



# Funding Opportunity Announcement (“FOA”) FY26 Commercial and Canopy Solar Program

*Updated 12/2/2025*

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**Program Purpose:**

The purpose of the FY26 Commercial and Canopy Solar Program (“Program”) is to provide direct benefits to low-to-moderate income and overburdened communities. The program offers grant funding to support implementation of solar PV installations on commercial properties, including rooftop-mounted solar systems, ground-mounted solar systems, and solar canopies over parking or bodies of water. Solar PV systems purchased by applicants and third-party owned solar PV systems are eligible for grant funding.

Helping Maryland’s businesses, nonprofits, and other organizations increase access to solar energy technologies is key to meeting our State’s clean energy, energy affordability, and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

**Notable Changes to the Program for FY26**

1. The FY26 Commercial and Canopy Solar Program combines two former MEA programs into one program: The FY25 Commercial Solar Grant Program and the FY25 Solar Canopy and Dual Use Technology Program. The combined program offers funding for rooftop-mounted solar systems, ground-mounted solar systems, and solar canopies over parking or bodies of water.
2. The Program serves a more limited list of Eligible applicants (see “Eligible Applicants” section for more information).
3. Participating parking facilities must be “EV ready” but installation of EV supply equipment is no longer required in conjunction with the solar canopy

installation (see “Eligible Activities” section for more information).

**Type of Grant  
Program:**

**Statewide Non-Competitive (First-Come, First-Served)**

**Application Deadline:**

**February 11, 2026, 3:00 PM ET**

**Anticipated Program  
Budget:**

**\$13,000,000** is anticipated from the **Strategic Energy Investment Fund Clean Energy Jobs Act Alternative Compliance Payments** for grants under this Program. The total amount awarded may be more or less, depending on the quantity and quality of applications received.

**Program Description:** The program provides grants to eligible commercial and canopy facilities for the installation of solar PV systems that provide direct benefits to low-to-moderate income and overburdened communities.

The program has two areas of interest:

**Area of Interest 1 - Equitable Commercial and Canopy Solar Program:** Provides grants for Maryland businesses and other organizations that are registered to operate in Maryland that have been designated as, or are actively in the process of being designated as, a non-profit organizations, a Small Business Enterprises (SBE), or are a small Veteran-Owned businesses that own or operate Eligible Facilities.

**2 - Area of Interest 2 - Commercial Solar for Sustainability:** Provides grants for other Maryland businesses and organizations that own or operate Eligible Facilities.

**Grant Amount:** Grants will be calculated using a formula, based on Area of Interest, solar PV installation type, and solar system capacity.

| Area of Interest            | Solar PV Purchase Agreement Incentive Formula   | Third-Party Owned Solar PV Incentive Formula  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| 1: Equitable Commercial and | <b>Non-Canopy</b><br>\$2,000 / kW <sub>DC</sub> | <b>Non-Canopy</b><br>\$750 / kW <sub>DC</sub> |

|                                        |                                                                                                                             |                                               |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Canopy Solar Program                   | <u>OR</u><br>90% of the Total Project Cost,<br><u>WHICHEVER IS LOWER</u>                                                    |                                               |
|                                        | <b>Canopy</b><br>\$2,500 / kW <sub>DC</sub><br><u>OR</u><br>90% of the Total Project Cost,<br><u>WHICHEVER IS LOWER</u>     | <b>Canopy</b><br>\$1,000 / kW <sub>DC</sub>   |
| 2: Commercial Solar for Sustainability | <b>Non-canopy</b><br>\$1,700 / kW <sub>DC</sub><br><u>OR</u><br>75% of the Total Project Cost,<br><u>WHICHEVER IS LOWER</u> | <b>Non-canopy</b><br>\$750 / kW <sub>DC</sub> |
|                                        | <b>Canopy</b><br>\$2,125 / kW <sub>DC</sub><br><u>OR</u><br>75% of the Total Project Cost,<br><u>WHICHEVER IS LOWER</u>     | <b>Canopy</b><br>\$1,000 / kW <sub>DC</sub>   |

The following additional requirements govern how to apply the funding formula correctly:

1. **Total Project costs** are defined as all direct project costs
  - a. MEA will calculate the grant award amount regardless of the availability and eligibility of the applicant for the Federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC). If the grantee claims the Federal Investment tax credit for a project awarded under this Program, the applicant must notify MEA and is not eligible for reimbursement for the ITC amount and the grant award amount will be recalculated.

