



# SOMAH

SOLAR ON MULTIFAMILY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

## Introduction to SOMAH

Name  
Title



# Workshop Agenda

1. What to expect with SOMAH
2. How solar energy works
3. Installation timeline
4. Get paid to install solar on your building
5. Handouts



# What to expect

## HOW DOES SOMAH WORK?

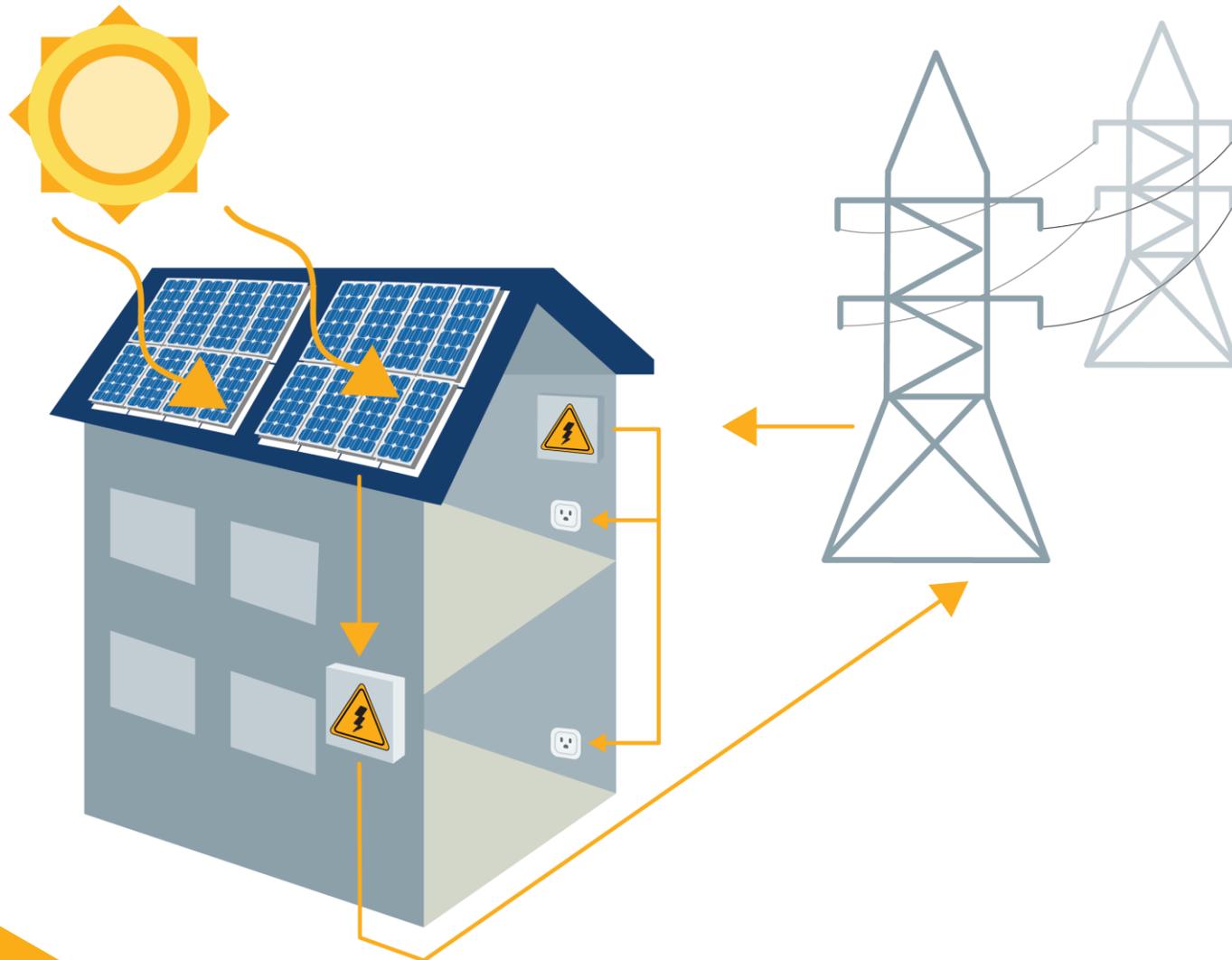
- Funded by the State of California
- Maintained and operated by property owner/contractor
- Continue to pay monthly energy bill
- Monthly credit on your energy bill
- Energy Savings Assistance program (ESA)

