





Community Choice Aggregation

Explore the sections below to learn more about community choice aggregation (CCA):

- [What Is CCA?](#)
- [How Do CCAs Work?](#)
- [When Was CCA-Enabling Legislation Passed in Various States?](#)
- [Advantages and Challenges of CCAs for Local Governments](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)

What Is CCA?

CCA—also known as municipal aggregation—programs allow local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider. CCAs are an attractive option for communities that want more local control over their electricity sources, more green power than is offered by the default utility, and/or lower electricity prices. By aggregating demand, communities gain leverage to negotiate better rates with competitive suppliers and choose greener power sources.

CCAs are currently authorized in California, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Virginia (Figure 1). In 2022, about 5.7 million [customers \(pdf\)](#)  procured about 14.6 billion kWh of electricity through CCAs. Learn more on the [status of states' efforts to enact CCA-enabling legislation](#) .

Authorized in 10 States:

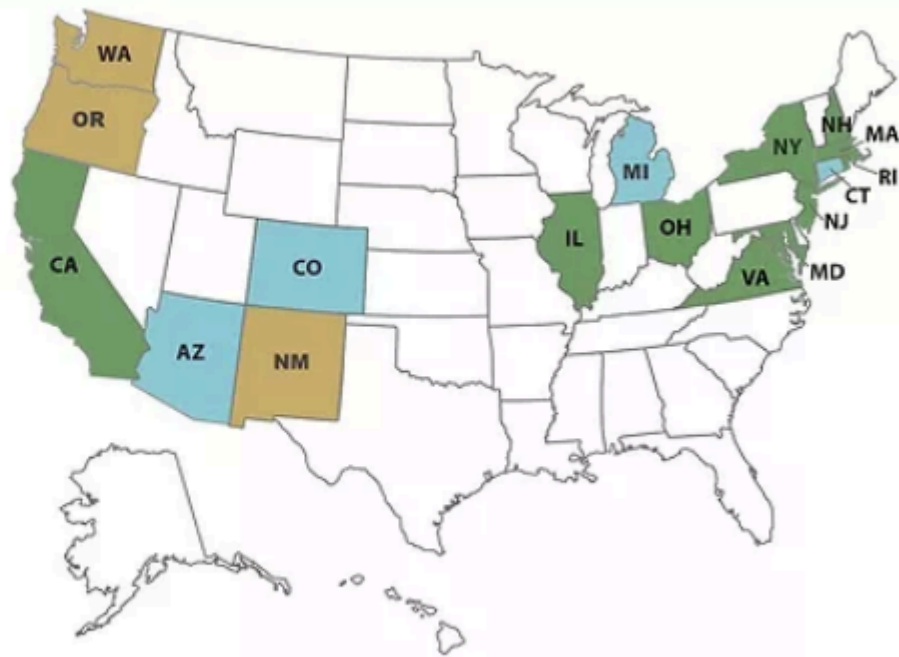
- California
- Illinois
- Maryland (Montgomery Co. Pilot)
- Massachusetts
- New Hampshire*
- New Jersey
- New York
- Ohio
- Rhode Island
- Virginia*

Actively Investigating:

- Arizona
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Michigan

Watch List/Potential:

- Oregon
- Washington
- New Mexico



* Not yet implemented

Updated 8.27.21

Source: LEAN Energy <https://www.leanenergyus.org/cca-by-state>

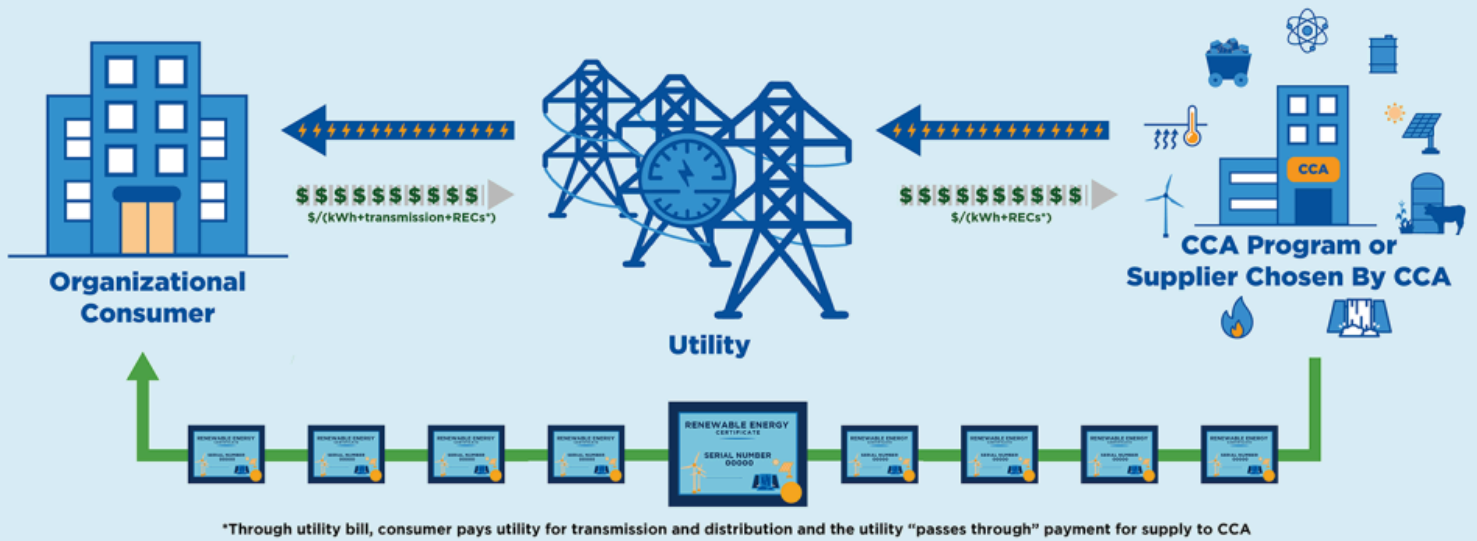
Figure 1. Map of States with Approved CCA Legislation

How Do CCAs Work?

In the 10 states with enabling legislation, a local government must hold public hearings and pass a law authorizing the CCA. Depending on state and local government regulations, all homes, businesses, and municipal sites in that jurisdiction may be eligible to participate in the CCA. Participation in CCAs is always voluntary. Most CCAs have opt-out provisions, meaning when a community begins a program, customers are given advance notice and have the choice to opt out of the CCA program and continue to receive electricity from their current supplier. Customers who do not opt out are automatically enrolled in the program. Although less common, some CCAs have opt-in provisions requiring customers to proactively enroll in the program; these are generally less successful in terms of participation rates. CCAs can also have a tiered structure with a standard option that customers are enrolled in unless they opt out, as well as an opt-in "greener" option at a price premium. These additional opt-in options generally have a higher percentage of green power or are sourced from local renewables.

Prices for electricity under CCAs may be lower than the residential retail price for electricity—sometimes by 15 to 20 percent—because of the collective buying power of entire communities and current market trends. CCA customers continue to receive the same delivery and maintenance services from their local utility, with a single utility bill that reflects the change in supplier. The only changes for customers are the sources and prices of electricity generation.

The below infographic depicts how a typical Community Choice Aggregation works.














<https://www.epa.gov/green-power-markets/community-choice-aggregation>

To save the infographic, right-click on the image.

When Was CCA-Enabling Legislation Passed in Various States?

