

Toward a Sustainable Future:



A Resource Toolkit for California Small Businesses

Nicole Chavez

July 23, 2024

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The toolkit was made possible by the generous support from the JP Morgan Chase Global Philanthropy, the Wells Fargo Small Business Philanthropy, and the James Irvine Foundation. Core operating support for the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute is also provided by the California Latino Legislative Caucus.

The author would like to thank Rosario Majano and Dr. Silvia González for their insightful guidance and unwavering support, and Samantha Alejandre for layout and design.

This toolkit is part of The Economic Recovery & Entrepreneurship Project (TEREP) at the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute, a partner project with the UCLA Center for Neighborhood Knowledge. TEREP provides timely data and resources for key stakeholders working on programs and policies affecting entrepreneurs of color. The initiative focuses on equipping Latino business-serving organizations and policymakers with community-informed research to provide small businesses with the necessary tools for the 21st-century economy, emphasizing policies supporting ethnic-owned small businesses.

The UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute acknowledges the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples are the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles Basin and So. Channel Islands). As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Honuukvetam (Ancestors), 'Ahihirom (Elders), and 'Eyoohiikem (our relatives/relations) past, present, and emerging.

ABOUT LPPI

The UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute addresses the most critical domestic policy challenges facing Latinos and other communities of color through research, advocacy, mobilization, and leadership development to expand genuine opportunity for all Americans.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed herein are those of the author and not necessarily those of the University of California, Los Angeles, as a whole. The author alone is responsible for the content of this toolkit.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

- 4 — Introduction**
- 5 — What is climate change?**
- 5 — What does environmental sustainability mean?**
- 6 — How can small businesses transition towards environmental sustainability?**
- 6 — How to use this toolkit**

PROGRAMS

- 7-11 — California Statewide Programs**
- 12-16 — Pacific Gas and Electric**
- 17-19 — SoCalGas**
- 20-24 — City of Palo Alto Utilities**
- 25-27 — Sacramento Municipal Utility District**
- 28-32 — Southern California Edison**
- 33-37 — Los Angeles Department of Water and Power**
- 34 — Additional Resources**

INTRODUCTION

Ethnic-owned small businesses are a critical foundation of our economy. They help define culture, generate wealth, and provide employment opportunities in their local communities. In 2023, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) estimated that California was home to 4.1 million small businesses, nearly half of which were owned by members of racial and ethnic minority groups.¹

Recently, the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute (LPPI) and the UCLA Center for Neighborhood Knowledge completed a study to investigate the challenges ethnic small business owners in California face, including accessing financial capital, adapting to climate change, and engaging in environmental sustainability.² Our findings demonstrated that ethnic small business owners acknowledge the current and future impacts of climate change on their businesses and are interested in becoming more engaged in environmental sustainability planning. However, study participants—especially business owners of historically marginalized backgrounds—observed there to be a lack of readily available information, among other resources, that could better allow them to engage in environmentally sustainable practices to address climate change. In response, this toolkit provides information about various programs and rebates available to financially support small businesses to move towards environmental sustainability and renewable energy. As climate change progresses, ethnic-owned businesses must be well-informed and proactive so that they can remain in business and thrive.

For more information on our latest research and advocacy on small businesses, please visit [The Economic and Recovery and Entrepreneurship Project](#).

WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

Climate change refers to long-term changes in global temperatures.³ Research has shown our activities as humans (e.g., burning fossil fuels) are causing worldwide temperatures to rise faster than ever.⁴ Burning fossil fuels creates greenhouse gas emissions (i.e., pollution) such as carbon dioxide, which acts like a blanket wrapped around the earth, trapping the sun's heat and raising temperatures.⁵

Climate change leads to intense droughts, water scarcity, fires, rising sea levels, flooding, extreme weather conditions, and the extinction of plants and animals.⁶ Additionally, climate change impacts our health resulting in an increasing prevalence of asthma, water-borne illnesses, heart-related illnesses, injuries from extreme weather, and declines in mental health.⁷ These consequences motivate us to act now and engage in practices that protect our environment.

WHAT DOES ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY MEAN?

Environmental sustainability is founded on the principle that everything we need for our survival and well-being depends on our natural environment.⁸ Environmental sustainability challenges us to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.⁹

A business owner who is environmentally sustainable is aware of their impact on the environment and fosters a culture of practices that minimize that impact. Individually, we can all take steps towards sustainability by setting goals and strategic plans to reduce energy and waste. Together, our efforts will help bring about a safe and healthy environment.

This toolkit provides numerous ways for small businesses to engage in sustainability, but sustainability is not limited to these examples. We encourage you to continue exploring opportunities that are accessible to you to help your business and environment thrive.

HOW CAN SMALL BUSINESSES TRANSITION TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY?

Your small business is essential to California's culture, economy, and way of life. By participating in energy-saving programs, you will help California become more environmentally sustainable. Your participation will set your business apart from others, attract environmentally conscious consumers, and contribute to the effort to improve the health of our Earth and community.¹⁰

We thank you for your work and for the work you will continue to do in this community effort to ensure a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable world.

HOW TO USE THIS TOOLKIT

Your toolkit is organized to help you explore statewide resources followed by programs offered through specific utility companies. Within each category, you will find resources ranging from financing options to rebates, as well as access to services such as energy advisors who can offer your business personalized guidance. We hope that this toolkit will empower you to utilize the range of supports available to you to help you achieve energy efficiency.

As of May 2024, all programs are still active and accepting applications.



CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE PROGRAMS



PROGRAM #1 - GOGREEN BUSINESS ENERGY FINANCING

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

GoGreen Business is part of the California Hub for Energy Efficiency Financing, a state-administered program working toward a cleaner and more energy-efficient California. To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, California needs to reduce energy use in existing buildings. The energy efficiency financing program exists to bring about deeper energy savings and make private capital available for energy upgrades for small businesses. Through GoGreen Business, small business owners have access to contractors, project developers, and favorable financing options to boost productivity

How to Apply

1. Check your eligibility

Business properties must receive a utility bill from Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison, SoCalGas, or San Diego Gas & Electric.

