



ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATION GUIDANCE FOR APPLIANCES

The District of Columbia is committed to procuring quality goods and services in a timely manner and at a reasonable cost that support the District in meeting its sustainability goals. Compliance with specification guidance is sufficient to meet PPRA Section 1101(a) environmentally preferable procurement requirements. This additional information provides context, as well as supplemental recommendations that, although recommended, are not required for compliance with PPRA 1101(a). To access solicitation documents with full contract language, [click here](#).



BENEFITS 158,000

Kilowatt-hours of electricity saved each year if the District purchases **50 ENERGY STAR** commercial dishwashers instead of less efficient models

Which is the equivalent of **110** tons of greenhouse gas emissions

Additionally, this would save **1,177,000** gallons of water and **\$23,140** per year

SOURCES

Commercial Kitchen Calculator at www.energystar.gov/sites/default/files/asset/document/commercial_kitchen_equipment_calculator.xlsx

Scope

The environmental specification addresses the following types of appliances:

1. Dishwashers
2. Refrigerators
3. Freezers
4. Room air conditioners
5. Ovens
6. Food service equipment (fryers, griddles, ice makers, coffee makers, hot food holding cabinets, steam cookers)
7. Clothes washers and dryers
8. Water coolers
9. Vending machines
10. Televisions
11. Air Purifiers

COPY AND PASTE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE INTO THE REQUIREMENTS SECTION OF YOUR STATEMENT OF WORK

EPPS Requirements

Appliances purchased by the District of Columbia shall meet the environmental criteria defined below.

- Appliances shall be ENERGY STAR certified, using the most recent version of the ENERGY STAR certification system in effect at the time of purchase.
- Appliances shall use ENERGY STAR settings as the default.
- An appliance contractor shall notify purchasers of any available take-back service for reuse, refurbishment, and/or recycling for purchased appliances and previously purchased appliances, including information on how to utilize the service. This information shall be made available to the purchaser at time of purchase through written or online documentation.



Supplementary Recommendations

To further improve the environmental performance of appliances purchased by the District of Columbia beyond the minimum requirements of the environmental specification guidance, purchasers should consider adopting the supplementary recommendations defined below.

1. Appliances shall be ENERGY STAR certified, using the most recent version of the ENERGY STAR certification system in effect at the time of purchase.
2. Appliances shall use ENERGY STAR settings as the default.
3. An appliance contractor shall notify purchasers of any available take-back service for reuse, refurbishment, and/or recycling for purchased appliances and previously purchased appliances, including information on how to utilize the service. This information shall be made available to the purchaser at time of purchase through written or online documentation.



Additional Information



ENERGY STAR certification indicates that the product meets specific energy and water use criteria established by the [ENERGY STAR](#) program. ENERGY STAR is a voluntary program run by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

and the U.S. Department of Energy. Among other efforts, ENERGY STAR certifies products that demonstrate that they meet defined energy and water use criteria through third-party testing in EPA-recognized laboratories. Certified products are allowed to use the ENERGY STAR label. ENERGY STAR products are widely available. For example, as of 2020, ENERGY STAR commercial dishwashers, commercial refrigerators and freezers, and commercial ovens accounted for approximately 63%, 48%, and 54% of the market, respectively.

The use of **appliance take-back services** ensures that appliances that have reached the end of their useful life have been recycled, re-purposed, or reused. Recycling is the most widely used option because of the value of the steel and other recyclable components. In 2019, the appliances sector had a steel recycling rate of almost 80%. According to the [Steel Recycling Institute](#), an average of 75% of the weight of a typical household appliance comes from steel. Of this, 25% comes from recycled steel. The remaining materials include other metals such as aluminum, zinc and copper, as well as recyclable plastics and refrigerants. District employees may donate used products to the [Surplus Property Division](#) (SPD). For more information about how to utilize the SPD please call the OCP Procurement Center of Excellence at 202-724-4477.



Environmental Hotspots The most important environmental benefits associated with this specification

ENERGY CONSUMPTION	The ENERGY STAR label identifies energy efficient products that have been demonstrated through a third-party certification process.
WATER CONSUMPTION	ENERGY STAR also addresses water efficiency for applicable products such as dishwashers and clothes washers.
TOXICITY/HEAVY METALS	Appliance recycling through take-back services ensures that refrigerants and other toxic chemicals are properly removed during the process.
RECYCLED CONTENT	Recycling steel and other materials through take-back services conserves energy and natural resources.
END-OF-LIFE DISPOSAL	Contractors are required to notify purchasers if appliance take-back services are available. District employees may donate used products to the Surplus Property Division.

Significance to the District

PPRA [PPRA § 104](#) specifies that products meet Default Environmental Standards. U.S. EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines which include the ENERGY STAR standard.

SUSTAINABLE DC PLAN [Sustainable DC](#) Plan Energy: Goal 1: "Improve the efficiency of District-wide energy use to reduce overall consumption" aims to cut city-wide energy used by 50% by 2032. Specifying Energy Star appliances helps the District to meet this goal.

LEED FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS: O&M This specification meets the requirements of LEED v4 EBOM. [The LEED's Materials and Resources: "Purchasing – ongoing" credit](#) requires at least 40% of total purchases of electric-powered equipment (by cost) to be EPEAT-certified unless the product is not addressed by EPEAT, in which case an ENERGY STAR certification is acceptable. Except for televisions, the appliances addressed in this specification are not covered by EPEAT. To gain one point for this credit, ongoing consumables must meet a separate list of criteria.

DC SASP The Educational Surplus Property Section of the [Surplus Property Division \(SPD\)](#) is the District of Columbia State Agency for Surplus Property (DC SASP). According to Federal Property Management Regulation, [41 CFR 101-44.207\(c\)](#), surplus personal property may be donated through the state agency to nonprofit tax-exempt entities as defined in the regulation.

For more information about sustainable specification guidance or the District's Sustainable Purchasing Program, please visit: <https://ocp.dc.gov/page/sustainable-purchasing-program> or call the OCP Procurement Center of Excellence at: [202.724.4477](tel:202.724.4477) or email sppdc@dc.gov.