2. The **maximum grant amount award size** per property owner is: \$500,000
3. If a single application includes a **combination of canopy and non-canopy arrays**: The grant calculation is the sum of the canopy capacity at the canopy rate and the non-canopy capacity at the non-canopy rate, not to exceed \$500,000 on any individual award. The individual portions of the grant will be calculated on a pro-rata basis between the capacity of the non-canopy portion of the installation and the canopy portion of the installation.

**Eligible Geographies:** All facilities on which a solar PV system will be installed must be geographically located within the State of Maryland, and in a community classified as low-to-moderate income or overburdened, following definitions and boundaries established under State Government Article §9–20B–05(i)(1).

To determine whether a proposed project facility is within an eligible geography, please make use of the resources listed on the [Census Tracts and Renewable Portfolio Standard \(RPS\) Alternative Compliance Payment](#) page, including a searchable list of eligible census tracts.

**Eligible Applicants:** Nonprofit organizations and for-profit businesses are eligible to apply. See “Eligible Geographies”, “Eligible Facilities”, and “Minimum Eligibility Requirements” for more detail.

**Eligible Facilities:** For each eligible facility category, all conditions (sub-bullets) must be true for the facility to be eligible for funding under the Program.

- Multi-family dwellings:
  - The multi-family dwelling must be located in a low-to-moderate or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”, AND
  - Tenant rent will not be increased solely based on the installation of the solar PV system for a period of two (2) years.

- LMI-serving 501(c)(3) Non-profit facilities (e.g. shelters, soup kitchens, job training centers, community centers, cultural centers, educational centers, children's camps, volunteer firefighter department facilities, other social services, churches, synagogues, mosques, other faith-based organizations):
  - The energy bill savings must be realized by LMI-serving 501(c)(3) nonprofits. These nonprofits must directly provide services to low-to-moderate income or overburdened communities, as defined in "Eligible Geographies", AND
  - Any facility owned or long-term leased by these nonprofits are eligible, regardless of the use of the facility, AND
  - **For an individual net metered facility**, the facility must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community or more than 50% of the nonprofit's beneficiaries must live in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in "Eligible Geographies". **For aggregated net metering projects**, all of the facilities must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community or more than 50% of the nonprofit's beneficiaries must live in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in "Eligible Geographies".
- Hospitals (e.g. nonprofit hospitals, for profit hospitals) and other medical facilities (e.g. urgent cares, community clinics):
  - The energy bill savings must be realized by the provider of medical services, AND

- Any facility owned or long-term leased by these medical providers are eligible, regardless of the use of the facility, AND
  - More than 50% of the patients must live in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”.
- Home Offices:
  - The energy bill savings must be realized by an owner who lives in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”.
- Owner-occupied agricultural businesses:
  - The farm must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”, AND
  - Energy bill savings must be realized by an individual who lives in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”.
- Commercial properties occupied by retail businesses
  - The property must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”, AND
  - The funded measures must agree to enable community resiliency during a power outage, severe weather, or other disruptions.
- Commercial properties occupied by business offices:
  - The property must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”, AND

- The funded measures must agree to enable community resiliency during a power outage, severe weather, or other disruptions.
- Warehouses:
  - The warehouse must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined by “Eligible Geographies”, AND
  - The funded measures must agree to enable community resiliency during a power outage, severe weather, or other disruptions.
- Hotels:
  - The property must be located in a low-to-moderate income or overburdened community, as defined in “Eligible Geographies”, AND
  - The funded measures must agree to enable community resiliency during a power outage, severe weather, or other disruptions.