Businesses must meet any of the 3 requirements:

- 1. Employ 100 or fewer employees
- 2. Annual revenues must be less than \$15 million
- 3. Meet SBA small business size requirements¹¹

2. Make a plan

Energy saving measures include but are not limited to the following categories:

- Appliances
- Building Envelope
- Data centers
- Demand Response
- Food Service
- Heating and Cooling
- Industrial
- Lighting
- Refrigeration
- Water Heating

Find a complete list of pre-qualified energy-saving measures by clicking [here](#).

3. Get an estimate

Find a contractor through [GoGreen](#).

4. See financing options

GoGreen partners with private lenders who offer exceptional terms and quick approvals for your business upgrades. Click this [link](#) to learn more.

PROGRAM #2 - TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Explore programs through California's Office of the Small Business Advocate that allow your business to expand and gain access to capital through loans or tax credits. Visit their website to find financial incentives based on your industry, the type of business you operate, and more. California funds a network of small business technical assistance centers that provide no-cost one-on-one consulting and low-cost training services to small businesses and entrepreneurs at all stages.

Topics include but are not limited to:

- **STARTUP BUSINESS PLANTS**
- **ACCESSIBLE FINANCING**
- **ENTERING NEW MARKETS**
- **STRENGTHENING OPERATIONS**



Training is available in more than 30 languages. Find your local center to receive personalized services [here](#).

PROGRAM #3 - CALIFORNIA FOODSERVICE INSTANT REBATES PROGRAM

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

For customers of SoCalGas, Pacific Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, and San Diego Gas & Electric, get instant rebates on qualifying energy-efficient equipment for your business!

How to Apply

1. Check your eligibility

- All SoCalGas, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison, and San Diego Gas & Electric **non-residential** customers are eligible to receive instant rebates.
- Customers purchasing electric equipment must have a **non-residential** electric account with one of the California Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs; please refer to the companies listed in the previous bullet point for examples).
- Customers purchasing natural gas equipment must have a non-residential natural gas account with one of the CA IOUs.

2. Review the list of qualifying products:

Here is a short list of equipment types that qualify for rebates:

- Conveyors and under-fired boilers
- Cooktops, fryers, and griddles
- Glass-door refrigerators and freezers

For a complete list of qualifying equipment, please visit the [following link](#).

Qualifying equipment must be installed at a **non-residential** site that receives natural gas and/or electricity service from a CA IOU.

3. Find a participating dealer:

Visit the program page [here](#) to enter your ZIP Code and download the full list of participating dealers near you.

PROGRAM #4 - STATEWIDE MIDSTREAM WATER HEATING PROGRAM

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Through California's Statewide Midstream Water Heating Program, small businesses may qualify for instant rebates on qualifying high-efficiency water heating equipment.

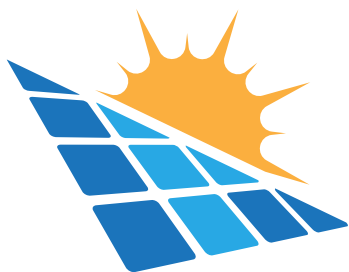
How to Apply

1. Check your eligibility

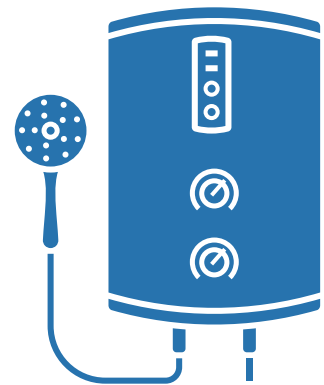
- All SoCalGas, Pacific Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison Company, and San Diego Gas & Electric commercial customers are eligible to receive instant rebates.
- Eligible regions: Bakersfield, Bay Area, Fresno, Humboldt, Imperial County, Inyo County, Kings County, Los Angeles, Modesto, Mono County, Monterey, Orange County, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Sierra Nevada, Ventura, and Visalia.

2. Review the list of qualifying equipment

Qualifying equipment includes but is not limited to:

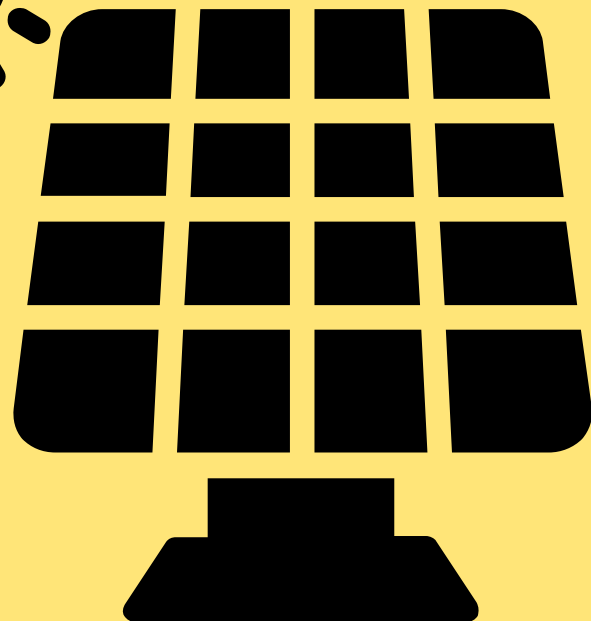
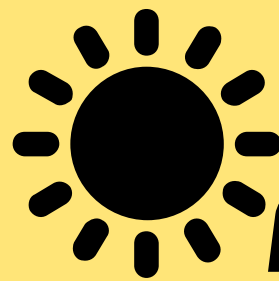
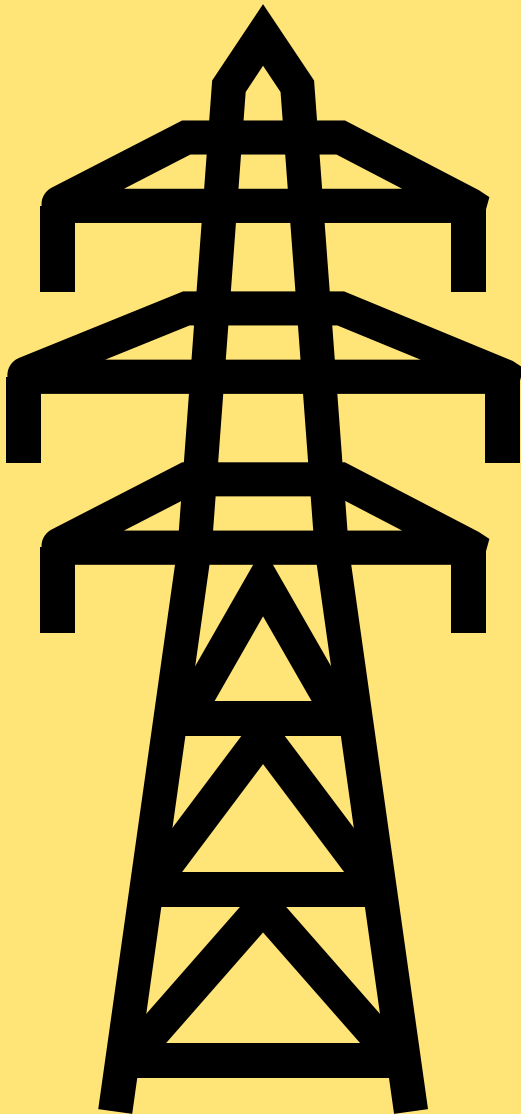


- Natural gas tankless water heater
- Electric heat pump water heater
- Solar thermal collector



For a complete list of qualifying equipment, please visit the [following link](#).

PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC



PROGRAM #1 - ENERGY EFFICIENCY FINANCING

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Pacific Gas & Electric offers 0% interest loans for replacing old and worn-out equipment with more energy-efficient models. Customers may qualify for loans between \$5,000 and \$250,000.

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

Must be a Pacific Gas & Electric commercial customer for at least 24 months with a good standing 12-month payment history.

2. Contact Pacific Gas and Electric to apply



Talk to your Pacific Gas & Electric account representative

OR



Business Customer Service Center at 1-(800)-468-4743

Complete an Energy Efficiency Financing Request Form [here](#).

3. Choose your project

- Pacific Gas & Electric will help you select a project that qualifies and saves your business the most energy and money.
- The minimum project loan is \$5,000.
- The project's annual energy savings must be at least \$1,000.
- Interest-free financing is available for many types of projects, including exterior and interior LED lighting, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), electric motors, refrigeration, food service equipment, and water pumps.

4. Start your project

Once your project is complete, your Pacific Gas & Electric account representative will assist you with submitting your rebate application and finalizing your loan.

PROGRAM #2 - SIMPLIFIED SAVINGS PROGRAM

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

The Simplified Savings Program supports Pacific Gas & Electric's smallest business customers with information and activities that may provide immediate savings on their energy bill. Services include a facility assessment, educational information about energy efficiency, and program-installed updates that are provided at no cost or reduced cost to participating customers.

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

Your business must:

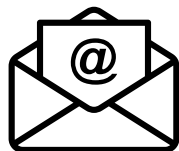
- Have electricity or natural gas provided by Pacific Gas & Electric through a **non-residential** account that pays the Public Goods Charge or Public Purpose Programs surcharge.
- Have a peak demand of 50kW or less.
- Operate within a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) and/or meet the Small Business Hard-To-Reach (HTR) criteria.

Please visit this [link](#) to determine if you operate within a DAC or if your business meets the HTR criteria.

- Not be a past or current participant in Pacific Gas & Electric's Market Access Program.
- Not be part of a chain with more than 10 locations.

2. Enroll in Simplified Savings using [this link](#).

If you have any questions:



Please email

simplifiedsavingsprogram@resource-innovations.com

OR



Call

1-(888)-200-0721

PROGRAM #3 - BUSINESS ENERGY CHECKUP

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

The Business Energy Savings Tool will help you monitor your energy usage 24 hours a day, seven days a week to identify energy waste in your facility.

How to Apply

- 1. Track your energy usage over the past year, month, or week to see how your energy costs vary with changes in temperature.**



- 2. Sign in to your account to visit the Business Energy Savings Tool using the following [link](#).**

- 3. Once signed in, answer a few quick questions to learn about ways to save energy, get rebates, and make use of Pacific Gas & Electric business solutions.**



- 4. Choose the ideas that interest you and let the Business Energy Checkup create your customized Energy Savings Plan.**

PROGRAM #4 - REBATES FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

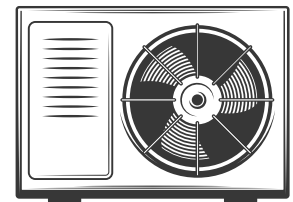
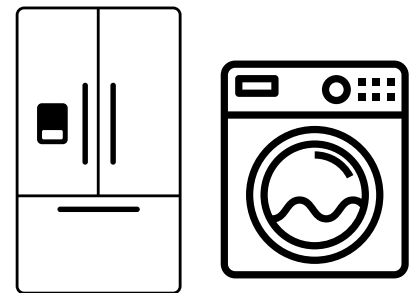
Pacific Gas & Energy offers rebates to commercial customers to upgrade their equipment to energy-efficient products to reduce operating costs.

