



SolarAPP+

The Emerging US Permitting Solution



SolarAPP+ is a standardized plan review software that can run compliance checks and process building permit approvals for eligible rooftop solar systems.

The tool was developed through a collaborative effort to accelerate rooftop solar adoption by making it easier for local governments to quickly and safely approve rooftop PV projects for installation

SolarAPP+ Eligibility

SolarAPP+ can cover standardized systems as defined [here](#).

Current Support Parameters

- Residential PV
- Approved equipment
- NEC 2017 & 2020
- 2018 & 2021 i-Codes
- Bus <225A
- Service <400A
- PV systems <4PSF
- Single phase utility supply
- No wood shake roofs
- No metal roofs w >15PSF snow load
- Main panel upgrades
- California's Title 24

Support In Progress

- Residential storage
- Add-ons for existing systems

Planned

- EV chargers, electric appliances, roof tiles, and more...

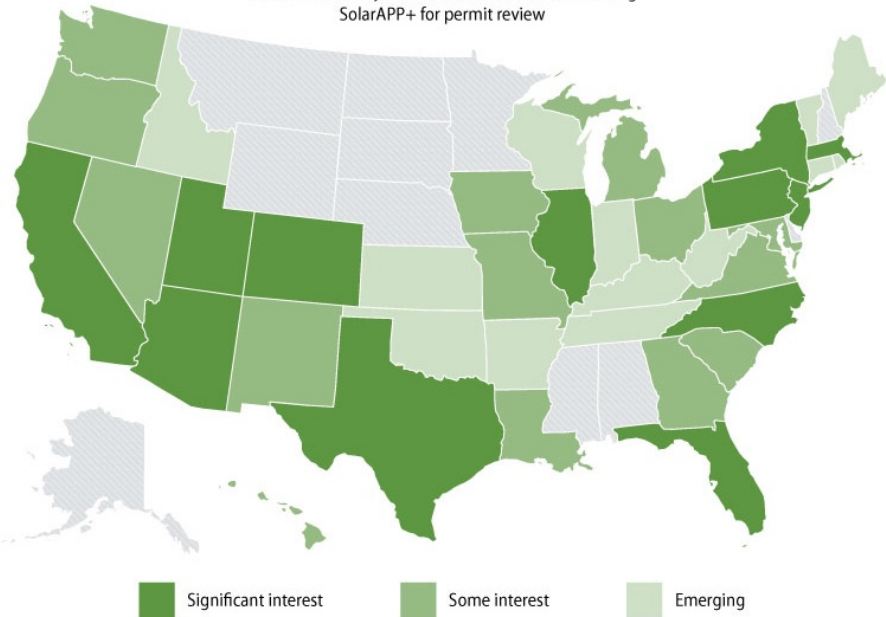


Let us know what you'd like to see next!

Interest in SolarAPP+

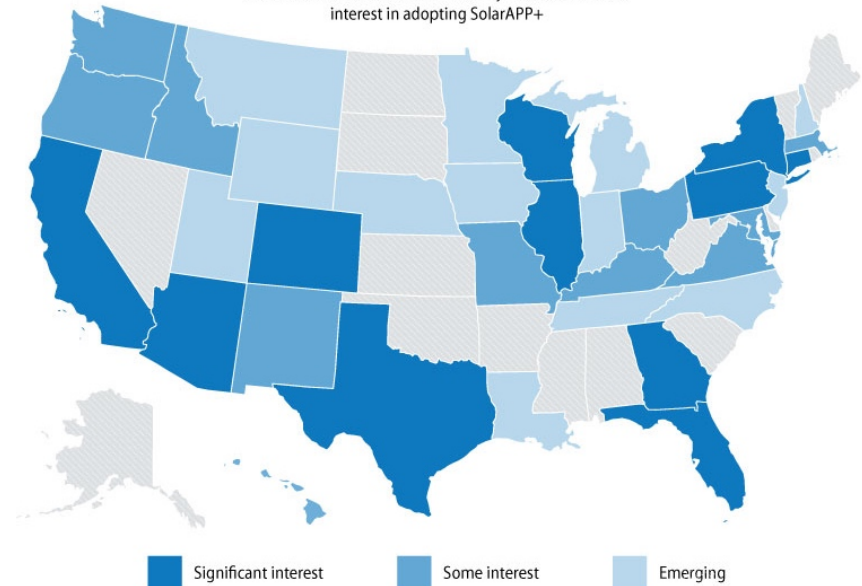
Interested Installers

Across the country, installers are interested in utilizing SolarAPP+ for permit review