**Eligible Activities:**

Funding from this program can be used to cover development and installation costs associated with the following technologies:

- **Roof-Mounted Solar PV Systems**
- **Ground-Mounted Solar PV Systems**
- **Solar PV Canopies installed** over parking lots, parking garages, or bodies of water (e.g., covered parking, avoided evaporation, etc.): **All solar canopy projects are required to meet “EV ready” standards, see Appendix A “Solar Canopy EV-Ready Design Requirement.”**
- **Other grid-tied solar PV configurations** to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. (e.g. If considering floating solar arrays, a developer should consult with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Maryland Department of the Environment before applying for an MEA grant to identify the required permits and reviews. For potential projects to be located in the Chesapeake

Bay or connecting waters, a developer must consult with the Critical Area Commission for the Chesapeake & Atlantic Coastal Bays before applying for an MEA grant.)

- **Aggregate Net Metering** is permitted for LMI-serving 501(c)(3) Non-profit facilities, only.
- **Maximum Eligible System Capacity:** 200% of average annual usage, based on the latest 12 months of utility bills.

**Applicant-Owned Systems:** Funding may be used to subsidize the costs of enabling electrical upgrades, equipment, installation, commissioning, and interconnection for the safe and successful installation of a solar PV system owned and operated by the applicant.

**Third-Party Owned (“TPO”) Systems:** Funding may be used by an eligible applicant as an upfront payment to buy-down the rate of their Solar PV Lease or Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) payments to meet the required savings rate described in the Minimum Application Eligibility Requirements section of this FOA. Grant funding may **not** be used to make monthly payments on a PPA or Solar PV Lease.

**Ineligible Activities:**

- **Community Solar Systems** should apply to MEA’s [Community Solar LMI-PPA Grant Program](#).
- **Local Governments** should apply to MEA’s [Local Government Energy Modernization Program](#).
- **Higher Education Agencies** should apply to MEA’s [Higher Education Clean Energy Grant Program](#).
- **Public Schools** should apply to MEA’s [Decarbonizing Public Schools Program](#).
- **Agrivoltaic Projects** should apply to MEA’s [OPEN Energy Innovation Grant Program](#).
- **Projects Greater than 2 MW<sub>-DC</sub>** (2,000 kW<sub>-DC</sub>)
- **MSAP Recipients:** Owner-occupied businesses that have received funding under the [Maryland Solar Access Program](#) are not eligible to also receive funding under this program.

**Minimum Application  
Eligibility  
Requirements:**

Each of the following requirements must be met **in order for an application to be considered complete and eligible under** the Program.

1. **Authority to Operate in Maryland:** The applicant, the occupants of the project facility, and any contractor that the applicant will work with on the proposed project, must be legally authorized to do business in the State of Maryland, and must have an established Employer Identification Number (“EIN”, sometimes referred to as a “taxpayer identification number,” or “TIN”) at the time they apply to the Program.
2. **Project Location:** The project facility(ies) where the proposed project will be located, as well as the location(s) that will benefit from the project, must be located within the State of Maryland and be located in an Eligible Geography.
3. **Facility Control:** The project must be on property either owned or leased by the Applicant. Applicants must provide documentation of ownership or lease as specified in the Required Application Documents section of this FOA.
4. **Good Standing with Maryland DAT:** The applicant, and any contractor that the applicant will work with on the proposed project, must be in Good Standing with the [Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation \(“DAT”\)](#)<sup>1</sup>.
5. **Prior Expenses Restrictions:** Up to 5% of project expenses incurred prior to the execution of a grant agreement are eligible to be reimbursed utilizing Program funding.<sup>2</sup> Expenses incurred prior to the execution of a grant agreement greater than 5% of the total project cost **cannot** be reimbursed using

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<sup>1</sup> <https://dat.maryland.gov/pages/default.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hklaw.com/en/insights/publications/2025/09/beginning-of-construction-for-solar-and-wind-facilities>

Program funding.