Eligibility and Requirements:

- Must be a Pacific Gas & Electric customer with an active meter.
- Must be installing a qualifying product (see below for examples).
- **You must submit your application within 60 days of the purchase date, installation date, or account establishment date, whichever is the latest.**
- For each product installed, you must identify each Service ID# on the “Rebate Product Information.”

Examples of equipment that qualify for rebates:

- **Refrigeration**
 - Energy Star Ultra-Low Temperature (ULT) freezers
 - Anti-sweat heater controls
 - New high-efficiency refrigeration display case doors
- **Insulation, Water Heating, and Laundry Equipment**
 - Pip insulation
 - Ozone laundry system
- **Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)¹²**
 - Variable frequency drives for HVAC fans
 - Advanced rooftop HVAC controls
 - Enhanced ventilation control for packaged HVAC units



[For a complete list of qualifying equipment, please read the Pacific Gas & Electric’s Business Rebate Catalog.](#)

For more information and for the most up-to-date catalogs, visit pge.com/businessrebates

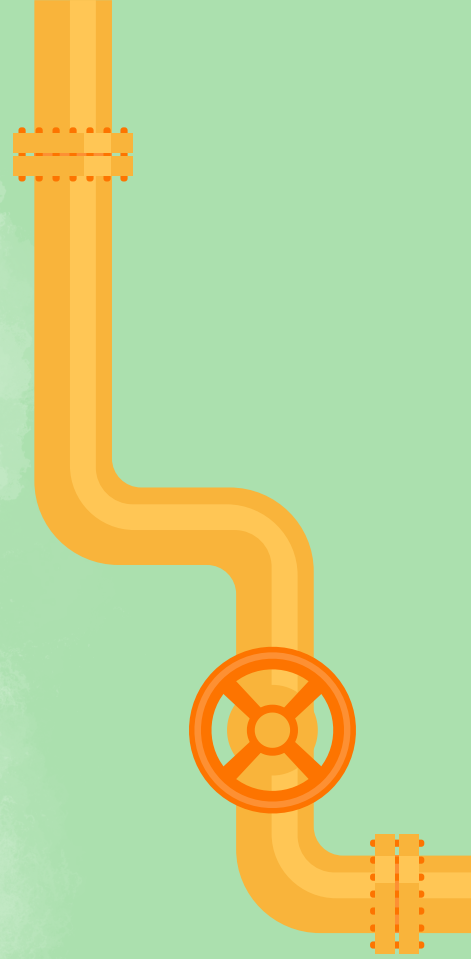
OR

Call our Business Customer Service Center at 1-(800)-468-4743

OR

Agricultural Customer Service Center at 1-877-311-3276

SOCAL GAS



PROGRAM #1 - 0% INTEREST ON-BILL FINANCING

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

SoCalGas offers qualified customers 0% interest unsecured loans to finance the purchase and installation of eligible energy-efficiency upgrades.

Program benefits:

- 0% interest unsecured loans
- No payment penalty
- May help lower monthly natural gas usage
- No origination fee
- Loan repayment added to SoCalGas bill

HOW TO APPLY

1. Confirm your eligibility

- Financing is available for SoCalGas **non-residential** customers and owners of multi-family units who do not reside on the premises.
- Customers must have an active account with SoCalGas for a minimum of 2 years with the same business.

2. Project eligibility:

- Equipment must be installed at the meter of the account holder on record for which the loan is being made.
- The project must meet the terms and conditions of one or more energy-efficiency programs offered by SoCalGas.
- Estimated energy savings must be sufficient to repay the loan during the repayment period:
 - 10 years maximum for business customers, or
 - 15 years for institutional customers.
- SoCalGas account must be in good credit standing.

3. Download and review the [2024 Energy Efficiency Business Rebate Guide here](#).

4. Email scgobf@socalgas.com or call 1-(800)-427-6584 (select option 6) to connect with an On-Bill Financing Program Advisor who can help see if your project qualifies.

- Qualified projects will receive a no-cost energy audit to determine the energy savings.

5. Complete the online application [here](#).

PROGRAM #2 - REBATES FOR NATURAL GAS EQUIPMENT

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

SoCalGas offers a variety of energy efficiency rebates to help your business save money and energy when purchasing qualifying equipment!

HOW TO APPLY

1. Confirm your eligibility

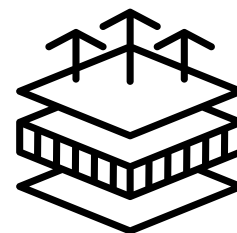
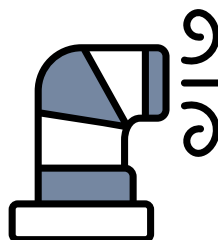
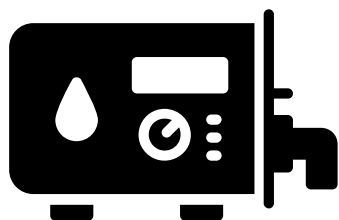
Any commercial, public, industrial, or agricultural customer with an active, valid, and non-delinquent SoCalGas account may apply for a rebate

2. Download and review the 2024 Energy Efficiency Business Rebate Guide [here](#).

3. Purchase and install new, efficient, natural gas-fired equipment.

4. Complete the online application found [here](#).

EXAMPLES OF EQUIPMENT



Boilers, Water Heaters, and Water Heating Products

- a. Commercial hot heaters
- b. Storage water heaters
- c. Tankless water heaters

Heat Recovery Products

- a. Heat recovery rooftop unit
- b. Stream traps
- c. Recirculating pump control

Insulation Products

- a. Greenhouse curtain
- b. Pip/fittings insulation
- c. Tank insulation

Questions?

Complete the Energy Efficiency Rebates for Business Program Interest Form using the following [link](#).



