

BUNDLE SMART. SAVE MORE.

Energy Efficiency for Local Governments

Powered by the Local Government Energy Modernization (L-GEM) Program
Maryland Energy Administration | FY26 Opportunity

WHAT IS AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT?

Energy efficiency projects reduce energy use and improve performance in public buildings by upgrading lighting, building envelope, and other systems. While some upgrades like LED lighting offer fast payback, others, such as insulation, windows, or roof improvements, may take longer.

PURSING ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECTS

Local governments have several options:

- **In-house upgrades.** Identify and implement smaller projects like LEDs or HVAC tune-ups.
- **Work with an Energy Service Company (ESCO)/ MCEC.** Bundle measures into a large project managed by a third party, reducing staff burden while unlocking bigger savings.
- **Other approaches.** Work through utility programs, performance contracts, or direct engineering services.

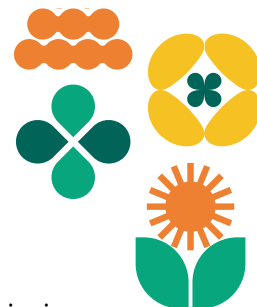
RESOURCES & SUPPORT

- [L-GEM Grant Program](#)
- [Maryland Clean Energy Center Technical Assistance](#)
- [DGS Green Purchasing Committee](#)
- [EmPOWER Maryland](#)
- [DGS ESCO Contracts](#)

NEED HELP?

Contact UMD EFC at
efc_climateaction@umd.edu

Or visit go.umd.edu/LGEM for full application materials and timeline.



MAJOR BENEFITS

- REDUCE greenhouse gas emissions
- IMPROVE building comfort
- LOWER energy bills and operational burden
- UNLOCK deeper savings

GET STARTED

01

Start with a plan or audit if you have one.

Build on existing work such as a facility master plan, capital budget, or ASHRAE Level II audit to identify opportunities. If you don't have a plan or audit, focus on quick-win projects or systems nearing end-of-life.

02

Collect data.

Compile building information and at least 12 months of utility bills.

03

Identify funding options.

Visit [Clean Buildings Hub](#) to explore energy funding and financing opportunities

04

Decide your approach.

1. If pursuing **smaller upgrades**, focus on end-of-life equipment and high-use systems (like lighting and HVAC) for quick wins.
2. If pursuing **bundled projects**, explore partnerships with MCEC or a qualified ESCO to package measures and manage implementation.

05

Get technical help.

Reach out to the [Local Government Climate Action Support Program](#) for assistance.



ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER



Maryland
Energy Administration