# What to expect

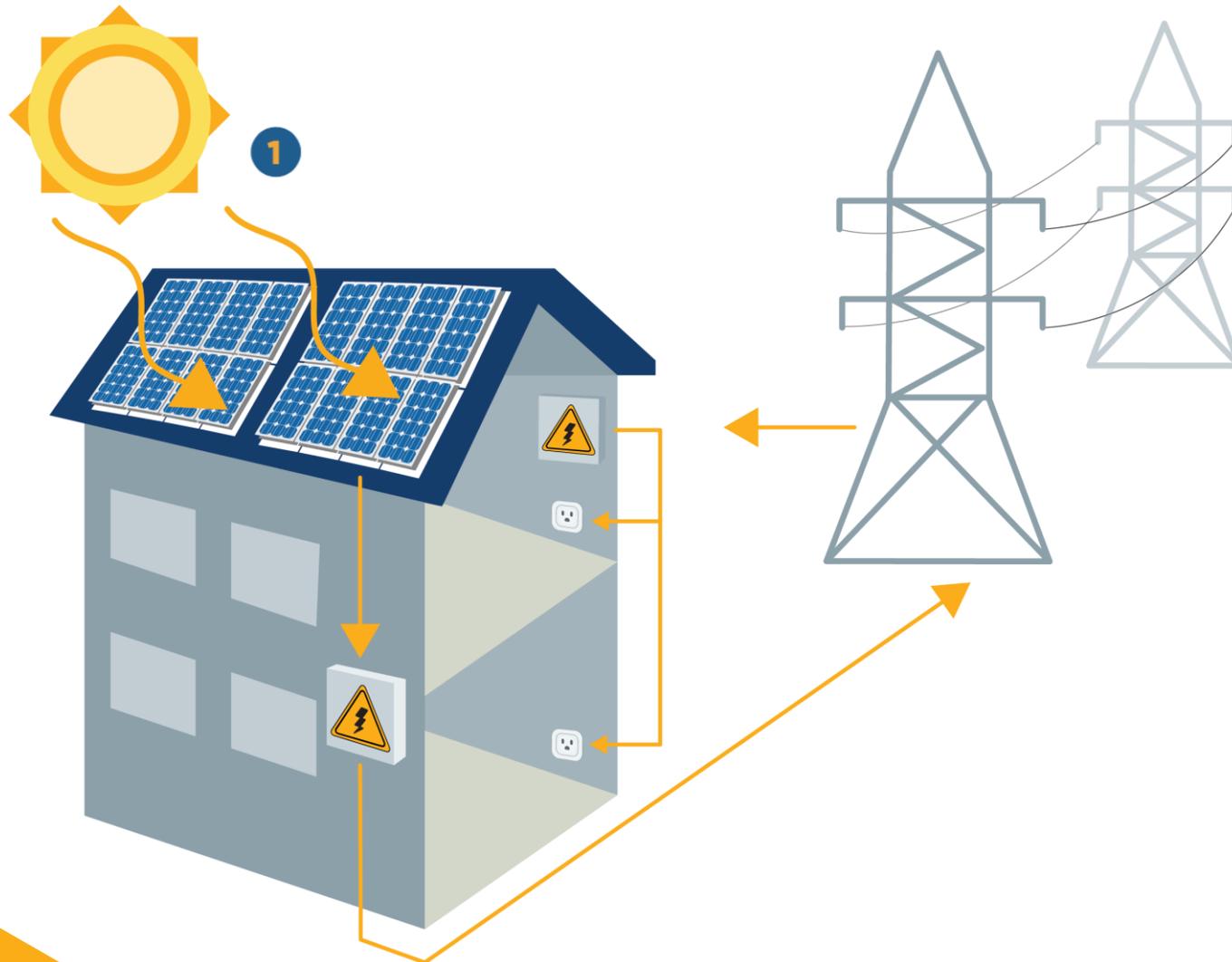
## HOW WILL YOU BENEFIT?