Engaged Jurisdictions

Cities and counties across the country have shown their interest in adopting SolarAPP+



Tucson's Experience with SolarAPP+

- 2,400 PV permits issued to date
- 14,200+ kW approved via SolarAPP+
- Over 2,400 hours of staff time saved in plan review
- Piloting PV+ storage

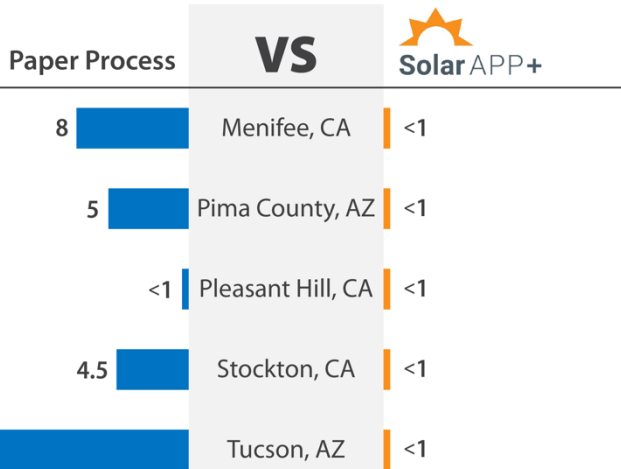


“The permitting process was taking four weeks. Now with SolarAPP+ we give a permit the same day. We just approved about 450 installations in the last 60 days alone.”

- Tucson Mayor Regina Romero

SolarAPP+ Pilot Statistics

Median Business Days for Permit Review



10,000+

Residential rooftop PV permits approved to date, including 1,500+ revisions

600+

Permits approved to date for Solar+Storage projects



By providing instantaneous review SolarAPP+ has reduced the average permit review time to

less than 1 day

saving jurisdictional staff over **10,000 hours** in review

No time added

to inspections of PV systems in the field, with comparable inspection passage rates to traditional inspections



Projects submitted through SolarAPP+ were installed and inspected

12 days faster

on average than projects using the traditional process

SolarAPP+ Flow

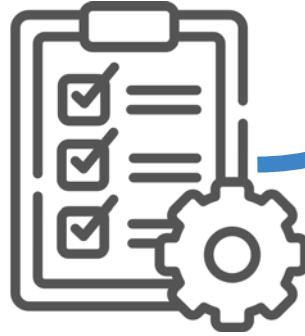
Installer submits an application with design specifications through SolarAPP

1



2

SolarAPP checks the application to ensure the system design is code compliant



3

Code compliant applications are issued a permit instantly after fee payment

[\(Review sample approval docs here\)](#)