CITY OF PALO ALTO UTILITIES



PROGRAM #1 - BUSINESS ENERGY ADVISOR

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Program benefits:

- Free consultation and on-site assessments to identify energy and water efficiency options relevant to your business and facilities.
- Help with finding qualified contractors to complete efficiency upgrades.
- Rebates for eligible products to help offset project costs.
- Lower utility costs with more efficient equipment.

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

- Must be a **non-residential** customer who receives utility service from the City of Palo Alto Utilities (i.e., you must pay commercial rates for electric and/or gas utility services).
- The facility must be smaller than 50,000 square feet.
- The facility must currently be in operation.

2. Get a free phone consultation with an Energy Advisor.

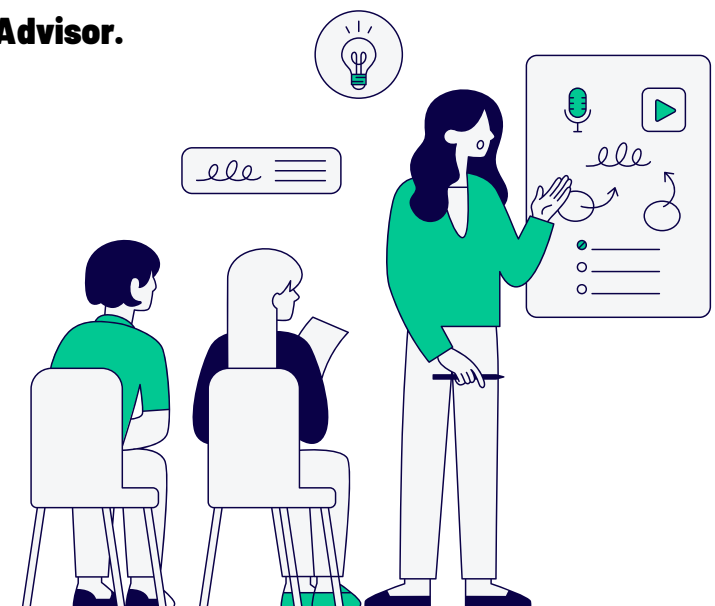
- Complete the intake form at [here](#).

3. Get an energy and water efficiency assessment.

4. Review assessment report with an Energy Advisor.

5. Start your upgrade project.

6. Receive your rebate.



PROGRAM #2 - BUSINESS ELECTRIFICATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

This program helps non-residential City of Palo Alto Utilities customers with the conversion of gas equipment to efficient electric alternatives at their offices or facilities.

Program benefits:

- Free consultation and on-site assessments to identify energy and water efficiency options relevant to your business and facilities.
- Help with finding qualified contractors to complete efficiency upgrades.
- Rebates for eligible products to help offset project costs.

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

- Must be a **non-residential** customer who receives utility service from the City of Palo Alto Utilities.
- The facility must currently be in operation.

2. Get a free phone consultation with an Energy Advisor.

- Complete the intake form found [here](#).

3. Get an electrification assessment.

4. Review assessment report with an Energy Advisor.

5. Start your upgrade project.

6. Receive your rebate.



PROGRAM #3 - GREENWASTE OF PALO ALTO

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

The City of Palo Alto Utilities offers free technical assistance to commercial customers to help implement Zero Waste best practices.

How to Apply

Complete the online outreach request form found [here](#).

In addition to implementing Zero Waste best practices, technical assistance covers:

- **RIGHT-SIZING CONTAINERS**
- **SUPPORT FOR CONTAMINATION ISSUES**
- **PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS**
- **ON-SITE TRAININGS**



PROGRAM #4 - REBATES FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT PRODUCTS

The City of Palo Alto Utilities offers rebates to commercial customers to upgrade their equipment to energy-efficient products to reduce operating costs.

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility:

- Must be a **non-residential** customer who receives utility service from the City of Palo Alto Utilities.
- **Submit an online application and be approved prior to purchasing equipment.**
- Rebates must be for retrofit and retro-commissioning measures.

2. For standard rebates:

- Submit an online rebate application [here](#).
- Get approved for installation.
- Apply for building permits and/or planning entitlements.
- Install equipment and upload supporting documentation.
- Receive rebate!

3. For custom rebates:

- Get an energy savings report stamped by a licensed engineer.
- Submit an online rebate application at [here](#).
- Apply for building permits and/or planning entitlements.
- Schedule pre-installation inspection and get approval for installation.
- Install equipment and upload supporting documentation.
- Schedule a post-installation inspection and receive rebate.

Example of equipment that qualify for rebates:

- **Electrification Rebates**
 - Heat pump water heater
 - Fryer
 - Convection oven
- **Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)**
 - Advanced rooftop HVAC controls
- **Laundry System, Pipe Insulation, Water Heating**
 - Ozone laundry system washing machines
 - Pipe insulation
 - Heat pump water heater
- **Refrigeration Equipment**
 - Auto closer for walk-in (cooler and freezer doors)
 - New refrigeration display case with doors
 - LED refrigerator display case lighting with occupancy sensor
- **Food Services Equipment**
 - Commercial combination oven
 - Commercial fryers, griddles, and steam cookers

For a complete list of qualifying equipment, please read Palo Alto Utilities' Business Customer Rebate Catalog found [here](#).



SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT



PROGRAM #1 - COMPLETE ENERGY SOLUTIONS

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Complete Energy Solutions offers customers the opportunity to participate in energy-efficient retrofits, electrification improvements, and peak demand reduction while ensuring long-term energy and carbon reduction savings.