- Direct financial benefits on your energy bill
- **No increase in rent** or any household cost due to solar installation
- You are not responsible for maintenance or operations costs
- Access to **paid** job training opportunities
- Clean energy in your community

# How solar energy works



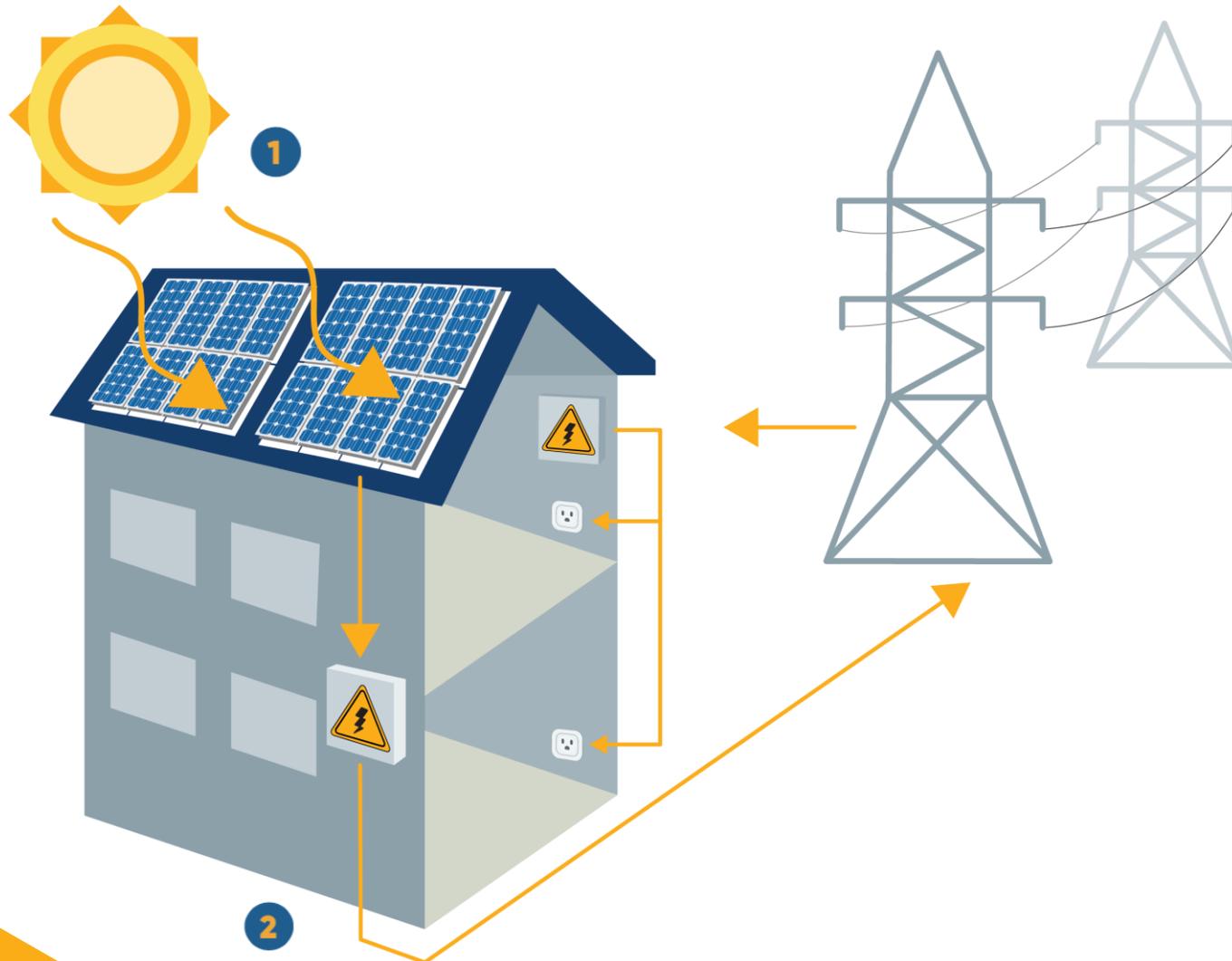
# How solar energy works



## Here's how

- 1** Sunlight hits the panels, producing electricity.