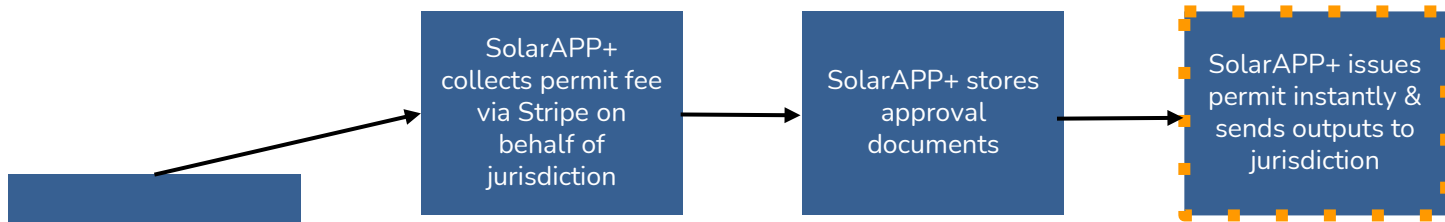


Adoption Options

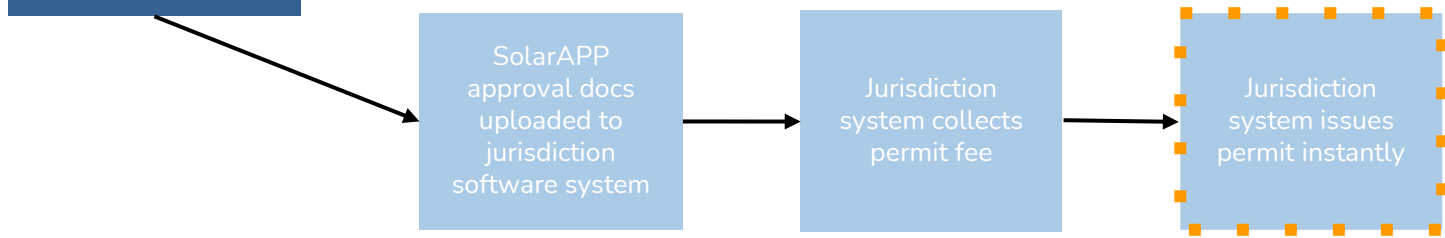
SolarAPP+ Software

Existing Software

Stand Alone SolarAPP+ (For email and in-person jurisdictions)



Integrated with Existing Permitting Software (For already online jurisdictions)



Four Steps to Adopting SolarAPP+



Select the Right Integration

- SolarAPP can be set up to:
- **integrate** with your existing online permitting software
 - **stand alone** as a complete online permitting solution



Input Local Settings

- These include:
- Permitting contacts
 - AHJ boundaries
 - Local wind and snow variables
 - Model code years
 - Terms and conditions



Setup Instant Permit Workflow

- Depending on your integration, either:
- Set up an instant permit application in your software
 - Set up permit payments in SolarAPP



Launch

- This involves:
- Inviting 1-3 installers to use your SolarAPP permitting process
 - Opening up SolarAPP+ permitting to all installers

CalAPP Grant

The California Automated Permit Process Program (CalAPP) is a \$20 million funding program that provides grants to cities and counties to help implement SolarAPP+

CalAPP will be available in ~June 2022

Proposed Grant Sizes:

- Population <50,000: Up to \$40K
- Population 50,000-99,999: Up to \$60K
- Population 100,000-200,000: Up to \$80K
- Population >200,000: \$100K

Grant Can Cover:

- IT staff time on adoption
- Inspector time on training
- Time spent meeting with NREL
- And more

For more information visit: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/california-automated-permit-processing-program-calapp>



SolarAPP+ Prize

The SolarAPP+ Prize is a \$1 million funding program that provides grants to cities and counties to help implement SolarAPP+. Jurisdictions can win \$15,000 to be allocated to the costs below.

The SolarAPP+ Prize Application closes on **November 4th**!

Grant Can Cover:

- IT staff time on adoption
- Inspector time on training
- Time spent meeting with NREL
- And more!

For more information visit: <https://americanmadechallenges.org/solarapp>

Make sure to review the SolarAPP+ Prize Rules:

https://americanmadechallenges.org/challenges/solarapp/docs/SolarAPP+_Official_Prize_Rules.pdf

Questions?

APPENDIX

More information:

SolarAPP Outreach Materials

- Website:
 - <https://solarapp.nrel.gov/>
- Pilot Results:
 - <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy22osti/81603.pdf>
- Demonstration webinar:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmXLvQevPEs>
- Where is SolarAPP+ available?
 - <https://help.solar-app.org/article/108-where-is-solarapp-available>.
- Piloting webinar:
 - <https://youtu.be/iaocESF9llg>.
- SolarAPP Benefits Memo:
 - https://solarapp.nrel.gov/docs/SolarAPP_Benefits_Memo.pdf
- For more information contact:
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