

Your Guide to Solar in Washington



About Solar PV Systems

Solar photovoltaic (PV) systems produce electricity from the sun. Systems can be mounted on roofs to provide power to the building and back to the grid.

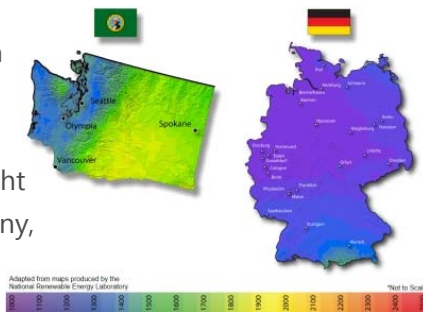
Parts of a PV system

- **PV array:** produces DC power
- **Inverter:** changes DC electricity to AC that the grid and most homes require
- **Production Meter:** measures the amount of electricity produced by your system
- **Building Breaker Box:** sends electricity to your home or out to the grid
- **Two-way Billing Meter (Net Meter):** measures net electricity from the grid

Does solar work in Washington?

YES!

Washington actually receives more sunlight than Germany, the world's leading solar energy installer.¹



Costs and Financing

The cost of your PV system will depend on many factors, including size. System size is measured in kilowatts (kW) and system production is measured in kWh.

- Average Seattle residential system cost, April 2014- April 2015: \$4,840/kW.
 - Average system size in Seattle over same period: 5.4 kW
 - Average out-of-pocket cost: \$26,136
- The data provided is an example. Local markets may vary.*

Incentives

- No sales tax on systems up to 10kW (expires June 30, 2018)
- Solar Federal Tax Credit = 30% of project cost (expires Dec. 31, 2016)
- Washington Solar Production Incentive (expires June 30, 2020)²
 - \$0.15/kWh for out-of-state equipment
 - \$0.36/kWh for Washington panels and out-of-state inverters
 - \$0.54/kWh for Washington panels and inverters
- Net Metering: energy produced is credited on your bill at the retail rate
- Utility incentives may also be available³

³Check with your local electric utility for availability

Next Steps to Go Solar!

1. Contact contractors for bids.
2. Receive site assessments. Contractors will:
 - Review your electrical bills
 - Evaluate your roof
 - Look at your electrical system
3. Compare bids and choose. Consider:
 - Equipment warranties
 - Value over near- and long-term
 - Contractor reputation, workmanship warranty, and additional services
4. Apply for a solar loan, if desired
5. Get Solar!

Sources for Solar Loans

Admirals Bank

<http://www.admiralsbank.com>, 800-715-8472

Generations Credit Union

<http://www.generationscreditunion.com>, 800-672-7211

Puget Sound Cooperative Credit Union

www.pscuu.org, 425-283-5155

Umpqua Bank

www.greenstreetloan.com, 206-694-5441

Want more info? Check out
<http://nwsolarcommunities.org>

¹ [A&R Solar](#)

² In participating utilities, subject to availability