



Find and Choose a Solar Installer

With a growing number of solar installers across the state, it is important to know where to look and what to look for in an installer. If you are considering solar for your home or business, be sure to two to three bids from different installers to ensure you get the best deal. Here is some information to help you locate and choose an installer.



Installers should be properly licensed and familiar with all safety protocols while on the job. *Credit: Dennis Schroeder, National Renewable Energy Laboratory.*

Find an Installer

The following websites provide updated lists of solar installers across Utah:

- Utah Solar Dealers & Installers – Utah State Energy Program: http://geology.utah.gov/sep/renewable_energy/solrdeal.htm
- Find Solar: <http://www.findsolar.com/>
- ReDirect Guide, Salt Lake City: http://www.redirectguide.com/SaltLakeCity_ParkCity/index.asp
- Utah Solar Energy Association: <http://utsolar.org/index.php/directory/>
- North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) Certified Installer Locator: <http://www.nabcep.org/installer-locator-agreement>
- Verify a License with the Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing: <https://secure.utah.gov/llv/llv>

Choose an Installer

An installer can give a more detailed assessment of your site's solar potential and help you navigate the permitting and interconnection process. Selecting an experienced, reputable installer is essential to a successful installation, and may be required in order to receive certain incentives. Here are some questions to consider asking the installers bidding on your project:

Questions to Ask the Installer:

1. What products and services do you offer? With which products are you most familiar?
2. How many years have you been in business?
3. Do you specialize in residential or commercial systems?
4. Do you have experience working with and interconnecting with [YOUR UTILITY]?
5. Are you familiar with net metering and/or off-grid systems? (only applicable to solar PV)

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6. Can you provide a portfolio or a list of recent projects as well as 2-3 references for me to contact?
7. What licenses do you hold in the state of Utah? (You can request their license number and use <https://secure.utah.gov/llv/llv> to verify his/her license)
8. Are you familiar with local permitting requirements?
9. Are you NABCEP (North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners) certified?
10. What type of insurance do you carry?
11. Do they have any pending or active judgments against them?
12. What is the warranty on the parts and labor?
13. What technologies do you install? How do they compare to other technologies? Are they UL Listed with warranties?
14. What happens if I have to repair or replace the roof after the solar panels are installed?
15. What happens if you go out of business before the system warranty expires and something happens to the PV system?
16. What kind of operation and maintenance training do you provide?
17. How do I keep the system clean?
18. Will you be able to help me apply for the available rebates and incentives?

What should the solar bid include? The following elements should be included on the bid you receive from the solar installer:

- Total cost from start to finish of design and construction
- Equipment
- Labor
- Permits
- Tax
- City incentive (if applicable)
- State tax incentive (if applicable)
- Federal tax credit
- Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), if applicable (commercial installations)
- Make and model number of equipment
- Warranty information
- Expected operation and maintenance costs
- Projected monthly, annual, and lifetime costs and savings
- Finance options: cash, loan, lease, or power purchase agreement (commercial installations)

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