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## Introducing the ENERGY STAR CFS Webinar Series

ENERGY STAR launched a new, monthly webinar series! Partners, stakeholders and other interested parties are encouraged to attend; learn about leveraging ENERGY STAR program resources; and provide feedback to inform the development of new resources. The webinar series has concluded for 2020, but you can access recordings of each webinar at the links below or the [CFS archives page](#)!



- [ENERGY STAR Program Integrity](#)
- [Making the Most of the ENERGY STAR Website](#)
- [ENERGY STAR Day Promotion and Other CFS Tools](#)
- [Announcing 2020 ENERGY STAR Award Winners and Plans for 2021](#)

The CFS webinar series will return in January 2021! Information on the first webinar of the new year can be found below:

**Title:** ENERGY STAR Partner Spotlight: Boulder County's Small Business Equity Program

**Date and Time:** Tuesday January 12; 1 PM – 2 PM EST

[Register here](#)

**This webinar will:**

- Demonstrate how ENERGY STAR partner Boulder County is supporting CFS operators through its Small Business Equity program.
- Share strategies for CFS stakeholders to get involved with or develop an initiative similar to the Small Business Equity program.
- Provide a detailed overview of program history, best practices, barriers, marketing and outreach strategies.
- Share an operator success story including energy savings results, and more!

Questions may be directed to [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov).

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## **ENERGY STAR's New Commercial Food Service Email Address**

ENERGY STAR announces its new email address, [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov)! General inquiries related to all nine CFS product categories can now be directed to this address, for a simpler, more streamlined approach. We encourage you to use and share this email address for questions related to CFS activities, including tools, resources, the monthly webinar series, and the quarterly newsletter, in addition to distribution list sign-up, and specification revision comments. Make sure to add [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov) to your contact list today!

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## **CFS Landing Page Redesign**

ENERGY STAR CFS also announces its landing page redesign! The web address, [www.energystar.gov/cfs](http://www.energystar.gov/cfs), has not changed but the landing page has been updated to include new images, highlight the tools you know and love, and organize resources by stakeholder group to make them more easily accessible! We are particularly excited about the addition of the ENERGY STAR Award carousel, which features CFS Award winners. There is also a section dedicated to the CFS webinar series with information on future and past webinars, including webinar topic, registration link, and webinar recordings. We encourage all partners and stakeholders to regularly visit our [landing page](http://www.energystar.gov/cfs) to make sure you are up-to-date with all CFS activities!

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## CFS Ask the Expert Blog Post

ENERGY STAR's Ask the Experts blog features informational posts on energy efficiency topics in the form of How-To, Did You Know, Q&A, and Innovation & Tech categories. We recently published our first CFS Ask the Experts post, [How to Cut Utility Costs in Your Commercial Kitchen!](#) This article provides an overview of common sources and behaviors that lead to high energy and water use and offers solutions to save money! You will also find links to CFS tools and resources that will help make energy efficiency upgrades even easier! We encourage you to check out other [Ask the Experts posts](#) and continue to stay up-to-date to learn tips for purchasing, promoting, and selling ENERGY STAR products.



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## 2021 Partner of the Year Applications



2021 Partner of the Year applications are available and we encourage partners to start preparing your application early! Each year, EPA honors a group of businesses and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to protecting the environment through superior energy efficiency achievements.

All partners, including product brand owners, dealers/distributors, and energy efficiency program sponsors are encouraged to apply for a Partner of the Year Award! Application submittal via My

ENERGY STAR Account ([MESA](#)) is available and will close at 8:00 PM EST on Wednesday, December 9. If your organization is interested in learning more about how to prepare your application, our webinar on 2021 ENERGY STAR Awards can be found [here](#). Additional information can also be found on the [awards webpage](#).

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## ENERGY STAR Day 2020 Participation

Thank you ENERGY STAR partners and stakeholders for joining us in celebrating ENERGY STAR Day on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020! We were excited to see a record number of ENERGY STAR partners posting on social media and sharing ENERGY STAR CFS social media graphics, messaging, and the ENERGY STAR Day video! We encourage all partners to add an ENERGY STAR CFS banner to their website to increase visibility throughout the year. The banners are available on the [marketing resource page](#). We look forward to our next promotional event, Earth Day!

