

SGIP Equity and Equity Resiliency FAQ

Contents

- General SGIP 1
 - Do I qualify for SGIP? 1
 - How do I apply? 1
 - What are the steps required in the SGIP application process? 2
 - If I am not low income, can I apply for SGIP? 2
 - Am I eligible to apply for SGIP if I install an energy storage system to an existing solar system? 2
 - Can I install a storage system with a C-46 license?..... 3
 - Before we commit to installation, we want to know the likelihood of getting a rebate and how much we can expect the rebate to be? 3
 - I decided to switch my Developer after receiving an SGIP reservation, am I still eligible to apply?..... 3
 - Regarding the required documents, will a utility bill suffice for "Proof of Electric Service," or are you looking for the "Permission to Operate" notice? 3
 - The SGIP application requests information regarding "other" incentives. What qualifies as an "other" incentive? 4
 - What is the status of additional program funding? 4
- Equity and Equity Resiliency 4
 - What is Equity Resiliency? 4
 - What are the eligibility requirements for the residential Equity and Equity Resiliency Budgets? 4
 - I have applied to one of the qualifying solar programs but I'm not low income, do I qualify?..... 5
 - Are customers residing in California Indian Country eligible for the Equity Budget? 5
 - If customer calls utility to notify their utility of "serious illness condition" is the utility required to provide documentation to upload to the SGIP application portal? 5
 - I have a current SGIP application in the general market budget category. Can I move my current application into the Equity Resiliency budget category?..... 6
 - What is considered low income? 6
 - What are the statuses of the Equity and Equity Resiliency budgets? 6
 - Are the Equity and Equity Resiliency Budgets subject to a 20% Developer Cap? 6
 - Is the Equity Resiliency Budget separated by residential and non-residential? 7
- Green House Gas Emission Reduction Requirements 7

What are the GHG rules for newly submitted residential applications?	7
What are the GHG rules for newly submitted non-residential applications?	7
What additional resources are available for customers and developers?	7
How do I know if my developer has been approved to participate in the program?.....	8
How will presentations and resources materials be made available after a workshop or webinar?.....	8

General SGIP

Do I qualify for SGIP?

Utility customers of 1 of the 4 participating Utilities (SDG&E, SoCalGas, Southern California Edison, and PG&E) are eligible to apply for SGIP if:

1. The customer is slated to install an eligible system OR:
2. The customer has already installed an eligible system and received authorization to operate in parallel with the electric utility less than 12 months from SGIP application submission.

See sections **4.2 (Equipment Eligibility)**, **5.2 (Eligibility Requirements for Energy Storage Projects)** and **6 (Generation Technologies)** of the SGIP Handbook for more information regarding eligible equipment.

*Please note that solar photovoltaic (PV) systems are not an eligible technology in SGIP. For years, the CSI program provided incentives for solar PV installations. That program has closed and is no longer accepting applications.

How do I apply?

The SGIP encourages customers to designate the Developer/Contractor/Installer of their storage or generation project to apply on the customer's behalf. Applications are submitted through www.selfgenca.com.

An Approved SGIP Developer must agree to participate in SGIP in order for the application to be eligible for incentive. SGIP guidelines define the Developer as the entity handling a substantial amount of project development activities. The list of Development activities is available on the Developer application found here https://www.selfgenca.com/home/dev_register/

Once an approved Developer is assigned, the entity applying, must register as an Applicant on the selfgenca.com homepage. The Applicant will be the entity responsible for submitting the required documentation and managing communication between the SGIP Administrators and application participants.

What are the steps required in the SGIP application process?

All residential applications and non-residential applications <10kW are subject to a 2-step application process (RRF and ICF). During the Reservation Request Form (RRF) stage, the Applicant must submit documentation indicating that an eligible system is slated to be installed. Once the RRF is approved, the Applicant must submit a second set of documentation titled Incentive Claim Form (ICF). This documentation verifies that a system has been installed and interconnected to the utility grid.

Non-Residential Applications \geq 10kW will be subject to a 3-step application process (RRF, PPM, and ICF). In a 3-step application process, an RRF must be submitted granting a conditional reservation. Following a conditional reservation, the Applicant must submit Proof of Project Milestone (PPM) documentation, including executed contractual agreements. Once the PPM is approved, the application receives a confirmed reservation. Following a confirmed reservation, the Applicant may then submit the ICF indicating that the system has been installed and interconnected to the utility grid.