6. **Prior Recipients Restrictions:** If an applicant has previously participated in the Program and received funding for the proposed project, the applicant cannot receive another Program grant for the same project. If there is uncertainty regarding the proposed project under this restriction, please contact the MEA Program Manager named at the end of this FOA.
7. **Ability to Enter into a Grant Agreement:** The applicant is the entity who will receive the grant funds from MEA. Each applicant awarded a grant under the Program must enter into a formal grant agreement with MEA before receiving any grant funds. The application must be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant.
8. **Completion Deadline:** Any project funded under the Program must complete the project, including all milestones and required reporting documents, by no later than four (4) years of the signing of the Grant Agreement.
9. **Historic Preservation Restriction:** The installation of the solar PV system must not result in an “adverse finding” to the historical significance of the property, as deemed by the Maryland Historic Trust. Each application that is considered for funding will be reviewed by MEA’s Historic Preservation Specialist prior to issuance of a grant. Information on the historic status of a proposed project facility can be found using [Maryland's Environmental Resources and Land Information Network \(MERLIN\)](#) and Maryland’s Cultural Resources Information System [MEDUSA](#).
10. **NABCEP Requirement:** A North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners certified PV Installation Professional or PV Design Specialist must be directly involved with the design or

construction of the solar PV system.

**11. Cost Match:** The applicant must contribute funding toward the total cost for the project. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to provide the required cost match (See “Grant Amount” section for cost match requirements by AOI and project type).

**12. Third-Party Owned Systems Only - TPO Cost Savings:** The Solar PV Lease or Power Purchase Agreement must guarantee a twenty percent (20%) electricity cost savings (in comparison to historic annual electricity costs for the facility) throughout the life of the agreement.

**13. For Solar Canopies Only - EV Ready:** All solar canopy projects are required to meet “EV ready” standards, see Appendix A “Solar Canopy EV-Ready Design Requirement.”

**14. MULTIFAMILY BUILDINGS ONLY - Tenant Synopsis Form:** The Tenant Synopsis Form Template can be found on the [program webpage](#). The property owner must notify tenants of the terms of this agreement in plain language. Building owners must provide a copy of the full agreement if requested by the tenant.

**Required Application Documents**

**Each complete application to the Program must include the following:**

- 1. Application Form:** A complete, accurate, and signed FY26 MEA application must be provided. The application must include all required information, and must be signed by the applicant’s authorized representative. If an applicant is not utilizing the application portal, a copy of this application form is available through the Program website.
- 2. AOI 1 ONLY - Evidence of Applicant Status:** For AOI 1 applicants, documentation that certifies that the Applicant meets one of the designations for AOI

1 as specified in the "Program Description" section of this FOA. Acceptable documentation includes, as applicable:

- a. To demonstrate eligibility as a Small Business
  - i. A certification from the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) that confirms the Applicant meets the requirements for a [Small Business Enterprise](#) (SBE); **OR**
  - ii. A screenshot of the MDOT OMBE [Directory of Certified Firms](#) that demonstrates that the business on the proposed project facility has a pending application to be designated as a SBE;<sup>3</sup> However, at the time of the first request for reimbursement, if the SBE application is still pending or denied by MDOT, the grant amount will be recalculated based on the incentive levels for AOI-2, as specified in the "Grant Amount" section of this FOA.
- b. To demonstrate eligibility as a Veteran-Owned Business:
  - i. A signed attestation that the business is at least fifty-one percent (51%) owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are veterans **AND**
  - ii. [Documentation](#) demonstrating that the owners received an honorable discharge, or a disability discharge from the U.S. Military (e.g. DD 214, DD 13, DA 1569).
- c. To demonstrate eligibility as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit:
  - i. A letter from the Internal Revenue Service attesting to the 501(c)(3) tax exempt status of the organization.

