



Greater efficiency supports patient care.

ENERGY STAR Office Equipment

All ECM content was independently developed and reviewed to be vendor-, product-, and service provider-neutral.

Description

Decisions for the purchase of office equipment is rarely in the hands of those who have the time or resources to evaluate the energy efficiency of the equipment. Thanks to the ENERGY STAR Energy Efficient Products label, a trusted third-party has done the research ahead of time and allows the consumer to simply look for or ask for the ENERGY STAR label.

Project Talking Points

- The ENERGY STAR label was established to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with energy inefficiency, and enable purchasers to identify energy-efficient products that lower energy bills without sacrificing performance, features, and comfort.
- ENERGY STAR labels are found on various products including office equipment, lighting, vending machines and kitchen equipment.
- ENERGY STAR helps organizations save money and protect the environment by effectively differentiating higher-efficiency products from their conventional equivalent.
- Qualified products must deliver the features and performance demanded by consumers in addition to increased energy efficiency.
- Though initial purchase costs for ENERGY STAR products may be higher than conventional counterparts, the purchaser typically recoups their investment through utility bill savings and/or utility rebates in a reasonable timeframe.
- Product energy consumption and performance can be measured and verified with testing.
- A strategic approach to office equipment purchasing can improve your hospital's bottom line.

Triple Bottom Line Benefits

- **Cost benefits:** Office equipment is the fastest growing use of electricity in commercial buildings in the United States. According to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, more than \$2 billion is spent for the electricity consumed by office equipment each year. In addition, air-conditioning to offset the waste heat from office equipment costs nearly \$1 billion per year. Purchasers often fail to account for energy costs when buying office equipment, even though energy-efficient equipment with comparable features and performance is available for the same price. ENERGY STAR office equipment will save your hospital significant money on energy costs.
- **Environmental benefits:** Switching to ENERGY STAR office equipment prevents the release of tens of thousands of pounds of carbon dioxide over the lifetime of the product. That pollution savings is equivalent to taking a car off the road for eight years. That same ENERGY STAR equipped office can also cut nitrogen oxide emissions, which are primary contributors to smog and acid rain, by 50%.
- **Health and safety benefits (satisfaction and quality):** A reduction in toxic chemicals, better temperature control, and improved indoor air quality. Additional potential benefits include increased occupant comfort, satisfaction, and productivity.

Purchasing Considerations

- Ask suppliers if any electricity consuming items have an equivalent with the ENERGY STAR label
- Check with your electric utility to see if any rebates are available on ENERGY STAR labeled equipment.
- Use [ENERGY STAR procurement language](#) in contracts.
- The Department of Energy provides samples of model contract language (<https://energent.link/8bba8>).

How-To

1. Engage purchasing staff as most hospitals will have centralized purchasing agreements with suppliers for office equipment
2. Engage IT, as a significant portion of the office equipment will fall under their umbrella (computers, monitors, copiers, phones, etc.)
3. Establish an energy-efficient procurement policy that requires all contracts to include language that states preference for ENERGY STAR labeled products for any product category that has an ENERGY STAR efficiency specification (examples; office equipment, break room or kitchen equipment, lighting, chillers and boilers, vending machines).

4. Revise pre-existing contracts with supplier(s) to specify only ENERGY STAR-qualified equipment, when available.
5. Request suppliers provide a list of all ENERGY STAR-registered products available within your contract terms, and request that they:
 - Identify those products on any e-catalog portal used by your staff
 - Provide reporting on your ENERGY STAR purchases by product type so you can estimate the environmental and cost benefits using the ENERGY STAR calculator.
6. With a new RFP, integrate ENERGY STAR purchasing language into the contract terms and require suppliers to submit a list of all compliant ENERGY STAR-registered products they can provide. Require awarded suppliers to:
 - Block products that do not meet ENERGY STAR specifications from any e-catalog portal used by staff
 - Provide reporting on ENERGY STAR purchases by product type so you can estimate the environmental and cost benefits using the ENERGY STAR calculator.
7. On all future materials purchasing decisions, integrate prospective EPEAT language that parallels the ENERGY STAR requirements into contracts, enabling the facility to require EPEAT registration following the launch of the Imaging Equipment registry without reopening your contract.
8. Select office equipment that meets current ENERGY STAR specifications for the product class including: copiers and fax machines, digital duplicators, printers, scanners, and mailing machines.

Tools

- [ENERGY STAR savings calculator for office equipment](#)

Case Studies

- [ENERGY STAR case studies](#)

Regulations, Codes and Standards, Policies

- The Energy Policy Acts of 1992 and 2005 (EPAAct 1992 (<https://energent.link/le5>) and EPAAct 2005 (<https://energent.link/f68b9>)), and the Energy Independence and

Security Act of 2007 (EISA (<https://energient.link/add86>)) are major drivers behind energy-efficiency advances in residential and commercial appliances, lighting products, office equipment, plumbing products, distribution transformers, commercial air conditioning and heat pumps, and small electric motors. These Federally-mandated efficiency standards benefit the environment by saving energy.

- 2012 Energy Efficiency Legislation Update <https://energient.link/oz2>

ECM Synergies

- Energy-Efficient Lighting
- Develop an Organization Environmental Principles Statement

Education Resource

No content.

More Resources

- ENERGY STAR Qualified Products <https://energient.link/5y3>
- [ENERGY STAR procurement language](#) and case studies
- Best practices in energy efficiency from Practice Greenhealth <https://energient.link/d044f>

ECM Descriptors

Energy, Supply Chain

Category List:

- Electronics
- Office
- Products

ECM Attributes:

- Energy

Improvement Type:

- No content

Department:

- All departments

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