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## New Partners in the Dealer/Distributor Finder

EPA would like to welcome its newest ENERGY STAR partners and additions to the [Dealer/Distributor Finder](#)!



[WebstaurantStore](#)



[Curtis Restaurant Equipment](#); Springfield, OR



[Innovative Foodservice Group](#); Tampla, FL and other locations



[Federal Supply USA](#); Waukegan, IL



[Stafford-Smith, Inc.](#), Kalamazoo, MI and other locations

Do you work with a CFS dealer/distributor that sells your ENERGY STAR certified products? Make sure they are listed on the ENERGY STAR Dealer/Distributor Finder! This online tool directs customers seeking ENERGY STAR certified commercial food service equipment to a partner's storefront or website. To use this tool, customers enter their zip code and the search engine generates a map and list of the nearest dealers/distributor locations, including their contact information, address, and website. We recommend CFS dealer/distributor partners take advantage of this resource to promote their partnership with ENERGY STAR and to encourage sales of ENERGY STAR certified products.

Dealers/distributors interested in partnering with ENERGY STAR can find more information, [here](#). ENERGY STAR dealer/distributor partners that would like to add storefront(s) and/or their website to this tool, can complete the Google Form, [here](#).

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## **Resource Spotlight: ENERGY STAR Guide for Café's, Restaurants, and Commercial Kitchens**



ENERGY STAR highlights its Guide for Café's, Restaurants, and Commercial Kitchens, which was developed in partnership with Pacific Gas & Electric's (PG&E) Food Service Technology Center (FSTC) and the National Restaurant Association's Conserve Program. This guide offers a comprehensive overview of energy and cost savings tips in ENERGY STAR product categories including CFS and more, and additional energy efficient equipment options where the ENERGY STAR label is not available. Readers will learn about energy savings opportunities in the back of house, front of house, and other areas common to a commercial kitchen.

This guide also connects readers to waste and water savings resources, including EPA's WaterSense and WasteWise programs. CFS stakeholders including operators, dealers, and manufacturers are encouraged to share this resource to help communicate effectively about the benefits of ENERGY STAR certified equipment. ENERGY STAR's Guide for Café's, Restaurants, and Commercial Kitchens is available [here](#).

Did you know the ENERGY STAR's Guide for Café's, Restaurants, and Commercial Kitchens is also co-brandable? Please contact [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov) if you are interested in adding your organization's logo to this resource!

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## Partner Spotlights



## Hawai'i Energy's Energy Relief Grant Program

ENERGY STAR highlights Energy Efficiency Program Sponsor (EEPS) partner Hawai'i Energy for maximizing opportunities for commercial kitchen operators to receive rebates for purchasing energy efficient equipment!

Through its Energy Relief Grant Program, Hawai'i Energy will be awarding \$1,000,000 in funding for energy efficiency improvements to organizations experiencing economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including restaurants. The grant can cover 100% of eligible expenses on pre-approved energy efficiency projects, up to \$25,000. Among other products, funding is available for upgrades to ENERGY STAR CFS equipment including commercial ice machines, steam cookers, griddles, fryers, hot food holding cabinets, ovens, refrigerators and freezers. Applications must be submitted by November 30. For additional information on eligibility and submitting an application, please visit Hawai'i Energy's webpage, [here](#).

Additionally, for a limited time, Hawai'i Energy is offering double incentives for upgrading to ENERGY STAR CFS equipment. Incentives as high as \$4,800 are now available for commercial ovens, and up to \$2,500 for griddles, in addition to the lifetime utility bill savings of the product. We encourage eligible commercial kitchen operators to take advantage of this opportunity! For additional information please email Marissa Kunsch at [Marissa.kunsch@leidos.com](mailto:Marissa.kunsch@leidos.com) or 808-848-8516. The program webpage is available [here](#).

