

## Maine State Solar Policies Primer

Maine is a pretty average state to go solar in, for now. They have decent policy on net metering, but not a lot in addition to that. Luckily, that still can lead to successful solar installations!

**Net Metering**- Maine recently adopted new policy for net metering, called “buy all, sell all”. As explained in the Solar 101 Primer, net metering allows you to drastically lower your electric bills. Firstly, you use all energy you generate for free. Then, any extra energy you generate will be sent back to your utility company, and you will get a credit for it. That credit can then be used towards the cost of any energy you pull from the grid, negating that cost. Any excess energy in your account at the end of the month is called Net Excess Generation (NEG), which is stored in your account as a credit until used, for up to 12 months. The way that Maine differs is that, over time, the percent of your output excess energy that can be considered “nettable” is going to decrease by 10% per year, starting in 2018. Customers will be grandfathered into the rate that would be in place in the year that their system is considered “in-service”, so the sooner solar is installed, the better. If you have high electricity prices (like most of Maine), this policy can save you a lot of money. Hopefully, Maine’s policymakers can turn this around, and go back to normal net metering, and maybe add a couple more incentives to get back on pace with other states! The higher your electricity price is, the more this policy saves you!



In addition to this policy, you can receive Federal Incentives as well!

\*All incentives as of 6/11/18. All are subject to change by policymakers or utilities at any time.