Toolkit: Installing Solar on K-12 Schools

Solar Outreach Partnership Resources

Solar Schools Fact Sheets

These fact sheets contain key findings and useful data from the National Solar Schools Census for the U.S. and the top twenty states ranked in terms of their potential for more schools to go solar.

>> Read the National Solar Schools Census factsheet: schools.tsfcensus.org or click a blue state below to download a factsheet for that state.

For other states, contact us for a free customized fact sheet at: info@solarfound.org

Brighter Future Report

This report from The Solar Foundation presents the results of original analyses on the extent to which K-12 schools in the U.S. have adopted solar energy and the potential for still more schools to go solar, and includes discussions on the numerous benefits that an investment in solar holds for schools, lessons learned from schools’ experiences in going solar, and challenges and opportunities for replicating success.

>> Click the link below to view the report: www.thesolarfoundation.org/solar-schools/brighter-future/
Considerations for Investing in Solar Energy

This resource provides a basic list of considerations to help school and local government officials prescreen sites for solar and understand the potential financial benefits of an investment in solar. While not intended to replace a professional site assessment, this checklist provides information on key physical, policy, and financial factors impacting a site’s suitability for solar.

>> Click the link below to view the guide:

Steps to a Successful Solar Request for Proposal

This issue brief is designed to educate individuals involved in local government procurement on best practices in developing successful Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for solar energy systems. Contents include the essential elements of a solar RFP, introductory guidance on evaluating proposals, and lists of tools, resources, and sample documents that can help maximize the effectiveness of solar procurement efforts.

>> Click the link below to view the guide:
www.thesolarfoundation.org/steps-to-a-successful-solar-request-for-proposal/

>> Follow the link below for a small annotated collection of sample solar RFPs:
www.thesolarfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/TSF_Sample-Solar-RFPs.xlsx

SolarOPs Schools Technical Assistance Flyer

Find out how to get complimentary resources, guidance, and individualized technical assistance for solar on K-12 public schools.

>> Click the link below to view the flyer:

Solar Powering Your Community Lesson 6: Installing Solar on Municipal Facilities

This video series presents several of the basic modules covered in the live Solar Powering Your Community workshops provided by the Solar Outreach Partnership. This lesson on installing solar on municipal facilities discusses two ownership options available to local governments, outlining the process and key considerations for each.

>> Click the link below to view the video:
http://youtu.be/FypA3r_vQmY
Guide to Implementing Solar PV for Local Governments

The purpose of this guide is to provide a resource for local government officials who have already decided on the benefits of solar PV and are looking to implement solar PV projects on municipal buildings and land. It provides valuable insight based on the experience of the contributors of this publication, as well as from the many sources of information used in preparing this document – published articles, books, presentations, federal and state agencies, and from other publicly available sources.

>> Click the link below to view the guide:

Other Resources

Community Power Network Solar Schools Guide

Solar is a great way for your school to save money, reduce carbon emissions, and help students learn first-hand about solar technologies. This guide can help you navigate the process of taking your school solar.

>> Click the link below to view the resource:
www.communitypowernetwork.com/node/902

National Renewable Energy Laboratory Webinar,
Solar Powering Your Community: Key Elements of Solar Requests for Proposal

This webinar provides an overview of the solar procurement process, including key steps to developing a Solar Request for Proposal (RFP), what elements should be included in the proposal, how to evaluate bids, and a procurement case study from the Milwaukee Shines program.

>> Click the link below to view the webinar at the bottom of this page:
www.nrel.gov/tech_deployment/state_local_governments/webinars_2013.html
Webinar on Schools Report

This webinar presents the results of the data collection and analysis effort behind the *Brighter Future* report, discussing trends in why schools are going solar, where these systems are being installed and how they are being financed, as well as other information relevant to nonprofits, solar companies, and individuals interested in supporting solar on K-12 schools. In addition, this webinar covers the results of an original analysis looking at the potential for schools currently without solar to pursue their own projects cost-effectively.

>> Click the link below to view the webinar:

Brian D. Robertson Memorial Solar Schools Fund

The Brian D. Robertson Memorial Solar Schools Fund was established in 2012 by friends and associates of Mr. Robertson in association with The Solar Foundation. The organization’s mission is to provide clean, solar photovoltaic energy systems to K-12 schools across the nation to increase awareness and use of solar energy, and broaden access to solar education.

>> Click the link below to visit the website:
www.bdr.com

National Solar Schools Consortium

This voluntary consortium, co-chaired and hosted by The Solar Foundation, is composed of businesses, nonprofits, and other organizations active in increasing the use of solar energy on U.S. schools. The purpose of the Consortium is threefold: coordinate member efforts to promote the use of solar on schools, aggregate and consolidate current and future solar resource development efforts, and amplify the successes of its members by acting as a unified voice for the national solar schools movement.

>> Click the link below to view the website:
www.solarschools2020.org

*Did someone print this for you? Find an online version of the toolkit at www.solaroutreach.org*