State	Year Established	Alternative Name of Program, Enabling Statute	Notes	Example Renewable Offer
Massachusetts	1997	Acts 1997, Chapter 164	Opt-out provision	100% green power option in CCAs like Lowell
Ohio	1999	Governmental Energy Aggregation, Senate Bill 3 ; Senate Bill 221 (2007) (pdf)	Opt-in or opt-out provisions	100% green power option in CCAs like Cleveland and Cincinnati
California	2002	Assembly Bill 117 and Senate Bill 790	Opt-out provision, joint power agencies run programs on	33% or 100% green power options in CCAs like in

			behalf of multiple jurisdictions	Sonoma County; Marin Clean Energy has 50% and 100% options
Rhode Island 	2002	RI General Law 96-H8124B 	Opt-out provision	Some CCAs have standard green power offering of 5 to 10%
New Jersey 	2003	Government Energy Aggregation, Assembly Bill 2165 	Opt-out provision for residential customers; opt-in provision for municipal and commercial customers	No green power options
Illinois 	2009	Municipal Aggregation, House Bill 362 	Opt-out provision for residential and small business utility customers	Many CCAs offer a 100% green power option
New York 	2014	Overview of NY's CCA program 	Opt-out provision	100% green power option in CCAs in Westchester County
Virginia	1999  2004 (opt-out) 	Bill 56-589 	Opt-in or Opt-out provisions	The code allows municipal

				aggregation since 1999; however, no community choice for resident and businesses programs have been formed.
New Hampshire ↗	2019	Senate Bill 286 ↗	Opt-out Provision	TBD
Maryland ↗	2021	House Bill 768 (pdf) ↗	Montgomery County CCE Pilot Program	To launch in December 2023
Washington D.C.	2000	Code of the District of Columbia § 34-1515 .		TBD

See [Local Energy Aggregation Network \(LEAN\) state profiles](#) [↗](#) for sources.

Advantages and Challenges of CCAs for Local Governments

Advantages:

- Potential retail electric rate reduction.
- Enables rapid shift to greener power resources.
- Local control of electricity generation, which can be responsive to local economic and environmental goals.
- Expands consumer choices.
- Can spur local jobs and renewable energy development.

Challenges:

- Implementation is dependent on enabling state legislation.
- Requires successful navigation of various CCA regulations and passing the appropriate ordinances.
- Administrative costs.

- Opt-in versus opt-out clauses can be confusing to consumers.
- Potential for push-back from utilities in traditionally regulated electricity states that would face new competition under CCAs.

Additional Resources

- National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), 2019. [Community Choice Aggregation: Challenges, Opportunities, and Impacts on Renewable Energy Markets \(pdf\)](#). [🔗](#)
- [LEAN Energy U.S.](#) [🔗](#)
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council, 2014. [Start a Community Choice Aggregation Program Guide \(pdf\)](#). [🔗](#)
- NREL, 2017. [Community Choice Aggregation \(CCA\) Helping Communities Reach Renewable Energy Goals webpage](#) [🔗](#)
- New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. [Community Choice Aggregation Toolkit](#) [🔗](#)
- NREL, 2023. [Status and Trends in the Voluntary Market \(2022 data\) \(pdf\)](#). [🔗](#).

Last updated on December 2, 2024

[Assistance](#)

[Arabic](#)

[Chinese \(traditional\)](#)

[Asistans](#)

[Assistância](#)

[Tulong](#)

[Ayuda](#)

[Chinese \(simplified\)](#)

[Aide](#)

[Korean](#)

[Russian](#)

[Vietnamese](#)



Discover.

[Accessibility Statement](#)

[Budget & Performance](#)

[Contracting](#)

[EPA www Web Snapshot](#)

Connect.

[Data](#)

[Inspector General](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[Regulations.gov](#) [🔗](#)

[Subscribe](#)

Ask.

[Contact EPA](#)

[EPA Disclaimers](#)

[Hotlines](#)

[FOIA Requests](#)

[Frequent Questions](#)

[Grants](#)

[USA.gov](#) 

[No FEAR Act Data](#)

[White House](#) 

[Plain Writing](#)

Follow.



[Privacy](#)

[Privacy and Security
Notice](#)