing to the majority of the shared renewables capacity, but the state is working to create one.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.

New Hampshire Group Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **New Hampshire's Group Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C+** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✗
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
	Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗	
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✗
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓ ‡
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
State Program Grade:			C+

Program Strengths

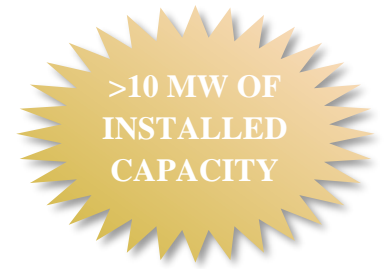
- ✓ **Values shared renewable energy generation at the utility's retail rate for small customer-generators (100 kW or less).** This is one of the most heavily weighted, critical criteria for program success.
- ✓ **Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.** This is another heavily weighted criterion.
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Improve the value proposition for large customer-generators (greater than 100 kW to 1 MW) by increasing the bill credit value.** Under the current program, customers only receive bill credits based on the default service rate, which does not include values for transmission or distribution.
- **Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts.** Currently, the system capacity limit is 1 megawatt.
- **Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education, or outreach.** The current program does not have any such components.

‡New Hampshire's bill credit rate is different for small and large customer-generators so the program received partial credit for the valuation criterion.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>.



IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **New York's Community Distributed Generation Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives an **A-** because it **incorporates the majority of shared renewables best practices**, offering a strong foundation for shared renewable energy development.

KEY	<i>One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion; Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most critical criteria for program success. The gold star above indicates that the program has at least 10 MWs of capacity installed and received credit for demonstrating a basic level of market viability.</i>
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Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✓
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✗
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✓
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✗
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			A-

Program Strengths

- ✓ **Compensates shared renewable energy generation at the Value Stack tariff, which includes values for energy, capacity, environmental benefits and demand reduction. In addition, projects receive a Market Transition Credit that brings the bill credit rate to a value that is at or near the retail rate.**
- ✓ **Promotes expanded access to low- to moderate-income customers through its Bill Discount Pledge program, which will allow low-income customers to use a share of their monthly Affordability Program bill discount towards the purchase of Community Distributed Generation subscriptions.**
- ✓ **Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory.**

Opportunities for Improvement

- **Allow shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site.** Currently, the program only allows off-site projects.
- **Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory.** Portability is not addressed in the current rules.

*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see <https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/>. October 2018

Rhode Island Community Remote Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded *Rhode Island's Community Net Metering Program* using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.		
Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✗
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✓
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✓
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✗
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✗
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✓
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✓
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✓
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C
Program Strengths			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Compensates shared renewable energy generation at a rate that includes values for the generation, transmission, distribution and transition rate components. ✓ Clearly articulates the valuation methodology. ✓ Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site. ✓ Promotes access to community net metering facilities to low- to moderate-income customers in affordable housing developments. 			
Opportunities for Improvement			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory, and to transfer their subscriptions to other customers or back to the subscription organization. Neither portability nor transferability is addressed in the current rules. ➤ Further expand access to low- to moderate-income customers through addressing financial barriers and adding requirements related to LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach. The program does not currently have such components. 			
<p><small>*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/.</small></p>			

Vermont Group Net Metering Program

IREC developed the National Shared Renewables Scorecard to provide policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders with a tool for evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of state shared renewable energy programs. IREC graded **Vermont's Group Net Metering Program** using the Scorecard's full criteria* and found that the program currently receives a **C+** because it **lacks many of the key components necessary for successful market development**.

KEY	One star (★) indicates an especially important criterion for a state program. Two stars (★★) indicate one of the most heavily weighted and critical criteria for program success.		
Category	Criterion	Description	Program Grade
General Program Details	Aggregate Capacity Limit	Does the program have an unlimited aggregate capacity ?	✓
	Tracking & Reporting Requirements	★ Does the program specifically require the utility or other relevant entity to provide publicly available data regarding installed and queued capacity that is updated on at least an annual basis?	✗
	Low- to Moderate-Income (LMI) Consumer Participation	★ Does the program have specific component(s) to promote LMI customer participants (e.g., capacity carve-out or target?)	✗
		Does the program explicitly address financial barriers faced by LMI participants (e.g., incentives or on-bill financing)?	✗
		Does the program have specific requirements re LMI customer marketing, education, and outreach ?	✗
Customers and Subscriptions	Eligibility	Are all customer classes eligible for the program?	✓
	Portability	★ Does the program explicitly permit portability (i.e., allow participants to move within the utility service territory and take their subscription with them)?	✗
	Transferability	★ Does the program explicitly permit transferability (i.e., allow participants to leave the program or service territory and transfer their subscriptions to others?)	✓
Generation Systems	System Capacity Limit	Is the system size limit at least 5 megawatts (MW) ?	✗
	Siting Requirements	★★ Does the program allow both on-site and off-site facilities?	✓
		Can the facility and customers be located anywhere within the utility service territory?	✓
		Do the program rules explicitly address whether or not facilities can be co-located ?	✓
Ownership & Management	Are third-party facility ownership and management permitted?	✓	
Bill Credits	Valuation	★★ Does the program meet one of the following conditions: 1) Bill credit is valued at the utility's retail rate; 2) Bill credit includes values for generation and at least some portion of the transmission and/or distribution charges; or 3) RECs are used to provide value in addition to bill credit.	✓
		★ Is the valuation methodology clearly articulated in the statute, rule, and/or tariff?	✓
	Unsubscribed Generation	Is unsubscribed generation clearly treated and valued at least at an avoided cost rate?	✗
Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)	Subscribed RECs	Are subscribed RECs clearly treated?	✓
	Unsubscribed RECs	Are unsubscribed RECs clearly treated?	✗
State Program Grade:			C+
<p>Program Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Values shared renewable energy generation at the blended residential rate and provides additional REC values which help to improve the value proposition for customers ✓ Allows shared renewable energy facilities to be located either on-site or off-site. ✓ Explicitly permits customers to transfer their subscriptions if they leave the program or service territory. <p>Opportunities for Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase the system size limit to at least 5 megawatts. Currently, the system capacity limit is 500 kilowatts. ➤ Add specific components to promote access for low- to moderate-income customer participation, including components related to financing, marketing, education, or outreach. The current program does not have any such components. ➤ Value unsubscribed generation at least at an avoided cost rate. The program stipulates that any excess generation is forfeited to the utility at the end of the year. ➤ Explicitly permit customers to keep their subscriptions if they move within the same utility's service territory. Portability is not addressed in the current rules. 			
<p>*Note: The criteria above are a subset of the full criteria used to arrive at the state grades but reflect the most substantial program design components. For more information about the Scorecard, including the full criteria applied to grade state programs and definitions for many of the terms within the criteria, see https://sharedrenewablescorecard.org/.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">October 2018</p>			