Program benefits:

- Lower energy costs
- Integrated financing options
- Generous financial incentives

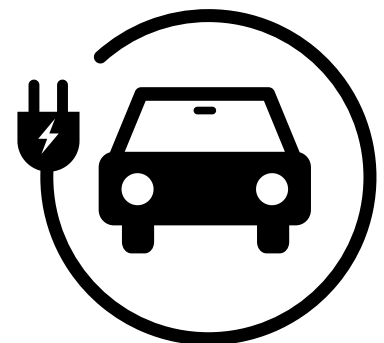
HOW TO APPLY

1. Confirm your eligibility

- Your project site must be in the Sacramento Municipal Utility District service territory.
- Your project site must receive electric distribution service from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District with an active commercial account.
- The customer is the property owner or has obtained the requisite approval and authority from the property owner.
- Your project site must have less than or equal to 500 kW in peak demand over the previous year.

2. Explore upgrades for following equipment:

- Water heating
- Heating, Ventilations, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Induction cooktops
- Interior and exterior lighting
- Smart thermostats
- Refrigeration
- Electric vehicle charging equipment



3. Complete the inquiry form [here](#), and a Complete Energy Solutions representative will follow up

Questions?

Contact CES staff at CES@trcccompanies.com to assist you.

PROGRAM #2 - STRATEGIC ACCOUNT ADVISOR

Access your personal energy expert at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District to help you save time, energy, and money. Speak with your advisor to navigate energy efficiency upgrades and programs.

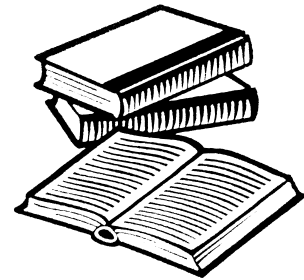
Locate your Strategic Account Advisor [here](#)

PROGRAM #3 - FREE WORKSHOPS

Learn tips to reduce your bills and stay up to date on technology through interactive courses, virtual presentations, and videos with industry experts

—→ **EXPLORE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT'S LIBRARY OF ONLINE RESOURCES FOR BUSINESS [HERE](#).**

—→ **REGISTER FOR FREE, UPCOMING CLASSES AT [HERE](#).**



To schedule a custom business presentation or to speak to an energy expert, contact the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District at:



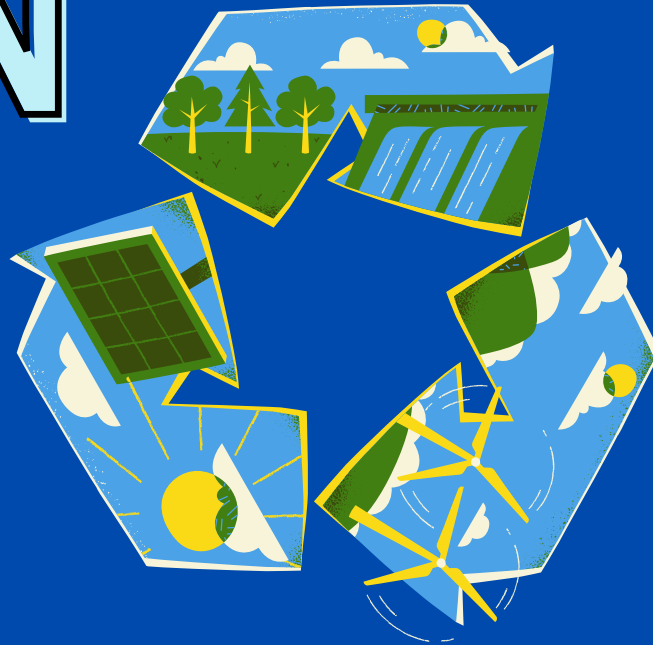
1-(916)-732-6738

OR



etcmil@smud.org

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON



PROGRAM #1 - ON-BILL FINANCING

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Program Benefits

- 0% interest loans
- No fees or loan costs
- Convenient loan repayment through your monthly Southern California Edison utility bill
- Long-term energy savings
- Financial incentives for installing qualified energy-efficient equipment

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

- All Southern California Edison **non-residential** customers are eligible.
- To participate in On-Bill Financing, you must participate in the following Southern California Edison programs:
 - Capital projects under the Strategic Energy Management Program
- OR participate in one of the following Third Party Energy Programs for Southern California Edison customers:
 - Commercial Energy Efficiency Program, Industrial Energy Efficiency Program, Multifamily Energy Efficiency Program, Illuminate California, California Energy Wise, State of California Energy Strategy and Support Program.
- Must be in good credit standing with Southern California Edison and have no previous On-Bill Financing loan defaults.
- Confirm that you would only undertake this project with the help of an On-Bill Financing loan.

2. Submit your application online

- Follow Southern California Edison's user guide to access the On-Bill Financing Application [here](#).

3. Once approved, you may install your energy efficiency project.

4. Upon completion, submit an Installation Report form to Southern California Edison.

5. After your installation is inspected and approved, Southern California Edison will process your incentive payment and finalize your On-Bill Financing Loan Agreement.

6. Southern California Edison will provide the On-Bill Financing loan proceeds after receiving your signed On-Bill Financing Loan Agreement.

7. Monthly repayment begins.

PROGRAM #2 - AUTOMATED DEMAND RESPONSE

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Install technology that automatically reduces your energy usage during demand response events. This technology will cut energy costs and potentially qualify you for technology incentives.

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

- Auto-Demand Response participation is open to all business customers in Southern California Edison's service territory.
- Your business must:
 - Meet the minimum kilowatt requirements of the eligible Demand Response program(s) in which you are enrolled or will enroll in.
 - Receive bundled or direct access electric service from Southern California Edison.
 - Be billed on a Southern California Edison commercial, industrial, or agricultural rate schedule.
 - Have an installed interval or Edison SmartConnect(R) meter.
 - Remain enrolled in a qualifying Demand Response program for 36 or 60 consecutive months if you have been paid a technology incentive.

2. Submit your application online

Start your application by:

Contacting your
Southern California
Edison Account
Representative

OR

Contacting the
Automated
Demand Response
Help Desk at
1-(866)-238-3605

OR

Accessing the user
guide at [here](#) to
submit your project
online

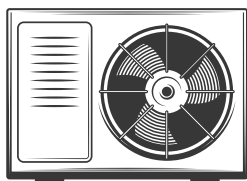
NOTE: Instructions
start on page 9 of the
user guide.