**3. Attestations of Eligible Facility:** Signed attestation

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<sup>3</sup> Applicants asked to submit their name shows as a Pending application on the [Directory of Certified Firms](#)

in the program application portal certifying that the project facility meets the designations specified in the “Eligible Facilities” section of this FOA.

4. **IRS Form W9:** The applicant **must** provide a complete, accurate, and signed IRS Form W9. **The IRS Form W9 organization name, address, and employer identification number (“EIN”, sometimes referred to as a “Taxpayer Identification Number,” or “TIN”)** will be used to execute a grant agreement, if the project is selected for a grant. A blank copy of the most recent IRS Form W9 can be found on the [IRS Form W9 webpage](#).<sup>4</sup> For payment processing purposes, the applicant name and address on the Form W9 must **exactly** match the information provided in other parts of the application. **NOTE:** Once a grant agreement is executed with a grantee, MEA **cannot change** the grantee’s EIN. No exceptions.
5. **Good Standing Documentation:** The applicant, and any contractor that the applicant will work with, must provide evidence of Good Standing with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (“DAT”). If a different contractor is selected after a grant is awarded to the applicant (if the applicant is selected for a grant), that contractor must provide proof of Good Standing prior to starting any work on the project. Acceptable proof of Good Standing includes (1) a screenshot or PDF of the applicant or contractor’s status in DAT’s [Business Entity Search](#)<sup>5</sup> that indicates a Good Standing status; OR (2) a copy of a Certificate of Good Standing from DAT. Instructions on how to obtain a Certificate of Good Standing are available on [DAT's website](#)<sup>6</sup>.
6. **Evidence of Facility Control:** Applicant must demonstrate that they have authority to access the

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-w-9>

<sup>5</sup> <https://egov.maryland.gov/businessexpress/entitysearch>

<sup>6</sup> <https://dat.maryland.gov/businesses/Pages/Internet-Certificate-of-Status.aspx>

proposed project facility and to install a solar PV system by providing one of the following:

- a. **Applicant Owned Project Facility:** If the project facility is owned by the applicant, a PDF copy of the project facility's result on the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (DAT) [Real Property Search](#) that lists the applicant as the property owner, OR a copy of the property deed that lists the applicant as the property owner;
  - b. **Leased Project Facility:** If the project facility is leased by the Applicant, a copy of a signed letter from the property owner that gives explicit written permission for the Applicant to install the solar PV system ("Property Owner's Permission Letter"). The letter must state that the property owner will ensure that the installation will remain in place and operational for the balance of the equipment's economic life, regardless of lessee turnover, **AND** a PDF copy of the project facility's result on the Maryland DAT Real Property Search that lists the same property owner as identified on the Property Owner's Permission Letter. OR a copy of the property deed that lists the applicant as the property owner.
7. **Project Budget Workbook:** A complete and accurate FY26 Commercial and Canopy Solar Program Budget Workbook that includes the most up-to-date information on total project cost, sources and uses of funds, and all other information required by the workbook. A copy of this workbook is available on the [Program webpage](#).
8. **Utility History:** Documentation demonstrating the most recently available twelve (12) continuous months of electric utility consumption data **AND** percentage of onsite load offset by solar PV system.
9. **Solar PV System Information:** Comprehensive project information regarding the proposed solar PV

project, which must include, at minimum:

- a. Size of the solar PV system in kilowatts of direct current (“kW<sub>DC</sub>”);
- b. Location of the solar PV system, including street address and specific location on the installation property;
- c. Solar production estimate from a widely-accepted solar estimation program, such as [PVWatts](#), [PVsyst](#), or others, on a case-by-case basis;
- d. A one-line diagram of the proposed solar PV system (if available).
- e. Solar Canopies Only: EV-Ready documentation described in Appendix A: Solar Canopy EV-Ready Design Standard.