## Boulder County's Small Business Equity Program

ENERGY STAR also highlights Boulder County which, in partnership with the City of Boulder, launched a [Small Business Equity Program](#), a new initiative by Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE), to help small businesses save energy and money by replacing outdated restaurant/grocery equipment.

The Small Business Equity Program was created to better support underrepresented and energy burdened small businesses. Restaurants and grocery stores have some of the highest energy costs per square foot of any small business, often relying on decades old equipment. Updating equipment with newer, more efficient models translates into significant savings in energy usage and costs, leading to reduced climate impact while helping preserve small, local businesses in the community



During the 2019 pilot of this program, Asian Food Market in Boulder, CO replaced 11 doors of freezers, 6 doors of refrigeration, and 1 large produce display case. Each piece of equipment was over 30 years old. This old equipment contributed to utility bills of more than \$1,000 per month and maintenance costs over \$1,500 each year. Asian Food Market is now saving 60% on their utility bill and more than \$8,000 per year when combined with avoided maintenance costs. They also reduced their contribution to climate change by 50 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year. “Without this grant there is no way we could have made this happen,” said Maria Nguyen (pictured), owner of Asian Food Market.

ENERGY STAR dealer/distributor partner Tundra Restaurant Supply will equip eligible participants with ENERGY STAR certified restaurant and grocery equipment, including ENERGY STAR certified refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, and ice machines. The grant will cover 70% of the costs upfront and 100% of costs associated with delivery, installation of new equipment, and proper disposal of old equipment.

Additional information on the Small Business Equity Program can be found at: <https://www.pacepartners.com/equity/#1593455179325-495e1be9-602d>

Boulder County will be featured in our January webinar! [Register here](#) to attend and learn more about the Small Business Equity Program. Additional CFS programs were featured [here](#) as part of the ENERGY STAR Day special promotion including CenterPoint Energy’s REBUILD program

and ITW Food Equipment Group's participation in the School Nutrition Foundation's annual equipment grant.

## **ENERGY STAR CFS Recognition**

ENERGY STAR's CFS products, savings facts, and resources were recognized by energy efficiency program sponsor partner ConEdison and key stakeholder group KCL! Additional information on each ENERGY STAR CFS feature can be found below:

**Coffee with KCL and ENERGY STAR:** Marketing Associate Linnea Hofstrom meets with Kevin Kochman from KCL to discuss the ENERGY STAR program, tools, and resources, and how different stakeholders can get involved! A recording of Coffee with KCL and ENERGY STAR can be found [here](#).

**ConEdison's Energy Savings Tips for Restaurants and Food Stores From ENERGY STAR:** Read ConEdison's tips for energy, water, and food waste reduction for CFS operators. Many ENERGY STAR savings statistics are referenced throughout the article for CFS, HVAC, and lighting equipment. Readers will also find additional equipment usage and maintenance tips to achieve greater savings. Energy Savings Tips for Restaurants and Food Stores from ENERGY STAR can be found [here](#).

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## **Specification Updates**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regularly updates ENERGY STAR product specifications. For every specification, product performance data submissions from partners are foundational to the process. Proposed efficiency levels tend to be based on the performance of existing certified models as well as data offered by manufacturers and other stakeholders during the specification development process. Establishing requirements that reflect the performance of the highest efficiency models available sometimes requires going beyond the data at hand and anticipating the market. To this end, EPA relies on insights shared by stakeholders and partners to help the Agency anticipate important trends in the market. For more information, you can view EPA's ENERGY STAR specification Standard Operating Procedure on [Revising or Establishing](#)

[an ENERGY STAR Product Specification.](#)

The following information includes some helpful reminders as you prepare for upcoming specification changes and manage your inventory of ENERGY STAR certified products.

Recent and upcoming specification activities include:

- **ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Commercial Dishwashers Final Specification**

[ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Commercial Dishwasher final specification](#) was published on October 27, 2020 with an effective date of July 27, 2021. It includes updated references to the ASTM F1696-20 and F1920-20 standard test methods. For more information on activities performed to update this specification, please visit the [product development webpage](#). Contact [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov) with any questions or comments.

