

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



## About ENERGY STAR®

ENERGY STAR® is a joint voluntary program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that promotes energy-efficient products and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

ENERGY STAR helps individuals, schools, businesses, colleges and universities, and other organizations save money and protect their environment by improving energy performance.

### Did you know?

- An ENERGY STAR qualified compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) or fixture lasts up to 10 times longer than a standard incandescent light bulb and uses about 75 percent less energy.
- One ENERGY STAR qualified CFL prevents 570 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions over its lifetime, the equivalent of keeping 270 pounds of coal from being burned.
- Replacing just one regular light bulb in every American home with an ENERGY STAR qualified CFL would save enough energy to light 3 million homes for one year, save \$600 million in annual energy costs, and prevent greenhouse gas emissions for one year equivalent to approximately 800,000 cars.

## Learn More

For more information, please visit:  
[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)



OnCampus ecoAmbassadors

# ENERGY STAR OnCampus

## Goals of the ENERGY STAR OnCampus Program

- Improve the energy efficiency of your campus by switching out incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Educate students about links between energy use and the environment
- Lead your school to become an ENERGY STAR partner

## If You're Interested In:

- Meeting new people
- Planning fun events to get students interested in energy efficiency
- Designing creative messages
- Empowering and motivating students to change their energy behavior

**ENERGY STAR OnCampus is the program for you!**

## How to Get Started

EPA has many tools and resources to help you plan and implement a program to replace light bulbs. Here's what you'll do first:

- Take the ENERGY STAR Pledge at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov)
- Learn what's already being done on your campus to address energy use
- Use EPA's online CFL calculator to identify a goal for energy and financial savings and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions
- Work with local retailers to request discounted rates or donations of CFLs
- Design a plan to encourage students to:
  - ✓ Install ENERGY STAR qualified CFL bulbs or fixtures
  - ✓ Turn off appliances when not in use to reduce energy use
  - ✓ Consider energy-efficient choices on a daily basis

**See page 2 for a step-by-step checklist for ENERGY STAR OnCampus.**

## Campus Successes

In one year, **Morrison Residence Hall** at the **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** reduced its energy use by 35.7 percent, saving more than \$250,000 in energy costs and reducing more than 730 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions. Competitions between dorm floors motivated the students to participate, and lighting improvements, as well as operational and maintenance enhancements, helped to increase the building's energy efficiency and save energy costs.

Students and staff at three California universities created ENERGY STAR demonstration projects to showcase energy efficiency in a residence hall setting. The three rooms, located at the **University of California (UC) Berkeley**, **Humboldt State University**, and **California State University (CSU) San Bernardino**, feature ENERGY STAR qualified lighting, appliances, and electronic devices commonly found in student rooms, such as DVD players, compact refrigerators, and stereos.

The ENERGY STAR OnCampus program is ideal for students pursuing degrees in:  
Business, Communications, Education, Environmental Science, Engineering, and Public Policy

## Checklist for ENERGY STAR OnCampus

Follow the steps below to improve energy efficiency on your campus by leading a program to install energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL).

### 1. Take the ENERGY STAR pledge.

Visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) to take the ENERGY STAR Pledge to save energy and help fight climate change. Your commitment will help to inspire others to do the same.

### 2. Find out what's being done on your campus.

Your efforts to replace incandescent bulbs with CFLs may be the first step towards creating a campus-wide energy strategy, or they may fit within existing energy program activities.

Talk with your school administrators and facilities team to learn what's already being done and how your efforts might complement their ongoing efforts.

### 3. Set a goal for energy and financial savings and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Download the CFL calculator to set a goal for the energy savings you want to achieve. Go to [www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr\\_cfls\\_savings](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls_savings) to download the calculator. Using a simple spreadsheet format, the calculator estimates annual and life cycle costs of CFLs, determines the time to recoup initial costs based on energy savings, and summarizes the energy savings and reductions in air pollution resulting from the replacement of incandescent bulbs. Add the goals into your campus presentation using the template provided by the OnCampus team and load your presentation into the OnCampus Connector.

Meet with school administrators to get their approval of the goal you've established.

### 4. Partner with local retailers to obtain CFLs.

Contact local retailers, utility companies, or other potential donors in the area around your campus to find out if they would be willing to donate CFLs for your program or to offer a discounted rate for CFLs for the light bulb exchange. Go to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) to search for retailers near your campus.

### 5. Design a plan to encourage students to participate.

Use the information you have gathered to motivate students and other campus staff to join in and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by installing CFLs. Be creative! Work with organized campus groups and Resident Advisors in dorms to hold a kick-off event to promote your program and encourage others to take the ENERGY STAR Pledge. Check out the tips for scheduling events on the right.

Design and make available pledge cards for students to sign. Keep a list of those who participate and collect the pledge cards—you'll need to track how many incandescent bulbs are replaced with CFLs.

### 6. Track your results.

Use the CFL calculator to determine how much energy has been saved as a result of your efforts. Monitor the results periodically to see whether you have reached your initial goals. Share the results to generate enthusiasm and to initiate other activities that will contribute to energy savings and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

### 7. Learn how to clean up broken CFLs.

CFLs contain a small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing. Learn how to properly clean up a broken CFL to reduce potential risks associated with exposure to the mercury vapors that might be released from a broken bulb. Go to [www.epa.gov/cfl/cflcleanup.html](http://www.epa.gov/cfl/cflcleanup.html) for tips on how to properly clean up broken CFLs.



#### CFL Calculator

Use the CFL Calculator to estimate your energy and cost saving benefits. The calculator will estimate your savings based on the number of CFLs installed, electricity rate (kWh), hours used per day, cost of conventional bulbs and CFLs, and wattage of conventional bulbs. ENERGY STAR qualified light bulbs pay for themselves in about 6 months.



#### Tips for Successful Events

1. Find a suitable space.
2. Put up posters to advertise the event.
3. Create a Facebook ad or event.
4. Ask friends to spread the word.
5. Plan to have snacks available – find out if you can get donations.
6. Arrange for music at the event.
7. Arrive early to set up the space, including snacks and music.
8. Create sign-up sheets for all attendees.
9. Post news about the event on the OnCampus Connector, including the sign-up sheets.

#### EPA OnCampus Connector

The Connector is an online collaboration forum for OnCampus ecoAmbassadors to discuss ideas, post documents, and share successes. Access the online forum at: <https://epaoncampus.groupsites.com/login>

#### EPA Contact Info

**ENERGY STAR Hotline**  
(888) STAR-YES; (888) 782-7937

**EPA OnCampus Team**  
[EPAOnCampus@epa.gov](mailto:EPAOnCampus@epa.gov)