

Energy Efficiency Programs for Small Businesses Connecticut

In 2011, as a part of Public Act 11-80, Connecticut created the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) and the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (CEFIA), which oversees Energize Connecticut, an incentive to make Connecticut a more energy efficient state. The initiative is funded by a charge on consumers' electric bills, which is known as the Combined Public Benefits Charge, and by a conservation charge included in customers' gas bills.

Energize Connecticut pays for programs that help small businesses become more energy efficient. There are several organizations and companies that assist in the implementation of the program, including Connecticut Light and Power, United Illuminating, Connecticut Natural Gas, Southern Connecticut Gas Company, and Yankee Gas Services Company.

Small businesses have the opportunity to take advantage of these great programs by contacting Energize Connecticut. The program allows business owners to upgrade to new, energy efficient equipment at a very reasonable cost. The benefits of participating, include lower energy bills, enhanced lighting to showcase your products, improved lighting longevity, and overall improvements to the appearance of your business.

To get started, visit the Energize Connecticut at [Energize Connecticut Website](#). Also, listed below are details on how the program works and the incentives offered to small businesses.

- First, conduct a free, no obligation energy audit of your facility. Contact one of the Small Business Energy Advantage (SBEA) program-authorized contractors, which can be found on your utility providers' website or through Energize Connecticut.
- The contractor's proposal includes all eligible energy efficiency measures, complete with material and installation costs.
- Types of equipment eligible for upgrades include, but are not limited to:
 - Lighting – interior/exterior
 - Heating/ventilation/air conditioning
 - Refrigeration
 - Natural gas-saving equipment
- Energize Connecticut offers incentives up to 50% of the installed cost.
- 0% interest financing is available
- Qualified customers are those with electrical demand less than 200 kW and for gas measures, customers must be a firm customer of one of the companies listed above.

For additional information, questions, or concerns, contact Energize Connecticut at 877-WISE-USE (877-947-3873) or visit <http://www.energizect.com/contact-us/>