- **ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 Commercial Refrigerators and Freezers Discussion Guide**

ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 Commercial Refrigerators and Freezers Discussion Guide development is underway with an anticipated release this year. The discussion guide will include an outline of potential scope changes to the existing Version 4.0 specification and provide acknowledgement of potential revisions to current ENERGY STAR Maximum Daily Energy Consumption (MDEC) levels for select types of commercial refrigeration equipment. Additional topics will include information and discussion questions regarding scope expansion to include new equipment classes, such as specific remote condensing and service over counter refrigeration equipment; review of test methods for refrigerated preparation tables, chef bases, and blast chillers; and development of a commercial refrigeration equipment Best Practice Guide. For more information, please contact [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov).

- **ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Commercial Ovens Draft 1**

ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Commercial Ovens Draft 1 development is underway with an anticipated release this year. The revision is in response to the relatively high ENERGY STAR market penetration for commercial ovens and significant stakeholder interest in expanding scope to include large electric combination ovens ( $\leq 40$  pans), small electric combination oven (pan capacity  $\geq 3$  pans), and electric “mini” 2/3<sup>rd</sup> size pan combi ovens, as well as small gas

combination ovens ( $\geq 5$  pans). Additionally, EPA anticipates changes to the performance levels for select classes of commercial ovens, potentially including combination, convection, and rack. For more information, please contact [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov).

- **ENERGY STAR Version 3.0 Water Coolers Draft 2**

ENERGY STAR Water Coolers Draft 1 Version 3.0 was released on June 2, 2020, and includes proposals in response to stakeholder feedback on the previously released discussion guide. EPA plans to publish Draft 2 Version 3.0 this fall. For more information on activities performed to date please visit the [product development webpage](#). Contact [watercoolers@energystar.gov](mailto:watercoolers@energystar.gov) with any questions or comments.

- **Electric Cooktops**

EPA is in the process of scoping electric cooktop technology as a potential new CFS ENERGY STAR product category. Over the last several months, EPA has been compiling and analyzing market information and energy performance data to determine if there is an opportunity to expand the ENERGY STAR program to include commercial electric cooktop technology. EPA is developing a discussion guide to further explore this technology with stakeholders. For more information, please contact [CFS@energystar.gov](mailto:CFS@energystar.gov).

For more information regarding the ENERGY STAR specification process or additional CFS equipment updates, visit [www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment](http://www.energystar.gov/productdevelopment). For milestones on these and other upcoming specification revisions in 2020, visit the [ENERGY STAR Products Plan](#).

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## **Reporting ENERGY STAR Logo Violations**

The ENERGY STAR compliance team manages logo violations. Any information regarding suspected logo violations may be sent to [enforcement@energystar.gov](mailto:enforcement@energystar.gov). Visit the ENERGY STAR Brand Book [webpage](#) for instructions on verifying any potential logo violations.

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## **New Team Members**



Mr. Spitz supports EPA's ENERGY STAR program as a Commercial Food Service (CFS) Industry Specialist and serves as an advisor on technical and non-technical CFS projects and outreach on behalf of EPA. With over 12 years of professional CFS experience, he has engaged in various facets of the industry, including equipment testing and test method development, specification development, stakeholder and industry engagement, field audits, and much more. Mr. Spitz enjoys the opportunity to further engage with the various ENERGY STAR stakeholders and is motivated by the prospect of continued growth of the ENERGY STAR program. Mr. Spitz can be reached at [Adam.Spitz@icf.com](mailto:Adam.Spitz@icf.com)



Jasmin has a strong interest in analyzing efficient, resilient, and sustainable energy systems. Her biological and engineering background as well as prior research in carbon sequestration facilitates unique insights and allows for creative solutions in her current role as an energy efficiency and sustainability engineer. She looks forward to engaging with stakeholders as we work together to further develop the ENERGY STAR program within the CFS sector. Jasmin can be reached at [Jasmin.Melara@icf.com](mailto:Jasmin.Melara@icf.com).

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