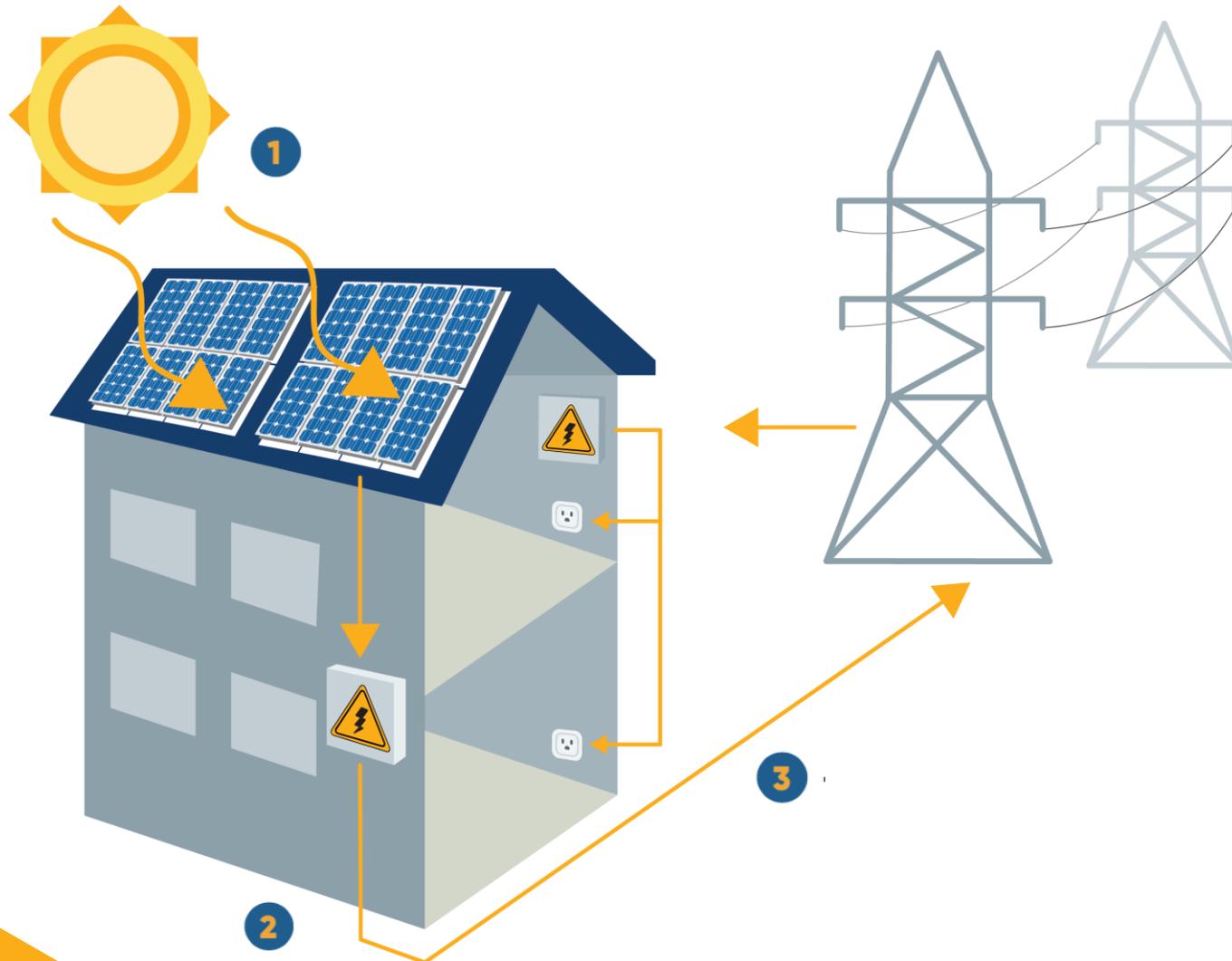
# How solar energy works



## Here's how

- 1** Sunlight hits the panels, producing electricity.
- 2** A meter measures the amount of electricity your building's solar panels produce.

