

# ENERGY STAR® Certification Guidelines for Higher Education

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energy  
efficiency.



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## How to apply for ENERGY STAR certification for eligible college and university buildings

*Save money, protect the environment, and earn recognition!*

### 1. Building-level metering

In order to demonstrate a building's energy performance, it needs to have building-level metering for all energy sources that it uses.

### 2. Property type composition

Note that a building can have two or more property uses and still be eligible for certification: the rule is that at least 75% of a building's floor area must be [a type that can get a 1-100 ENERGY STAR score](#), and 50% must be a single type that can earn ENERGY STAR certification.

### 3. Benchmark and achieve top performance

A building needs to be benchmarked in Portfolio Manager and score a 75 or higher -- which equates to energy performance better than 75% of similar buildings nationwide -- to confirm eligibility. Any [use details that are required for that property type to earn certification](#) need to be filled in.

### 4. Submit an application and get it verified

The last step in the process is to [submit a certification application through Portfolio Manager](#) for an eligible property. The application needs to be verified by a PE or RA, who can be in-house. Alternatively, free and low cost verifications may be able to be identified through EPA's [pro bono program](#).

You can also earn [Designed to Earn the ENERGY STAR](#) for new construction buildings. The same set of property types is eligible for this certification, and the properties must be metered at the building level for all sources of energy.

Please contact us with any questions!

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