**10. Project Map:** A facility site map exhibiting the location of the solar PV system on the property. Acceptable formats include screenshots or images from Google Earth, Google Maps, or similar widely-accepted online geographic information system with the proposed location of the solar PV system array indicated. Please note the map clearly demonstrating the location of the proposed installation on the property.

**11. Solar Contract or Letter of Intent:** A copy of an itemized and signed contract, or signed letter of intent, from the solar PV provider selected for the project. The information on the agreement must match all relevant information submitted for the Solar PV System Information and the project facility. The agreement must include:

- a. Project Facility Location
- b. Nameplate capacity of the solar PV system
- c. Estimated cost savings

TPO Systems Only: In addition to the above requirements, Solar PV Leases or Power Purchase Agreements must demonstrate how the project guarantees a twenty percent (20%) electricity cost savings (in comparison

to historic annual electricity costs for the facility) throughout the life of the agreement.

## **12. MULTIFAMILY BUILDINGS ONLY - Tenant**

**Synopsis Form:** Signed attestation in the program application portal certifying that the property owner will meet the Tenant Synopsis Form requirement in the “minimum eligibility requirements” section of this FOA.

### **Award Process:**

Each **complete and eligible** application package will be recommended for a grant award in the order it was received. Each incomplete or ineligible application package will not be recommended for a grant award.

**Missing Information Policy:** An application that is missing or has incorrect information or documentation will be placed on standby. The applicant will be notified and asked to provide the missing information or documentation. MEA must receive any missing information or documentation within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date MEA notifies the applicant. MEA will cancel the application if the requested information or documentation is not received within that time frame. An applicant whose application is canceled for this reason may reapply. Applications will be placed in the queue as of the date all required information and documentation has been received.

### **Partial Grants:**

Partial grants are possible under this Program, depending on the number of complete and eligible applications received and associated grant funds requested. Full grants will be made for complete and eligible projects. If sufficient grant funds are not available to fully fund a project, the applicant will be given an option to accept partial funding. If the applicant declines, MEA may offer partial grant funding under this same structure to the next qualified applicant until all funding has been expended or all remaining eligible projects have rejected the offer.

### **Program General Provisions:**

MEA grant programs are covered by general requirements that will be made part of the grant agreement between MEA and a grantee. A copy of these provisions (“General

Provisions v3 2.11.22”) is available on MEA’s website [here](#)<sup>7</sup>.  
The most recent version of this document will be  
incorporated into all MEA grant agreements.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://energy.maryland.gov/SiteAssets/Pages/all-incentives/General%20Provisions%20v3%202.11.22.pdf>

**Grant Funding and  
Payment Schedule:**

**Grant Payment Schedule:** Applicants selected to receive grant funding can expect for funding to be disbursed after the completion of two project milestones:

- **Groundbreaking:** Once project materials have been ordered and delivered on-site, and all necessary permits for the project have been obtained by all applicable authorities having jurisdiction. Grantees may request up to thirty percent (30%) of their grant amount.
- **Completion:** Once the solar PV energy generating system has passed all final inspections required by all authorities having jurisdiction, has received Permission to Operate from the applicable electric utility, and has commenced operation, Grantees may request the remaining balance of their grant amount.

The following requirements apply to each grantee:

- **Electronic Payments:** Participation in MEA grant programs is voluntary. To ensure the secure transmission of grant funds, each grantee receiving MEA grant funding is generally required to receive electronic payments from the State of Maryland. Electronic payments are set up through the State of Maryland's Comptroller's Office. Each grantee must fill out and submit the "ACH/Direct Deposit Authorization for Vendor Payments [Form X-10](#)" to the Comptroller's Office via the submission methods outlined in the X-10 form. ACH/Direct Deposit Authorization for Vendor Payment Form X-10 **cannot be sent to MEA.** It must go to the appropriate location specified by the Comptroller's Office. Failure to submit ACH/Direct Deposit Authorization Form X-10 may result in grant reimbursement being delayed. If an applicant is unable to receive ACH/Direct Deposit payments, MEA may make an exception to this requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- **Reporting:** Each grantee must ensure timely and current compliance with the Program's quarterly

reporting requirements. The Program reporting requirements will be specified in the grant agreement.

