1 Why should I spend time and money on solar?

Healthcare is an energy-intensive industry. In fact, U.S. inpatient healthcare facilities are the second most energy-intensive facility types in the nation, with the average hospital spending $675,000 per year on energy costs alone. And healthcare buildings are only getting larger, likely to meet the needs of an aging population with a growing average life expectancy.

As soon as your solar system is activated, you will start saving money that would otherwise be spent on electric bills, while protecting your facility from utility price volatility. Depending on your location and how you choose to finance solar, you can lock in low electricity rates for 25 years or more and possibly eliminate 100% of your electric bill.

Here are some examples of healthcare operations that have saved with SunPower® solar.

2 How can running our healthcare facility on solar increase my bottom line?

The bottom-line benefits are undeniable—when your hospital or healthcare business goes solar you see savings in real dollars. And instead of spending that money on electric bills, it can be used to make operational improvements, purchase new equipment, hire more staff or simply operate more efficiently.

Learn how a Texas surgery center added solar, saving on energy costs and greatly reducing its carbon footprint.
3 How can sustainability differentiate our hospital from competitors in the community?
Hospitals that utilize renewables stand out from their peers for their commitment to community health and environmental stewardship. Renewables can reduce a hospital’s carbon emissions and have a positive effect on environmental health. Additionally, more and more socially-driven businesses are adopting a **triple-bottom-line approach** to business that goes beyond measuring financial results to considering a company’s effects on people, planet and profits. This includes better community health, assistance in achieving green building certifications and an enhanced reputation.¹

4 If solar is so great, why aren’t more healthcare facilities installing it?
The truth is, more healthcare facilities and businesses of all kinds are going solar today than ever before. With solar technology firmly established as a cost-effective energy source, and installations becoming easier than ever, the growth has been notable. Over the last ten years, solar has grown at an average annual rate of 68%, and the trend shows no signs of reversing.²

5 Why should our hospital go solar now?
The longer you wait, the more it costs your operation. By taking advantage of competitive pricing on solar panels and available incentive programs now, your hospital or healthcare facility will start saving money the day your system is activated, and see savings for the life of the solar system.
Additionally, the federal Investment Tax Credit (ITC) for solar is equal to 30% of the amount invested in an eligible installation (e.g., if you invest $100,000 in solar, you could receive a $30,000 tax credit). However, the ITC rate will decrease to 26% in 2020, 22% in 2021, and 10% after 2021. **Here’s an easy to understand guide to the Investment Tax Credit.**
If your organization is tax-exempt, you cannot directly take advantage of the ITC. However, you can work with financial partners to establish a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). A PPA is a contract in which another party owns the solar system, and takes advantage of the tax benefits, but you enjoy the energy savings with no upfront costs. **Learn more about Power Purchase Agreements here.**

6 How do we begin?
While it may sound daunting to learn about an entirely new form of energy, we are here to help. SunPower has helped thousands of organizations go solar. We will guide you through the steps—which are simpler than you might imagine. **There’s never been a better time to go solar than now,** and the sooner you decide to act, the more you can save.