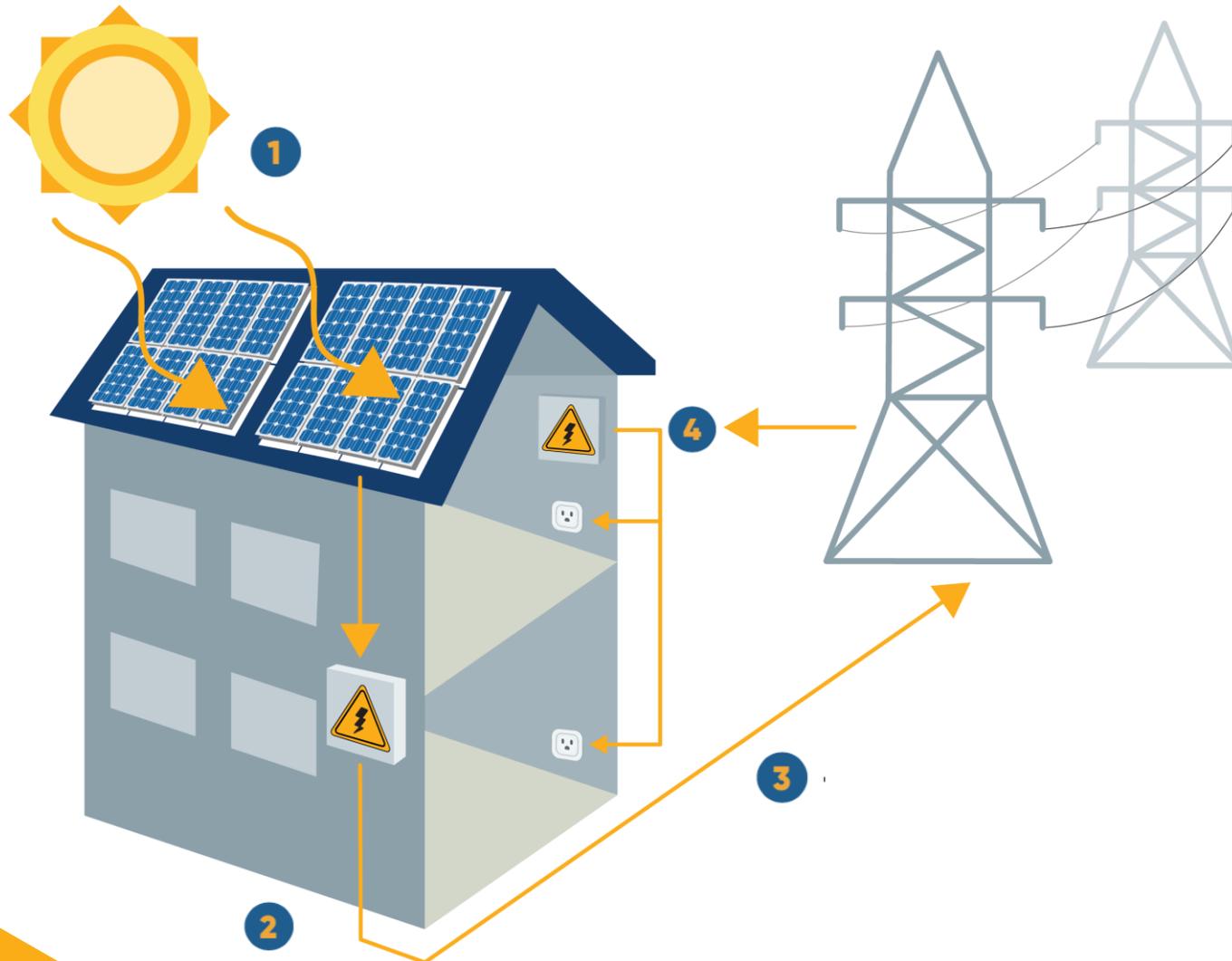
# How solar energy works



## Here's how

- 1** Sunlight hits the panels, producing electricity.
- 2** A meter measures the amount of electricity your building's solar panels produce.
- 3** The electricity is sent to the power grid.

# How solar energy works



## Here's how

- 1** Sunlight hits the panels, producing electricity.
- 2** A meter measures the amount of electricity your building's solar panels produce.
- 3** The electricity is sent to the power grid.
- 4** The meter measures how much energy you use and determines how much saving will be allocated to your utility bill.

# Installation timeline



## Site Visit

[Month - Month]

Construction team checks roof size and structure, measures sun exposure and inspects electric service panel.



## Permit Application

[Month - Month]

Construction team applies for and receives city permits.



## Installation

[Month - Month]

Construction begins! Expect crews on-site and some minor inconveniences including noise and construction equipment.



## Solar Meter

[Month - Month]

Utility company installs a solar production meter on the property.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

## Tenant Education

Theme: Introduction to SOMAH

- *What to expect with SOMAH*
- *Get paid to install solar where you live*
- *How solar energy works*



## Schedule Installation

Installation notification and schedule will be shared with you and your neighbors.

## Tenant Education

Theme: Changes to expect

- *How will my utility bill change?*
- *Simple ways to save energy*



## System On

[Month - Month]

Your landlord turns on your solar system.

# Get paid to install solar where you live



## BENEFITS

- Get paid to gain experience in key solar industry skills
- Post your resume and apply for jobs on SOMAH job board
