

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Established by the State Legislature in 2021 (Minn. Stat. 216C.375), the Solar for Schools Grant Program is designed to stimulate the installation of solar energy systems on Minnesota public schools, K-12 as well as state colleges and universities (outside of Xcel Energy Electricity Territory), while using the opportunity to integrate renewable energy use into school curriculum.



The application process consists of two steps. A Notice of Intent: School Readiness Assessment is first used to demonstrate a school's readiness to apply for grant funds. Those schools deemed ready to apply will be invited to complete a Full Grant Application. The program will hold at least two rounds of funding per year.



2022 FUNDING SCHEDULE

	SCHOOL READINESS ASSESSMENT	FULL GRANT APPLICATION
ROUND 1	January 5 – January 31	Upon Notification – May 31
ROUND 2	July 1 – July 31	Upon Notification – November 30

SOLAR FOR SCHOOLS

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE GRANT SIZE

Eligible public schools may be awarded up to \$114,000 to use for the purchase and install of a solar energy system. For K-12 schools, the maximum allowable grant size is determined by the most recent Adjusted Net Tax Capacity (ANTC) divided by the Adjusted Pupil Unit (APU). A complete listing of these values using Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) public data can be found at mn.gov/commerce - search for “solar for schools”. For state colleges and universities, the maximum allowable grant will be 40% of the system cost, up to \$48,000.

MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE GRANT		
Public School ANTC/APU	% System Cost	Not to Exceed
under \$5,000	95%	\$114,000
> \$5,000	85%	\$102,000
> \$9,250	70%	\$84,000
> \$13,500	55%	\$66,000
> \$17,750	40%	\$48,000
over \$22,000	25%	\$30,000
Colleges & Universities	40%	\$48,000



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For more information about the program, eligibility, and application process, contact:

SolarForSchools@state.mn.us

651-539-1829

mn.gov/solar4schools