PROGRAM #3 - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON MARKETPLACE

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

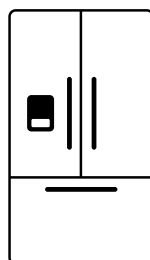
Access Southern California Edison's Marketplace database to receive valuable information about smart products, programs, and tools to increase your energy efficiency. Select products and appliances are eligible for rebates.

EXAMPLES OF EQUIPMENT



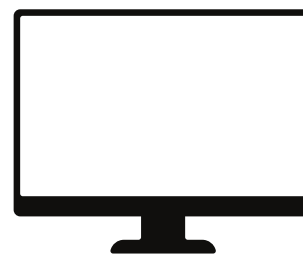
Heating, Cooling, and Water Heating

- a. Air Conditioners
- b. Thermostats



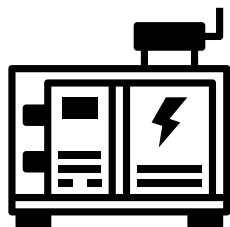
Kitchen

- a. Dishwashers
- b. Freezers
- c. Refrigerators



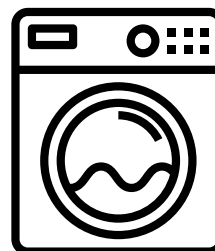
Electronics

- a. Monitors
- b. Projectors



Safety and Preparedness

- a. Portable Generators
- b. Portable Power Stations
- c. Whole House Generators



Laundry

- a. Dryers
- b. Washers

PROGRAM #4 - ENERGY EDUCATION CENTER

Learn how to make better energy decisions for your business at Southern California Edison's Energy Education Centers (EEC) in Irwindale and Tulare. The Education Centers include the Foodservice Technology Center and Heat Pump Water Heater Demand Response Lab.

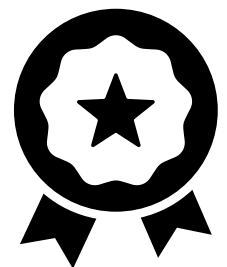
Visit the Foodservice Technology Center to tour a demonstration kitchen that highlights the latest energy-efficient commercial food service equipment and technologies for your business.

Visit the Heat Pump Water Heater Demand Response Lab to learn how to reduce your electricity consumption and decrease carbon emissions by upgrading your water heater. The lab demonstrates the latest small commercial units to help select an appliance that best fits your business needs.

Borrow a tool for an upcoming project for free through the lending library. Tools can be borrowed for up to 2 weeks. Available tools range from digital meters to temperature sensors to air hoods. Visit Southern California Edison's Tool Lending Library [here](#).

Earn the following certifications and accreditations through the EEC

- American Institute of Architects Learning Units
- California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program Certification
- Institute of Heating and Air Conditioning Industries and North American Technician Excellence Certification
- FSCI Continuing Educational Credits
- State Water Resources Control Board Contact Hours



Tulare Location
4175 South Laspina St.
Tulare, CA 93274
(559) 625-7126

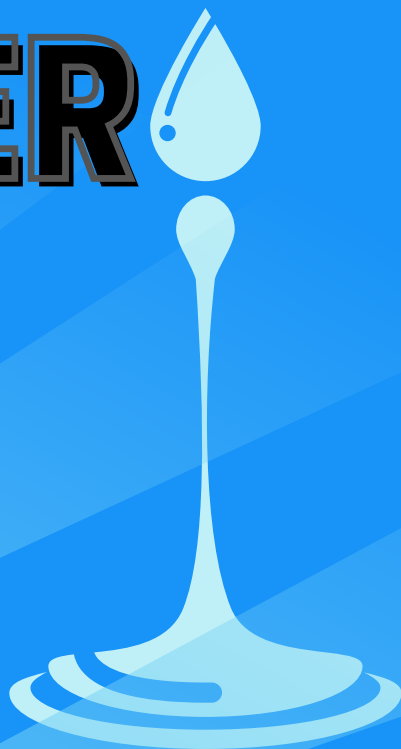
Hours of Operation:
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Irwindale Location
6090 N. Irwindale Ave.
Irwindale, CA 91702
(800) 336-2822

Hours of Operation:
Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT
OF WATER AND
POWER**



PROGRAM #1 - COMMERCIAL DIRECT INSTALL PROGRAM

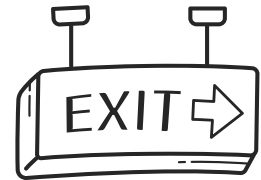
All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

The Commercial Direct Install (CDI) Program is available to qualifying businesses whose average monthly electrical demand is 250 kilowatts (kW) or less. If your business qualifies, a trained Energy Service Representative will conduct a free assessment to identify areas where you can save energy.

ENERGY-SAVING MEASURES INCLUDE:



Upgrades to energy-efficient lighting systems and lamps



LED exit signs

How to Apply

1. Confirm your eligibility

- You must be an LADWP **non-residential** electric customer in good standing whose average monthly electrical use is 250 kW or less.
- Customers leasing their building are eligible, but landlord permission is required.

2. Contact the CDI Program Representative



1-(877)-714-1254

PROGRAM #2 - WATER CONSERVATION REBATE PROGRAM

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

Help conserve water by purchasing and installing qualifying products in your business.

How to Apply

1. Make a rebate reservation [here](#)

2. Purchase any water-saving equipment

- View a list of rebate offerings at the bottom of [here](#).
- Please note that once your reservation application is approved, you have 60 days to purchase, install, and go back online to finish your rebate application

3. Access the online application for commercial customers [here](#)

Questions?