- Access a directory of job training organizations
- Other resources to support your job search and professional development

# Get paid to install solar where you live



## GAIN EXPERIENCE IN

- Electrical and battery equipment
- Installing ground- and building-mounted systems
- Configuring mechanical and electrical design
- Project management
- Lots more!

# Get paid to install solar where you live



## HOW TO GET STARTED

1. Contact your SOMAH-approved contractor installing solar on your building
2. Sign up for access to the job training portal at [calsomah.org](https://calsomah.org)



# Handouts

1. **What to expect with SOMAH**
2. **How solar energy works**
3. **Installation timeline**
4. **Get paid to install solar on your building**

# What to expect with SOMAH

Solar on  
Multifamily  
Affordable  
Housing
What to expect  
with SOMAH



### What should you expect when your building goes solar?

Your property owner is working with the Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) program to install a solar photovoltaic (PV) system on your building.

#### How does SOMAH work?

- An approved SOMAH contractor will install the PV system.
- The PV system will provide clean energy for your home and for common areas like the laundry room, hallways, and community spaces.
- The PV system will be maintained and operated by your property owner or a contractor.
- Maintenance and operations of your building's solar system are at no cost to you.
- You will continue to pay your utility bill monthly, but you will receive credits for the clean energy that the PV system generates that reduce your bill amount.
- You will have the opportunity to enroll in energy efficiency programs and will be connected to the Energy Savings Assistance Program (ESA), a no-cost service to help with energy savings.

