# About the Award

Eligibility: ENERGY STAR partners awarded *Sustained Excellence* in 2019 and/or 2020. Please remember to review and complete PART 1: General Instructions & Executive Summary before completing this part of your application.

Description: This award recognizes businesses and organizations that demonstrate sustained excellence in energy management in partnership with ENERGY STAR.

Criteria:The 2020 ENERGY STAR Awards are based on work completed and energy savings demonstrated **during the 2020 calendar year**. Selected accomplishments outside of this time may be mentioned for reference in your application and to demonstrate continuous improvement but will not be considered as evidence of meeting award requirements in 2020.

Applications will be evaluated on:

* Demonstration of leadership, including active engagement and promotion of the ENERGY STAR partnership, actions that improved and strengthened the energy program, and quality, quantity, and impact of communication efforts.
* Sustained or improved energy performance.

All sections of the applications are weighted and evaluated on an equal basis.

Materials:Be aware that EPA will refer to material in applications in its promotion of winners’ achievements. Please do not include confidential data. **Applications citing or including confidential business information will NOT be evaluated.**

| **PART 2: Award Accomplishments Document**  *(use the following information to create a Word or PDF file)* |
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| Accomplishments Narrative: | There are two narrative sections:  **Section 1 – Demonstration of Leadership with ENERGY STAR**   1. Participation in the ENERGY STAR partnership 2. Communication strategies that leverage ENERGY STAR and results 3. Actions to grow and sustain energy and related sustainability practices 4. Propose a webinar your organization could present to ENERGY STAR stakeholders to support dissemination of energy management best practices   **Section 2 – Demonstration of Energy Savings**   1. Building Partners – Summary of results from POY report generated in Portfolio Manager and savings equivalency statement 2. Industrial Partners – Completed savings table, summary of results, explanation of results and savings equivalency statement   The narrative must be no longer than **five pages** and usea minimum of12-point black font. Margins should be no less than 1 inches on all sides. Pages that exceed the limit will not be evaluated. |
| **Supporting Files**: | Applicants are encouraged to submit electronic copies of supplemental materials that support the application as long as they are clearly referenced within the application. Supplemental materials will not count toward the five-page limit, but **must be directly relevant to energy management, your application, and/or ENERGY STAR**. Each applicant must submit at least one item in **PART 3: Supporting Materials**. (required) |

### Section 1 – Demonstration of Leadership with ENERGY STAR

Leadership in the ENERGY STAR program involves active involvement as a partner, continued growth and innovation of energy management practices, and strong communications. In a narrative, applicants should highlight their activities and accomplishments relevant in each of the areas (A-C) below.

1. **Participation in the ENERGY STAR partnership**

Describe your participation in the ENERGY STAR partnership, including use of resources, recognition activities, and support of ENERGY STAR initiatives, such as:

* ENERGY STAR Certification of eligible buildings and plants on an annual basis
* Engaging tenants, occupants, employees, and customers about ENERGY STAR achievements
* Achieving Designed to Earn the ENERGY STAR for commercial new construction or multifamily design projects
* Participation in and achievement of the ENERGY STAR Challenge for Industry for manufacturing sites
* Hosting a competition using ENERGY STAR resources
* Helping to develop and use new ENERGY STAR tools and resources
* Holding ENERGY STAR Industrial Showcases at plants
* Supporting ENERGY STAR Industrial Focuses
* Participating in ENERGY STAR meetings and events
* Promoting the ENERGY STAR partnership to customers, industry peers, and other organizations

1. **Communication strategies that leverage ENERGY STAR and results**

Describe how you used communications to support and promote your energy management program and enhance your partnership with ENERGY STAR. Discuss your organization’s communication strategies for promoting energy efficiency with ENERGY STAR to *internal and external stakeholders*, how you implemented your strategy, and the 2020 results. Please address the following within your response:

* **Goals of the outreach:** What were the goals for your outreach efforts to audiences?
* **Target audiences:** Which audiences did you target and why?
* **Metrics:** What metrics did you identify to track to measure your success?
* **Tactics and materials:** What tactics and supporting materials did you use to implement your strategy and reach your target internal audiences?
* **2020 accomplishments, including measured results:** What did your communications achieve in 2020? How many people did you reach?

Please briefly share the stories that accompany your communications. Provide samples of your work, such as advertisements, news stories, posters, articles, press releases, photos of the ENERGY STAR decal/ flag/ banner in prominent locations, and other creative materials. In particular, highlight any shareable online content, such as videos, social media activity, dedicated web pages, energy-saving guidance promoted online, etc.

1. **Actions to grow and sustain energy and related sustainability practices**

Describe actions taken in 2020 to sustain and grow your leadership in energy management and related sustainability areas, such as:

* Implementing new strategies and initiatives
* Deploying of new best practices
* Adopting of innovative technologies
* Investing and piloting new projects
* Integrating of energy management into new business processes
* Benchmarking water, wastes, or other resources
* Operating supply chain, customer, or tenant initiatives
* Achieving of major milestones and goals

Discuss any challenges that your energy program faced and how you overcame them.

**NOTE:** Supporting materials submitted should reflect a sampling of an organization’s strongest examples of external and internal communications **related to promoting their partnership and achievements with ENERGY STAR**. These materials should be submitted electronically with the application and must include proper use of the ENERGY STAR logo in accord with the [ENERGY STAR Brand Book](https://www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/ES%20Brand%20Guide%20031816-508.pdf).

EPA is not looking for entire PowerPoint presentations, but, rather, excerpts of slide sets where ENERGY STAR was highlighted. This helps reduce the length of attachments and allows the strongest examples to be demonstrated. To limit the size of attachments, some applicants have found it helpful to prepare a slide set with multiple examples of outreach included on just a few slides.

