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ENERGY STAR® Qualified Lighting:
The Certification Process – Steps and Timing

Apply to be an ENERGY STAR Partner

EPA requires brand owners/licensees that sell products intended for sale in the US and/or Canadian markets and are listed on the ENERGY STAR website to enter into a manufacturing partner agreement with U.S. EPA. For more information go to: www.energystar.gov/join

Select an EPA-recognized certification body (CB)

Will guide you through the testing and certification process. www.energystar.gov/lightinglabs

Brand Owners use this path

The private labeling process handled by your CB that uses existing test reports. It is generally faster and more cost effective when using the same certification body as your original equipment manufacturer (OEM).

Submit your products for testing

Submit your product(s) to an EPA-recognized testing laboratory listed at www.energystar.gov/lightinglabs.

Testing is based on technology, product type and rated lifetime. Additional testing timelines are included on the next page.

Interim or conditional certification can be granted with partial testing (e.g. with component level data for fixtures or at 40% of the rated lifetime for fluorescent products). Estimated testing times are listed on the back of this page.

CB Decision

Once you receive written notification from your CB that your products are certified, you may begin using the ENERGY STAR certification mark on the certified product(s) packaging and marketing materials.

CB review

Your CB will review your submission for completeness and errors. This process can take between 24 hours to two weeks. Timing may vary based on completeness of paperwork and CB workload.

Submit all materials to your CB

This includes completed test reports and packaging proofs. Ask your CB for a checklist of everything you will need.

Product Listing

Your CB will send certified product information to EPA for upload to qualified products lists (QPLs) which can be found at www.energystar.gov.

Lists are currently updated **weekly for lamps** and **twice a month for luminaires** (around the first and the middle of the month). In early 2013 all product lists should be updated on a daily basis.

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Below are some general guidelines for factoring in lifetime testing requirements for product certification. This is the most time consuming portion of the certification process. Work with your certification body to determine your exact testing needs and expected timelines.

You will need to be an ENERGY STAR partner prior to certifying products. Allow up to two weeks for this process once you have completed your application and sent it to join@energystar.gov.

Approximate Lifetime Testing for ENERGY STAR CFL & LED Lamps

Lifetime Rating (hours)	CFL Lamps		LED Lamps	
	Lifetime Testing for Initial Qualification[1]	Full Lifetime Testing for Qualification[1]	Lifetime Testing for Initial Qualification[1]	Full Lifetime Testing for Qualification[1]
6000	3.7 months	9.3 months	-	-
8000	4.9 months	12.3 months	-	-
10000	6.2 months	15.4 months	-	-
15000	9.3 months	23.1 months	4.2 months	8.3 months
25000	-	-	4.2 months	8.3 months
35000	-	-	8.3 months	12.2 months
50000	-	-	8.3 months	17.4 months

Approximate Lifetime Testing for ENERGY STAR Fluorescent, HID, and SSL Luminaires

Lifetime Rating (hours)	Fluorescent Luminaires		HID Luminaires		SSL Luminaires	
	Lifetime Testing for Conditional Qualification[1]	Full Lifetime Testing for Qualification[1]	Lifetime Testing for Conditional Qualification[1]	Full Lifetime Testing for Qualification[1]	Full Lifetime Testing for Qualification[2] Option 1	Full Lifetime Testing for Qualification[2] Option 2
10000	6.2 months	15.4 months	6.0 months	15.1 months	-	-
15000	9.3 months	23.1 months	9.0 months	22.6 months	-	-
25000	15.4 months	38.6 months	15.1 months	37. months	-	8.3 months
35000	21.6 months	54.0 months	21.1 months	52.8 months	-	8.3 months
50000	30.9 months	77.2 months	30.2 months	75.5 months	-	-

1) Approximate lifetime testing is an estimate of the on/off cycle time for life and lumen maintenance testing only.

2) The Luminaires specification offers two lumen maintenance options for SSL luminaires. Option one requires a TM-21 lumen maintenance projection using data from a minimum of 6,000 hours of LM-80 testing at the component level. Option two requires 6,000 hours of luminaire testing for the above allowable lifetimes.

Specific information regarding on any of the lighting specifications, can be found at www.energystar.gov/specifications