

ENERGY STAR in Higher Education – Good for Your Budget and the Environment

Colleges and universities may obtain significant reductions in energy bills by changing purchasing policies to specify ENERGY STAR qualified products. The table below presents a typical basket of ENERGY STAR qualified products – computers, vending machines, mini-fridges, and exit signs – typically found at Higher Education facilities. These products can save you over \$180,000 in electricity costs (based on an electricity rate of \$0.095/kWh) ⁽¹⁾ and prevent 1,800 tons of carbon dioxide emissions over their lifetime compared to conventional products.

Action	Annual Energy & Maintenance Savings	Annual Savings CO2 (Tons)	Net Life-Cycle Savings	Life-Cycle Savings CO2 (Tons)
Use ENERGY STAR power management to enable low-power sleep settings network wide on 2,000 computers	\$5,500	45	\$20,110	179
Replace 50 conventional vending machines with ENERGY STAR versions	\$10,600	86	\$112,200	1,199
Use 300 ENERGY STAR qualified compact refrigerators in dormitories	\$2,600	21	\$15,300	212
Replace 100 incandescent exit signs with the ENERGY STAR type	\$4,900	21	\$33,800	209
Totals	\$23,600	173	\$181,410	1,799

(1) Figures obtained from calculators on the Purchasing & Procurement Web page; savings have been rounded to the nearest hundred for simplicity. Calculators may be downloaded (right-click) or used from the Web (left-click). Net life-cycle savings includes energy and maintenance savings and the purchase price of ENERGY STAR qualified products and conventional ones.

To Learn More

The Purchasing and Procurement Web site (www.energystar.gov/purchasing) helps you locate ENERGY STAR products by brand and model number, understand the differences between ENERGY STAR and non-ENERGY STAR products, and determine savings with ENERGY STAR. Additional savings would result from enabling ENERGY STAR features on copiers and other office products, using Monitor Power Management, and using ENERGY STAR commercial clothes washers, refrigerators, freezers, and food service equipment.

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