1. **Propose a webinar your organization could present to ENERGY STAR stakeholders to support dissemination of energy management best practices**

Each year, EPA hosts a Partner of the Year Award winner monthly webinar series, which highlights the best practices, lessons learned, and innovations of a select group of award winners. Please provide a proposed webinar title, possible speaker(s) and titles, and a short description of a webinar your organization would be willing to deliver in 2021 to ENERGY STAR stakeholders to promote comprehensive energy management and related efficiency best practices. All applicants must propose at least one webinar, and EPA will select approximately 10-12 to deliver in 2021 from those submitted by all award winners. If your webinar is selected, EPA will work with your organization to refine and finalize the webinar content, timing, and participants.

### Section 2 – Demonstration of Energy Savings

This section of the application focuses on actual energy performance improvements achieved by your organization during the past year. Your application will be judged on the magnitude of your 2020 improvements as well as your current energy performance relative to your peers. **We recognize that 2020 presented many challenges for managing energy use in buildings and documenting results, and we will consider these challenges in our review of all applications. In this section, please describe any challenges your organization faced due to COVID-19 and how these challenges affected your 2020 energy performance.**

While 2020 savings are the focus of this section, you are encouraged to report and illustrate the cumulative accomplishments of your efforts (e.g., dollars saved since program began, total energy saved since “x date in the past,” etc.) When highlighting cumulative accomplishments, include a timeframe for the longer-term accomplishments (e.g., saved $3 million in 2020 and more than $10 million since 2001).

Please note that commercial and institutional building partners will respond to section A only, and industrial partners will respond to section B only.

## A. Commercial and Institutional Building Partners

All Commercial and Institutional Building Partners **must** summarizeandprovide a POY Report from Portfolio Manager showing organization-wide improvements. This POY Report must be generated for the period ending August 2020 or later. Additional supplemental guidance for generating this report can be found at [www.energystar.gov/awards](http://www.energystar.gov/awards).

In your summary, please provide one or more equivalency statements for your energy savings by equating them to a metric related to your business or industry, or other financial or environmental metrics. Examples include:

* Number of first-year teachers that could be hired
* Number of MRI machines that could be purchased
* Number of hotel rooms that could be rented

Additionally, to illustrate your energy program’s long-term accomplishments, please provide cumulative energy reductions (kBtu, or %), cost savings ($ or %), and carbon dioxide savings (total or %) for the years your program was awarded Partner of Year and Sustained Excellence or for a longer period during which your organization has been an ENERGY STAR partner.

B. Industrial Partners (NAICS 21, 31-33) **The entire table must be included in your narrative.** Please provide a summary of your organization-wide energy performance, and copy the completed table into your narrative. If your company’s energy program is global, you may choose to include all operations worldwide or only operations in the U.S. Please identify whether the information you share is U.S. only or global. Please be sure to use the proper units and intensities as stated in the table.  
  
*(Note: Cut and paste this table into your Accomplishments document for editing*

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| 1. Number of facilities tracked and benchmarked by plant type \* |  |
| 2. Total number of facilities operated by plant type |  |
| 3. Total output, in units, which apply to the business of your company and correlate with energy usage, e.g. ft2, tons of a specific product, etc. for 2020 |  |
| 4. Aggregate energy intensity for 2020\*\* in MMBtu/total output |  |
| 5. Aggregate energy intensity for the corresponding period in 2019 in MMBtu/total output |  |
| 6. Change in energy intensity (#4-#5) |  |
| 7. Aggregate energy intensity for the corresponding period in an earlier year\*\*\* in MMBtu/total output |  |
| 8. Change in energy intensity (#4 - #7) |  |

\*Plant type refers to the primary process used or product produced by the plant, e.g. auto assembly, metal casting; cement; etc.

\*\*Calculate using 12 months of continuous data. Due to the deadline for this application, it is acceptable to complete the 12-month period using data from the final two months in 2019, e.g. the data period could be from November 2019 through October 2020.

\*\*\*Selection of the specific year is at your discretion. If 2020 represents the first year for which energy was tracked, please enter “not available” in rows 7 and 8.

Lines 7 and 8 in the table are requested to enable a view of your energy program’s long-term energy savings. To further illustrate these long-term savings, you may provide equivalent dollars saved along with carbon dioxide emissions prevented for the equivalent period.

You may provide a summary report from your corporate tracking system that includes this information.

In addition to the information above, if ENERGY STAR has provided your industry with a plant Energy Performance Indicator (EPI), please provide ratings for each plant you have scored in the past year. If scores have improved over time for a plant, show that information as well. Additionally, provide results and accomplishments of plants taking the ENERGY STAR Challenge for Industry.

It is helpful to EPA to understand changes in business activity that may have impacted energy use in the past 12-month period. Provide an explanation when appropriate. In addition, describe any efforts to normalize data, such as accounting for weather, climate differences, or other business effects.

In your summary, please provide one or more equivalency statements for your energy savings by equating them to a metric related to your business or industry, or other financial or environmental metrics. Examples include:

* Number of socks that would have to be sold to equal the value of energy saved
* Number of cars that would have to be sold to equal the value of energy save

| **Prepare/Gather Remaining Documents for Upload** |
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**PART 3: Supporting Materials (at least one required,** [as described](#RequiredSupportingMaterials) **in the Application Instructions above)**

**PART 4: Organization’s High-Resolution Logo (required)**

ENERGY STAR® is the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency, providing simple, credible, and unbiased information that consumers and businesses rely on to make well-informed decisions.