

# NEW CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES



The Energy Smart New Construction offering provides incentives for qualifying projects to adopt and implement energy-efficient design and construction that goes beyond the design baseline. In order to qualify, applications must be submitted during the design phase of the new construction project.

## PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

- New building/ground-up construction.
- Addition or expansion of an existing building.
- Gut rehabs that include replacement of all electrical systems, including HVAC, lighting or process equipment.
- “Warm Shell” projects, where the building envelope, central mechanical system and core lighting systems are included in the design and construction, but future buildout work or tenant improvements are permitted separately.

## BASELINE DETERMINATION

The baseline will be established by identifying the highest baseline from the following:

- Local energy or building code at time of project initiation.
- Baseline for state-owned buildings is 30% improvement vs. Louisiana building code at time of project initiation.
- Current design if building design is complete at the time of project initiation.

The Energy Smart team will have the discretion to determine the building design baseline for any situation that does not fall into one of these categories.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES & APPLICATION PROCESS

- 1. Apply:** Customer<sup>1</sup> submits application during the design phase of the new construction project.
- 2. Set Baseline:** Program determines design baseline for calculating energy savings and incentives.
- 3. Submit Pre-Approval:** Program approves custom incentives<sup>2</sup> prior to the purchase and installation of equipment.
- 4. Execute:** Once approved, materials are ordered and installed.<sup>3</sup>
- 5. Review:** Program performs post-installation engineering review after submittal of the final incentive application<sup>4</sup> and required completion documents.
- 6. Receive:** Payment Incentives<sup>5</sup> will be paid upon receipt of certificate of occupancy.

<sup>1</sup>Customers must adhere to the incentive process and requirements based on incentive offering requirements.

<sup>2</sup>Incentives are available for eligible equipment purchased and/or installed after April 1, 2020.

<sup>3</sup>Equipment must be installed and operational upon submittal of the final incentive application.

<sup>4</sup>The final incentive application and completion documents must be submitted within 90 days of construction completion, or December 31, 2022, whichever is sooner.

<sup>5</sup>Incentives will be capped according to their incentive measure type and at no more than measure cost.

## INCENTIVE OFFERING DETAILS

### Prescriptive

- Prescriptive incentives are paid a predefined amount per unit based on deemed energy efficiency savings.
- Incentives are capped at the incremental measure cost.

### Interior and Exterior Lighting

- Lighting incentives are available for installed lighting power density (LPD) that consumes lower watts per square foot than the maximum wattage allowed.
- Projects must reduce the lighting power density by at least 10% from the baseline.
- Projects can receive \$0.35 per watt below the approved wattage baseline.
- Incentives are capped at the incremental measure cost.

### Custom

- Custom incentives are available for all other measures beyond prescriptive and interior and exterior lighting.
- Custom incentives require pre-approval prior to the purchase or installation of equipment.
- Applications must include a detailed energy savings analysis or energy model to document kWh reduction.
- Applications for custom incentives will undergo technical review to verify energy savings and cost-effectiveness.
- Qualifying measures will be paid \$0.08 per kWh reduced.
- Incentives are capped at the incremental measure cost.

### Whole Building Performance

- Whole Building Performance incentives are available for projects that perform energy modeling, resulting in holistic design and construction energy efficiency improvements.
- Projects must reduce overall building electrical usage by at least 10% from the modeled and constructed building relative to minimally code-compliant baseline building.
- Projects can receive incentives at tiered level relative to the overall building efficiency achieved.
  - <20% energy savings: \$0.02/kWh
  - 20-30% energy savings: \$0.03/kWh
  - >30% energy savings: \$0.04/kWh
- Incentives are capped at \$50,000 per project.