Please see section 2.2 of the SGIP Handbook for an overview of the incentive process. For a full list of application documentation requirements, see section 5.4 for energy storage projects and section 6.10 for generation projects

Some applications may be subject to inspection prior to incentive payout. Inspection and sampling protocol may be found at <http://www.selfgenca.com/home/resources>

If I am not low income, can I apply for SGIP?

You can apply for general market incentives as a non-low income (non-equity application).

Am I eligible to apply for SGIP if I install an energy storage system to an existing solar system?

Yes, you can apply for incentives for an energy storage system that is being installed after solar has already been installed.

Can I install a storage system with a C-46 license?

According to the Contractors State License Board, a Contractor may install a storage system with a C-46 license if the photovoltaic system and storage system are installed concurrently. Please reference cslb.ca.gov for information regarding license types and restrictions.

Before we commit to installation, we want to know the likelihood of getting a rebate and how much we can expect the rebate to be?

You can use the incentive calculator located at <https://www.selfgenca.com/home/resources/> to determine the potential eligible incentive value. In addition, you can view the current incentive rate for each budget category and current status of each budget category at https://www.selfgenca.com/home/program_metrics/.

The SGIP application process is designed so that an incentive may be reserved prior to the installation of the system. To obtain a confirmed reservation, the Applicant must provide the executed (signed) contract for the expected installation in addition to the documents listed in section 5.4.1 of the SGIP Handbook.

I decided to switch my Developer after receiving an SGIP reservation, am I still eligible to apply?

You are typically allowed to transfer the existing reservation to the new Developer as long as all program requirements continue to be met. Please contact the Program Administrator (PA) in the territory that you initially applied. PA contacts can be found here: <https://www.selfgenca.com/home/contact/>

Regarding the required documents, will a utility bill suffice for "Proof of Electric Service," or are you looking for the "Permission to Operate" notice?

At Reservation Request Form (RRF) stage we ask for a copy of the utility bill to provide proof the host customer is the utility customer of record. At Incentive Claim Form (ICF) stage a copy of the Permission to Operate is required to verify the system has authorization to be interconnected to the utility grid.

The SGIP application requests information regarding “other” incentives. What qualifies as an "other" incentive?

Any additional funds you are receiving from sources other than the SGIP incentive that help offset the cost of the installed system. Please see section 3.2.6 of the SGIP Handbook for more details.

What is the status of additional program funding?

SB700 has authorized additional SGIP Funding for 2020-2024. Funding has already been allocated to the Equity and Equity Resiliency budgets (July 20, 2020). Funding for the remaining budget categories is forthcoming. Opening dates for each budget will be announced on www.selfgenca.com as they become available.

Equity and Equity Resiliency

What is Equity Resiliency?

To help address critical needs resulting from wildfire risks in the state, the California Public Utilities Commission has directed SGIP to establish an Equity Resiliency budget. The Equity Resiliency budget sets aside funds for vulnerable households located in Tier 3 and Tier 2 high fire threat districts, customers affected by 2 or more Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events, critical services facilities serving those districts, and customers located in those districts that participate in low-income solar generation programs.

What are the eligibility requirements for the residential Equity and Equity Resiliency Budgets?

The following **residential** customers may qualify for the **Equity Budget**:

1. Customers residing in **multifamily low-income** residences
 - a. The residence must be located in a Disadvantaged Community OR
 - b. Households in building have incomes at or below 60% of the area median income (defined in subdivision (f) 5002.5 of the Health and Safety Code)
2. Customers that have received a **reserved incentive status** from **SOMAH, MASH, SASH or DAC-SASH**
3. Customers residing in **single-family low-income** residences that are subject to a resale restriction or equity sharing agreement
4. Customers that reside in **California Indian Country** and meet the definition of **low-income housing**

The following **residential** customers may qualify for the **Equity Resiliency Budget**:

1. Customers residing in a Tier 2 or Tier 3 High Fire Threat District (HFTD) OR
2. Customers affected by 2 discrete PSPS events prior to the date of SGIP application

AND Customer must qualify as ONE of the following:

1. Eligible for the Equity Budget
2. Customer that has notified their utility of a serious illness or condition that could become life threatening if electricity is disconnected
3. Eligible for a medical baseline program
4. Customer that relies on an electric pump well for water supplies

The customer does not necessarily need to qualify for Equity to be eligible for Equity Resiliency as the customer may qualify under criteria one of four residential criteria.

I have applied to one of the qualifying solar programs but I'm not low income, do I qualify?

