

# Brisbane Building Efficiency Program Fact Sheet



## Program intent

In December 2019, the City of Brisbane passed the Building Efficiency Program with the goal of lowering the environmental impact of existing buildings through reductions in energy and water consumption as part of our overall efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet climate goals. Complying building owners will help meet this goal and simultaneously gain a better understanding of their building by tracking consumption and identifying opportunities to save resources and money.

## What do I need to do now?

As the first step of the Program, most owners of commercial, industrial, and residential buildings which are 10,000 square feet or larger in the City of Brisbane will need to perform energy and water benchmarking and report results to the city annually by May 15th starting in 2021.

## How do I comply?

Benchmark your building(s) using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager by setting up an account and inputting building information plus water and energy use data from the previous calendar year. Please visit the Program website and follow instructions and designated reporting link.

## Are there any exemptions?

One- and two-family dwellings, multifamily properties with four or fewer units, condos, broadcast antennas, and utility pumping stations are categorically exempt. Other buildings may seek an exemption in each reporting cycle for reasons including building vacancy or if the building did not receive energy or water service for more than half of the previous year. In these instances, only building descriptive data, not energy and water use data, needs to be reported. Buildings scheduled to be demolished within a year may also request an exemption.

## What comes later?

In the “Beyond Benchmarking” stage, buildings will need to show that they are high-performing or take steps to improve. Several options to demonstrate exemplary energy and water performance are available for streamlined compliance. Other buildings will need to conduct energy and water auditing and report results to the city every 5 years; commercial buildings will begin in 2023, while industrial and multifamily properties begin in 2024.

## Where do I learn more about the program and reporting?

Please visit the [Brisbane Building Efficiency Program](#) website to find out more about the Program, access helpful resources, and complete compliance.