### How will you benefit?

- ✓ You receive direct financial benefits on your energy bill.
- ✓ You will NOT see an increase in rent or any other costs for your household.
- ✓ You or your family may have access to paid job training opportunities, learning to install the solar PV system.
- ✓ Part of your building will be powered by clean renewable energy.

### Where does the funding come from?

The SOMAH program is funded by the State of California, using funds designated for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate change. SOMAH provides a number of no-cost services to property owners and tenants, ensuring that you do not pay anything to access clean energy.

### Questions about SOMAH?

☎ Tenant Hotline: 800-843-9728

SOMAH is administered by the SOMAH Program Administration Team under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. © 2018 California Public Utilities Commission. All rights reserved.



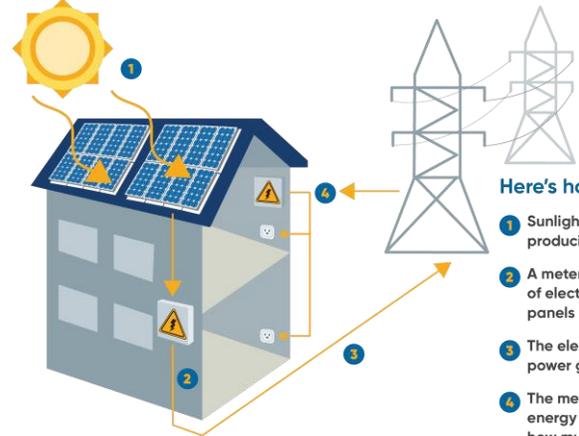
# How solar energy works

Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing

## How solar energy works

### How it works

Solar electric systems, also called photovoltaic (PV) systems, use sunlight to produce electricity.



### Here's how

- 1 Sunlight hits the panels, producing electricity.
- 2 A meter measures the amount of electricity your building's solar panels produce.
- 3 The electricity is sent to the power grid.
- 4 The meter measures how much energy you use and determines how much saving will be allocated to your utility bill.

### Your questions answered

#### Will I have electricity at night or when it's cloudy outside?

Yes. Even though solar panels do not generate energy when the sun is not shining, you are still connected to your utility company.

#### How long will it take contractors to install solar panels at my building?

Install time will vary but you can reach out to your property manager or reference the SOMAH Install Timeline to help you track the installation of the solar panels.

#### Will I have electricity when the power goes out?

The system does not run on battery storage, this means you will not have electricity during a blackout/power outage.

### Questions about SOMAH?

Tenant Hotline: 800-843-9728

SOMAH is administered by the SOMAH Program Administration Team under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. © 2018 California Public Utilities Commission. All rights reserved.



