

# CenterPoint Energy

## Energy Efficiency Programs Bulletin



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### ABOUT THE PROGRAMS

SCORE<sup>SM</sup>, SCORE Lite and CitySmart<sup>SM</sup> are no-cost programs offered by CenterPoint Energy to school and government customers to improve energy efficiency and reduce operating costs.

The programs offer a combination of the following services:

- Benchmarking energy performance among facilities
- Developing an Energy Master Plan to assist the partner in managing costs
- Assisting in identifying cost-effective projects and funding sources
- Providing financial incentives for energy saving achieved from completed projects
- Promotion of the partners' accomplishments through communications support

The programs are sponsored by CenterPoint Energy and administered by CLEAResult. For more information, please contact Kevin Putman at (512) 327-9200 or [kputman@clearresult.com](mailto:kputman@clearresult.com)

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#### Sources:

Touchstone Energy<sup>®</sup> Cooperative  
[www.schoolenergysaving.com](http://www.schoolenergysaving.com)

US Department of Energy  
[www.eere.energy.gov](http://www.eere.energy.gov)

### SCORE Lite Starts Out Strong with UTMB

The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) recently became the first partner in CenterPoint's SCORE Lite Program. Like SCORE, CenterPoint's newest offering is a no-cost program with no deposit requirements, but does not offer partners non-cash incentives



UTMB's existing equipment

such as technical assistance and support. However, SCORE Lite partners are eligible for higher financial incentives. This program works best for partners with highly skilled energy managers who can initiate projects on their own.

UTMB plans to replace more than 6,000 tons of existing air conditioning equipment with energy efficient systems. According to current plans, the new air conditioning equipment will save approximately 900 kilowatts and more than 3,000,000 kilowatt-hours and earn an estimated \$277,500 in program incentives.

### DOE NEWS: DOE Drives High Efficiency Air Conditioners Forward

Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced that the Department of Energy is joining with the private sector to support market-based efforts to develop and deploy next-generation high-efficiency air conditioners for commercial buildings. As part of a voluntary program, the Department worked with members of the DOE Commercial Building Energy Alliances, including Target and Walmart, to develop new performance criteria for 10-ton capacity commercial air conditioners, also known as rooftop units (RTUs).

When built according to the requirements of the new specifications, these high-efficiency rooftop units are expected to reduce energy use by as much as 50-60 percent over the current equipment.

Commercial buildings account for 18 percent of U.S. energy use and include significant opportunities for energy and financial savings that can help American companies stay competitive on a global scale.

"One of the most cost-effective ways for businesses to save money and improve their economic competitiveness is to reduce the energy needed to power their commercial buildings and facilities," said Secretary Chu. "The public-private efforts announced today are leveraging America's leadership in innovation to advance clean energy, support U.S. manufacturers and help a broad cross section of businesses become more competitive."

### Did You Know?

- The DOE estimates that 25-30 percent of all the energy used in public schools across the U.S. is wasted.
- The average public school building is 42 years old and was not designed to meet the growing demands of today's energy loads.
- Space heating, cooling, and lighting together account for nearly 70 percent of a school's total energy use.

## PARTNER SUCCESS

The following SCORE partners completed projects and received incentives this season:

Aldine ISD  
\$6,897

Alief ISD  
\$75,057

Clear Creek ISD  
\$17,412

Houston ISD  
\$15,803

Spring Branch ISD  
\$1,596

**Congratulations Partners!**

### Missouri City Shows Commitment to Efficiency

After joining the CitySmart Program just last year, Missouri City (the "Show Me City") wasted no time identifying energy efficiency improvement projects. The city upgraded its existing air conditioning systems at City Hall, Public Safety Headquarters, and three fire stations.

Rather than hiring contractors to install the upgrades, the city used its own employees, under the direction of Maintenance Coordinator William Hajdik, to make the improvements.

Combined, the high efficiency air conditioning systems will save approximately 131,500 kilowatt-hours annually, equivalent to eliminating the carbon dioxide emissions of more than 10,600 gallons of gasoline, based on Environmental Protection Agency calculations. Additionally, the efforts of Missouri City's volunteers earned the town more than \$11,950 in program incentives!



### Alvin ISD Goes All In with SCORE

Alvin Independent School District is a SCORE program partner with drive. Since joining in 2008, the district has benchmarked its energy use against similar-sized school districts in comparable climates, implemented many roofing, lighting and air conditioning upgrades, and completed high efficiency new construction projects.

Throughout its years of participation, Alvin ISD has come to trust the SCORE Program team to provide viable efficiency options and valuable guidance to achieve its efficiency goals.

"SCORE offers no-cost professional energy management consultation and expertise that results in improved resource management,

energy conservation and cost savings, all of which directly benefit the kids and community of Alvin ISD," said Executive Director for Support Services Patrick Miller.

On March 22, the district hosted an Energy Master Planning Workshop to evaluate its efforts and successes in efficiency thus far, and to determine short- and long-term goals to ensure proper energy management in the future. As a result, the district is currently working on an energy efficient new construction project and roofing projects, which are expected to save between 60 to 100 kilowatts annually.

## BENCHMARKING CORNER

### Transforming Business Operations with Energy Master Planning

Energy Master Planning (EMP) has the power to transform business operations by prioritizing energy management within an organization, creating leadership awareness and a cohesive environment of energy management accountability. Spending a couple of hours to explore an organization's energy management culture in a facilitated energy master planning workshop can result in thousands of dollars saved and maximize energy expenditures. The workshop provides an opportunity for program participants to review their benchmarking reports, understand how to use them in the future and begin benchmarking energy management practices.

The SCORE and CitySmart Programs have helped more than 132 partners across Texas to develop and implement EMPs. Using over 500 years of collective energy industry experience, we have developed an interactive diagnostic approach we facilitate to help us identify strengths and opportunities to incorporate into

a tailored EMP. During the workshop we highlight best practices in a number of areas including 1) funding and procurement; 2) planning and decision making; 3) communication and coordination; 4) evaluation and assessment; 5) energy-related management systems; 6) personnel and skills; and 7) incentives and priorities.

At the end of the workshop, we will have gathered enough information from leaders in the organization to develop and deliver an energy master plan that outlines short term and long term energy management action items. We encourage workshop participants to review the document, gather internal feedback and then obtain endorsement of the document by key stakeholders within the organization. By implementing these strategies and utilizing the delivered building benchmarking results, energy management becomes a stated priority and focus, resulting in thousands of dollars saved.