Call the SoCal Water\$mart Rebate Program



1-(888)-376-3314



PROGRAM #3 - POWER SAVERS

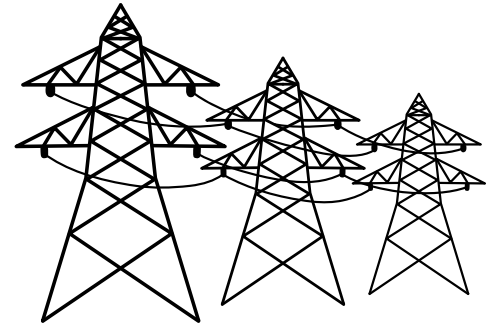
All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

LADWP Power Savers is an energy management program for residential and small commercial customers to allow LADWP to remotely adjust your thermostat up to 4 degrees during the high energy-use season.

Participants will receive a \$65 prepaid card (one per household) after being accepted into the program. Participants may also be eligible for an annual participation incentive, depending on the percentage of their participation in the total demand response events in the season.

Program benefits:

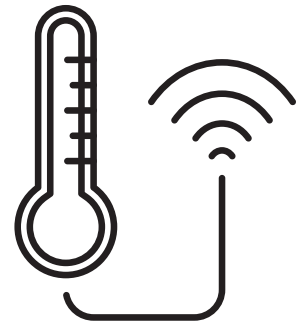
- Assist in reducing stress on the grid
- Receive monetary incentives
- Contribute to Clean Grid LA efforts in your electricity service area



How to Apply

1. Purchase a qualifying smart thermostat

- If you already own a qualifying smart thermostat, you may be eligible to participate.
- Explore thermostat options on the LADWP Marketplace at using the following [link](#).



2. Enroll your smart thermostat [here](#).

PROGRAM #4 - BUSINESS PROMOTION BILL CREDIT

All forms and information can be found at [here](#).

LADWP's Business Promotion Bill Credit Program offers eligible businesses monthly bill credits on electricity charges* for the first 3 years of operation.

A qualifying new commercial electric service customer may receive a 7.6% monthly credit on electricity charges for the first year. During the second year, they may receive a 5% monthly credit, followed by a 2.5% monthly credit during the third full year of operation. This program is offered on a first come, first served basis.

How to Apply

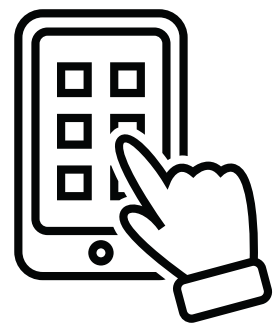
1. Confirm your eligibility

A business must:

- **NOT HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN A LADWP CUSTOMER**
- **ESTABLISH PERMANENT COMMERCIAL ELECTRIC SERVICE**
- **MAINTAIN NO LESS THAN 100 KILOWATTS OF MONTHLY ELECTRIC LOAD**

2. Download the application [here](#) and submit all required forms to sbs@ladwp.com

- Applications may also be requested by emailing sbs@ladwp.com or calling 1-(800)-864-4409



****The credit is applied to monthly electric charges only. Water, sewer, and taxes and other fees are excluded from this program.***



**ADDITIONAL
RESOURCES**



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



California Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)

- In 58 counties across California, SBDCs offer no-cost services, including advising, training, and capital assistance personalized to your business needs. Find your local SBDC [here](#).

California Grants Portal

- This portal is a searchable database with information on all grants and loans offered by California state agencies. Opportunities can be filtered by funding type, applicant time, agency, and deadline. Visit the California Grants Portal [here](#).

Database for State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency (DSIRE)

- DSIRE is a comprehensive source of information on incentives and policies that support renewables and energy efficiencies in the United States. The database can be filtered according to program type, location, sector, and more. Visit the DSIRE [here](#).

ENERGY STAR Action Workbook for Small Business

- This workbook provides step-by-step guidance on increasing energy efficiency in facilities by implementing realistic and cost-effective energy improvement projects. Find the workbook [here](#).

Los Angeles County, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)

- The DEO deploys development programming to small businesses in Los Angeles County through the American Rescue Plan. Initiatives include the Pandemic Rapid Relief Reemployment (PRRR), legal aid for small businesses, trainings, and more. Learn more about DEO's programming [here](#).



ENDNOTES



1. In its state profiles, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) defines small businesses as independent businesses having fewer than 500 employees. SBA Office of Advocacy, "2023 Small Business Profile: California," November 14, 2023, [available online](#). Minority group members in the U.S. include, but are not limited to, individuals of Asian, Black, Latino, and Native American backgrounds.
2. Rosario Isabel Majano, Silvia R. González, Julia Silver, Paul M. Ong, Julia Hernandez Nierenberg, Chhandara Pech, Jennifer Uribe, Juan Carlos Ruiz Malagon, and Sonja M. Diaz, "Business as Usual: Entrepreneurs of Color in California Face Challenges in Technology, Climate Change, and Sustainability in a Post-COVID Economy," UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Institute (LPPI), November 1, 2023, [available online](#).
3. United Nations, "What Is Climate Change?," accessed March 30, 2024, [available online](#).
4. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, "Climate Change, Global Temperature," accessed April 11, 2024, [available online](#).
5. Smithsonian, "What Are Fossil Fuels?," accessed March 30, 2024, [available online](#).
6. United Nations, "Water – at the Center of the Climate Crisis," accessed April 11, 2024, [available online](#).
7. Ibid
8. United States Environmental Protection Agency, "Learn about Sustainability," accessed April 18, 2023, [available online](#).
9. United Nations, "Sustainability," accessed April 11, 2024, [available online](#).
10. United States Environmental Protection Agency, Smart Steps to Sustainability 2.0 (United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2023), page 5.
11. Please visit the SBA's website to learn more about its requirements.
12. Please read page 3 of the Business Rebate Catalog for additional requirements.