

COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION (CCA)

CCA offerings: community choice electricity supply & community choice solar

1. What is Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)?

Community choice aggregation (“CCA” or “community choice”) enables municipalities to join together to aggregate the buying power of residents and dictate the terms of their energy contracts. By pooling local demand, municipalities can negotiate more favorable terms, decrease electricity costs, designate preferred generation sources, choose clean energy, increase consumer protection, select a default energy service company for the community, support local renewable generation, and deliver the benefits of solar, or other renewables, to entire communities. Without CCA, the default energy supplier is chosen for consumers by the State. CCA shifts this authority to the local level, empowering municipal leaders to make decisions about what is best for their own communities.

2. Why are New York communities forming community choice programs?

CCA is a powerful means to:

- (1) Save consumers money
- (2) Expand the use of clean electricity throughout NY State
- (3) Support the generation of clean energy within NY State
- (4) Empower local decision-making
- (5) Increase consumer protection with programs that have no additional charges or fees and require no contract, paperwork, or exchange of information. Contracts are held by the municipality, giving consumers flexibility to participate or not.

3. Who administers the program?

Joule Assets (Joule) has been selected as Program Administrator by each participating municipality, and has been authorized to serve in this capacity by the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC).

4. Does my CCA program replace my utility?

No. Your existing utility continues to deliver reliable power, maintain power lines, and respond to service outages. As required by law, your utility provides the same service to all customers regardless of whether they participate in the program. Customers continue to receive a monthly bill from their utility company, reflecting a change in supplier, supply rate, and the discount derived from solar credits.

5. How are the new default energy offerings selected?

Joule works with the participating municipalities to identify program priorities. To select new default energy offerings Joule conducts competitive bidding processes, soliciting responses from eligible registered New York State energy suppliers and solar farm managers. A community choice program only launches when a proposal meets the requirements identified by the program administrator and municipality.

6. How can I be sure my CCA program will provide energy reliably?

Electricity is a highly regulated industry that has many safeguards against service and supply interruption. The grid operator monitors the grid to ensure that sufficient power is always flowing. The utility must continue to deliver electricity to all customers regardless of supplier.

7. How does my CCA program affect me?

Unless they opt out, all eligible utility account holders automatically enrolled in their municipal CCA program's default offerings. Participants may opt out or switch to a different supply or solar option, at any time, without penalty. There are no fees to opt in or out of either program offering. Depending on eligibility, residential and small business energy consumers may automatically be enrolled in one, both, or neither program component(s). The utility continues to be

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responsible for delivery, billing, and repair services. Should service be interrupted, call your utility. If you change your mind after opting out, you will be able to opt in again online. There are no fees to opt in or opt out of the program.

8. What if I don't want to participate?

You may opt out of either CCA program, at any time, with no penalty by filling out a form on your program's website or by calling the customer service number listed on the website. Please be prepared to provide the account name and service address on your utility bill.

9. Is there a fee for opting out of the program?

There are no fees or penalties for opting out.

10. If I exit the program after it launches, how will that affect my service?

Your service will not be interrupted. If you opt out of the electricity supply offering, you'll be switched back to the utility-supplied electricity at the market supply rate for the following billing cycle. If you opt out of the community solar offering, you will no longer receive credits on your utility bill for supporting solar energy generation, passing up the guaranteed savings.

11. I have solar panels on my roof. Can I still participate?

You can participate in the CCA electricity supply offering, if eligible; but cannot participate in community solar. Rooftop solar customers still need an energy supplier to provide excess power beyond what the rooftop system produces. If you do not opt out of the electricity supply offering, you will be enrolled in the program like any other customer, paying the CCA-negotiated rate for that excess power.

12. How do I save with community solar

You receive solar credits for the amount of energy generated by your share of the solar farm. The credits are applied directly to your utility bill, reducing your

monthly electricity bill payment. The discount will be shown on your utility bill. There will be no second bill.

13. Will I save money by participating in the electricity supply offering?

Program rates for renewable energy are fixed at a price that is lower than what residents would otherwise pay. However, while our large customer base assures competitive bids from suppliers, fixed price contracts, do not guarantee that rates will remain lower in any given month or save money throughout the contract term. Yet, fixed rate CCA programs in New York and other states have provided significant customer savings.

14. Does my CCA program supply "green" power?

Yes. Partner municipalities can select the renewable option as the default power supply for residents and small businesses. However, customers may freely choose to switch supply options at any time.

15. What is the renewable energy option?

The program's renewable energy option consists of power matched with Renewable Energy Certificates ("RECs") generated by hydropower, solar or wind energy registered in New York State. Using renewable energy dramatically reduces greenhouse gas emissions. We can celebrate our contribution to cleaner air and cleaner water.

16. My community is not a part of a CCA, can I still sign up for community solar?

Yes. You can sign up for community solar regardless of whether you participate in a CCA program. Visit joulecommunitypower.com to find out if you are eligible.

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Joule Community Power is a division of Joule Assets.