If you have received a reserved incentive status from one of the qualifying affordable housing solar programs (SOMAH, MASH, SASH, or DAC-SASH) you would qualify for the Equity budget. You would not then need to meet the SGIP defined low income criteria.

Are customers residing in California Indian Country eligible for the Equity Budget?

California Indian Country is considered a Disadvantaged Community according to SGIP definition. To qualify for Equity, residential customers must still meet the definition of low-income housing:

Customers residing in **multi-family low-income** residences

- a. The residence must be located in a Disadvantaged Community OR
- b. Households in building have incomes at or below 60% of the area median income (defined in subdivision (f) 5002.5 of the Health and Safety Code)

Customers residing in **single-family low-income** residences that are subject to a resale restriction or equity sharing agreement.

If customer calls utility to notify their utility of "serious illness condition" is the utility required to provide documentation to upload to the SGIP application portal?

The utility should provide documentation showing the customer has notified their utility of “serious illness or condition”. A customer should reach out to their electric utility for this document requirement.

I have a current SGIP application in the general market budget category. Can I move my current application into the Equity Resiliency budget category?

It is not possible to move applications across budget categories. Further, the SGIP only allows for one active application per project site. If you are interested in applying to the Equity or Equity Resiliency budget category you must request cancellation of the current active application and reapply under the preferred budget category.

What is considered low income?

Single Family residences must provide proof of income qualification (tax return) and proof of PU Code Section 2852 Compliance (resale restriction or equity sharing agreement) to qualify for low income.

Multi-family Residences must submit a Low-Income Housing Documentation Coversheet to clearly outline how a project achieves PUC Section 2852 low income eligibility. Cover sheet may be found on selfgenca.com/resources.

Non-Residential Equity eligible entities may verify low income community status by referencing the [California Air and Resources Board Map](#).

For more information, please reference section **4.1.1** of the SGIP Handbook.

What are the statuses of the Equity and Equity Resiliency budgets?

The Equity and Equity Resiliency budgets have been opened with all allocated collections. Some of the budgets are fully subscribed and currently on a waitlist while others are able to accept new applications immediately. You can see the current status of each budget by visiting https://www.selfgenca.com/home/program_metrics/

Are the Equity and Equity Resiliency Budgets subject to a 20% Developer Cap?

The Equity and Equity Resiliency Budgets are exempt from the Developer Cap. General Market Budget applications are still subject to the 20% Developer cap in which a single Developer may not exceed 20% of funding in a given incentive step.

Is the Equity Resiliency Budget separated by residential and non-residential?

There are no Residential and Non-Residential carve-outs in the Equity Resiliency Budget.

Green House Gas Emission Reduction Requirements

What are the GHG rules for newly submitted residential applications?

Residential applications submitted after March 1st, 2020 must be on an SGIP approved TOU rate. A list of approved TOU rates may be found on the forms and documents page at <https://www.selfgenca.com/home/resources/>.

If no such rate is available, the system must be configured to either solar self-charging or solar self-consumption mode. Documentation verifying configuration will be required at the Incentive Claim Form stage.

What are the GHG rules for newly submitted non-residential applications?

All Non-Residential applications submitted after April 1st, 2020 will be subject to a Performance Based Incentive (PBI) payment. According to PBI structure, 50% of the eligible incentive to be paid out upfront, while the remaining 50% will be paid out over the course of 5 years according to system performance. During the PBI term, non-residential projects are required to reduce GHGs by a minimum of five kilograms of CO₂ per rated energy capacity (kg/kWh) annually to recoup full payment. Further, all applications subject to PBI must contract with an approved Performance Data Provider (PDP). A list of approved PDPs and the application to apply to become a PDP is available on [selfgenca.com/resources](https://www.selfgenca.com/resources)

What additional resources are available for customers and developers?

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has developed mapping tools to help customers determine if they could be eligible for an Equity or Resiliency incentive. Additionally, they have developed a tool to help customers search for an approved developer in the SGIP. These tools can be found at:

<https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/sgipinfo/>

How do I know if my developer has been approved to participate in the program?

A list of approved developers can be found at

https://www.selfgenca.com/home/dev_register/

How will presentations and resources materials be made available after a workshop or webinar?

Workshop materials are available on <https://www.selfgenca.com/home/resources/>

***If you're inquiry has not been addressed in the list above, please reach out to your respective Program Administrator. PA Contact information can be found here:**

<https://www.selfgenca.com/home/contact/>