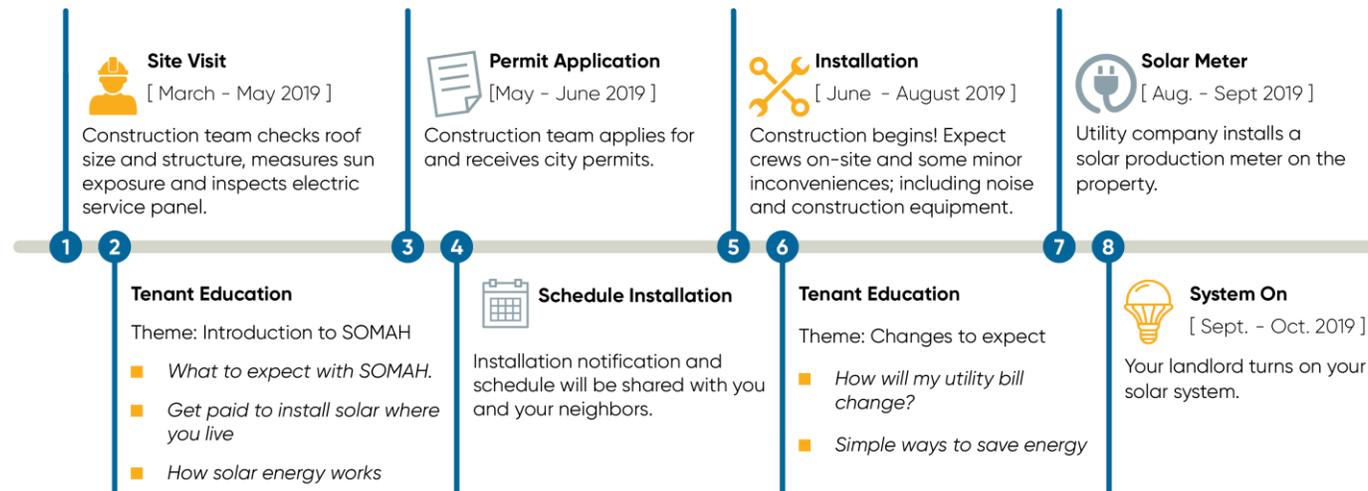
# Solar Installation timeline

Solar on  
Multifamily  
Affordable  
Housing

What to expect with  
a solar installation

## Solar Installation timeline for your community

You will experience some changes as solar panels are being installed at your building. It is important to know what to expect and how long the process will take. The schedule below is an estimate. Sometimes installers will experience delays and you will be informed by your property manager of any significant changes.



[CalSOMAH.org/tenants](http://CalSOMAH.org/tenants)

✉ [contact@calsomah.org](mailto:contact@calsomah.org)

Questions about SOMAH?

☎ Tenant Hotline: 800-843-9728



SOMAH is administered by the SOMAH Program Administration Team under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. © 2018 California Public Utilities Commission. All rights reserved.

# Get paid to install where you live



Solar on  
Multifamily  
Affordable  
Housing

Get paid to install solar  
where you live



### Why work in the solar industry?

- The solar industry employs over 80,000 people in the state of California.
- Earn a living while benefiting people and the environment.
- Solar jobs cannot be sent overseas.



Get paid to learn. Apply today.

Visit [CalSOMAH.org/tenant](http://CalSOMAH.org/tenant) to learn more and sign up.

SOMAH is administered by the SOMAH Program Administration Team under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. © 2018 California Public Utilities Commission. All rights reserved.



### What to expect

- If you are selected for the job, you will work directly with your hiring contractor to schedule workdays.
- The number of hours you will work will depend on the size of the solar PV system for the project, ranging from 40-80 hours or more.
- All SOMAH job trainees will be paid at a rate consistent with the contractor's entry-level or temporary worker wage, or 1.4x the minimum wage of the city in which the SOMAH project is located – whichever is higher.
- You will receive payment within 30 days of doing the work.

### Questions about SOMAH?

☎ Tenant Hotline: 800-843-9728

Solar on  
Multifamily  
Affordable  
Housing

Get paid to install solar  
where you live



### Job training opportunities

The building you live in is having a solar PV system installed through the SOMAH program. As a resident of this building, you're eligible for **paid** on-the-job solar training opportunities.

### Benefits

- Get paid to gain experience in key solar industry skills
- Access the SOMAH job board, where you can post your resume and apply for jobs
- Gain access to a directory of job training organizations offering solar-related training
- Benefit from other resources to support your job search and professional development

### Get started

It's easy to get started. Just follow these steps:

1. Contact your SOMAH approved contractor installing solar on your building, (see below).
2. Sign up for ~~access to~~ the job training portal at [calsomah.org](http://calsomah.org).

### Contractor contact information

### Questions about SOMAH?

☎ Tenant Hotline: 800-843-9728

Get paid to learn. Apply today.

Visit [CalSOMAH.org/tenant](http://CalSOMAH.org/tenant) to learn more and sign up.

SOMAH is administered by the SOMAH Program Administration Team under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission. © 2018 California Public Utilities Commission. All rights reserved.



# Questions?

 **Tenant hotline: 800-843-9728**

 **Comments: [calsomah.org/contact-us](https://calsomah.org/contact-us)**

**Thank you for joining.**