**Application  
Submission  
Instructions:**

Complete application packages must be submitted to MEA electronically, using the **FY26 Commercial and Canopy Solar Program Application Portal**:

<https://form.jotform.com/marylandenergy/FY26-commercial-and-canopy-solar>

If electronic submission is not possible, an Applicant should contact MEA by email at [Commercial.Solar@Maryland.gov](mailto:Commercial.Solar@Maryland.gov) or by calling the Program Manager Meg Cefail at 410.371.0976 no fewer than fourteen (14) days before the deadline to arrange an alternative method of application submission.

**Regulations:**

MEA grant programs funded by the Strategic Energy Investment Fund are subject to section 9-20B-05 of the State Government article and the regulations found in COMAR 14.26.02\*.

*\*To access these regulations, click [here](#)<sup>8</sup> and use the sidebar "Regulations by Title" to navigate to: 14 - Independent Agencies → 26 - MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION → 02 - Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program.*

**Questions:**

Questions not answered by this FOA can be directed to the MEA Commercial and Canopy Solar Program Commercial Solar Grant Program Team by sending an email to [Commercial.Solar@Maryland.gov](mailto:Commercial.Solar@Maryland.gov). You may also call The MEA Program Manager, Meg Cefail, at 410-371-0976.

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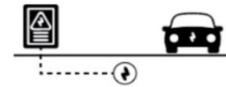
<sup>8</sup> <https://dsd.maryland.gov/Pages/COMARSearch.aspx>

## **Appendix A: Solar Canopy EV-Ready Design Requirement**

Each solar canopy system receiving funding through the FY26 Commercial and Canopy Solar Program program must meet EV-Ready design standards for at least four (4) canopy-covered parking spaces. A parking space is considered EV-Ready if it is physically capable of hosting Level 2 EV chargers in the future without major retrofits. This includes installing a full circuit installation including panel, capacity, raceway, wiring, receptable, and overprotection devices, and meeting all specifications detailed by the [2024 International Energy Conservation Code \(IECC\) Appendix CG101.2.3 “EV Ready Spaces.”](#)<sup>910</sup>

### **EV Capable Spaces.**

Install panel capacity and conduit (raceway) to accommodate the future build-out of EV charging



### **EV Ready Spaces.**

Install a full circuit installations including panel capacity, raceway, wiring, receptable, and overprotection devices.



### **EVSE Spaces.**

Install EVSE charging stations during new construction



To confirm compliance, applicants installing solar canopies are required to include the following in their **Solar PV System Information documentation**:

1. **Electrical One-Line Diagram** showing:
  - Reserved panel capacity for future EV loads.
  - Dedicated breaker space labeled “EV Ready.”
  - Conduit routing to parking spaces.
2. **Facility Site Plan** showing:
  - Locations of at least four EV-Ready parking spaces.
3. **Narrative Description** confirming:
  - How the design meets [IECC Appendix CG101.2.3](#) definition of “EV Ready.”
  - Estimated future EVSE capacity (e.g., 7.2 kW per charger).

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/NECC2024\\_EV.pdf](https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2024-05/NECC2024_EV.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> [https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IECC2024P1/appendix-cg-electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure#IECC2024P1\\_AppxCG\\_SecCG101.2.3](https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IECC2024P1/appendix-cg-electric-vehicle-charging-infrastructure#IECC2024P1_AppxCG_SecCG101.2.3)