



# History of Illinois Shines

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# 1. History of Illinois Shines

The Adjustable Block Program (now known as Illinois Shines) was created under The Future Energy Jobs Act of 2016 (FEJA). FEJA is significant in that it followed nearly two years of negotiations between utilities, consumer advocates, and environmental groups and catapulted Illinois' clean energy transition.

## Successes

- Incentivized the development of over 25,000 projects between all programs, utility-scale development, etc.
- FEJA helped facilitate the growth of solar in Illinois from 80 MW to 2000 MW
- Over 670 MW of new distributed generation and community solar developed under FEJA

## Challenges

- Illinois was still well behind the state-mandated Renewable Energy Requirements
- Illinois Shines funding largely exhausted, due to participation levels and contract payment structure
- Benefits of the clean energy economy weren't being spread equitably across Illinois

## 2. Introduction to the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA)

The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA), was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Pritzker on September 15, 2021. CEJA includes provisions to phase out carbon emissions from the energy and transportation sectors.



- The program began operating under CEJA in Dec 2021.
- The passage fixed previous funding issues and expanded the Illinois Shines Program.
- The passage of CEJA and expansion of Illinois Shines also led to the development of an updated Long-Term Renewable Resources Procurement Plan (LTRRPP) in 2022. The 2022 LTRRPP outlined further changes to the program.
- Importantly, CEJA moves Illinois to 100 percent carbon-free power by 2045, requiring fivefold growth in the IL market.

# Illinois Shines Under FEJA vs. CEJA

FEJA (Public Act 99-0906) Previous Program

3 Project Types

**10kW**

Small DG

**10kW-2MW**

Large DG

**2MW**

Community Solar

CEJA (Public Act 102-0662  
Passed September 2021) New Program

6 Project Types

**25kW**

Small DG

**25kW-5MW**

Large DG

**5MW**

Community Solar

**<=25kW-5MW**

Public Schools

**<=10kW-5MW**

Community Driven  
Community Solar

**<=25kW-5MW**

Equity Eligible  
Contractor

**\$235  
million**

RPS Budget  
(across all programs  
& procurement)

**\$557  
million**

RPS Budget  
(across all programs  
& procurement)

Equity & Prevailing  
Wage Requirements

- Prevailing wage is required for projects participating in Illinois Shines (\*with some exceptions)
- New Equity Eligible Contractor Block
- New Equity Eligible Workforce Requirements



# Thank you for watching!

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## For questions or assistance:

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