



Building Efficiency 305 (BE305) Challenge FAQs

- 1. What is the overall goal of the BE305 Challenge?** The overall goal is to reduce both energy and water use across all participating buildings by 20% collectively over a 5-year time period.
- 2. What is the commitment?** When you join the Challenge, we ask that you publicly commit to reduce energy and water use in your building. You can share or announce your commitment in a variety of ways, including but not limited to a social media post, a newsletter, a press release, an email to all building occupants, or posting the BE305 Challenge Logo on your website.
- 3. Who can participate?** Owners and/or managers of both public and private buildings located in the geographic boundaries of Miami-Dade County are invited to participate in the Challenge. Buildings must have at least 13 months of energy or water utility data and be in operation for at least one year (12 months) prior to joining the challenge, and must be residential or commercial in nature.
- 4. How will I track the energy and water usage in my building, and how will I share the data?** Participants will need to share their water and energy benchmarking data with Office of Resilience in order to help us assess progress towards our goal. Data sharing will be easy using the free federal [Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#) tool - our staff and partners will be by your side to help you set this up!
- 5. What data will I need to share with Miami-Dade County?** In order to participate in the challenge, you must agree to share data fields that include basic building characteristics (age, size, occupancy, etc.) as well as your utility usage data (e.g. energy or water usage in kWh or CCF).
- 6. Who can see the energy and water usage data I will share through the Challenge?** All energy and water use data shared with Miami-Dade County through the Energy Star Portfolio Manager platform will be kept confidential unless a participant specifically requests to have their data

published for educational purposes. Data sharing is solely for the purpose of tracking and verifying savings progress among participants throughout the duration of the Challenge.

7. **What type of building should I register if I have more than one?** Building owners and managers may register as many buildings as they like. The Office of Resilience recommends that you prioritize buildings with lower performance to maximize improvements and benefits.
8. **My property is a complex or multi-use facility that includes multiple buildings and meters. How can I participate in the Challenge?** Energy Star Portfolio Manager supports the benchmarking of complex properties through the [campus benchmarking](#) feature. This allows you to benchmark and evaluate your property as an aggregate campus (“parent”) facility, as well as individual (“child”) buildings or facilities. We are available to assist you in setting up and benchmarking more complex properties.
9. **Does the age of my building matter?** Buildings must be in operation for at least one year prior to joining the challenge. Building age has not been found to correspond to building performance, and buildings of any age or size can benefit from participating in the BE305 Challenge.
10. **What are the benefits of joining the Challenge?** When you join the BE305 Challenge, you will receive free trainings to help lower energy and water use and costs in your building, educational opportunities from industry experts, peer-to-peer networking with other building owners and managers in Miami-Dade County, public recognition and other incentives from the County. In addition, you can lower your utility bills and operating costs, and achieve higher tenant satisfaction.
11. **When does the Challenge registration close?** Registration for the challenge is on-going, however, the sooner you register, the sooner you can gain access to the technical assistance and other benefits. Please tell your peers and encourage them to join! A special kick-off event recognizing participants will be held in early 2021 - stay tuned for a special invitation.
12. **How do I get more information?** Visit the [BE305 Hub site](#) for more information about the Challenge, and for updates on upcoming events, training sessions, and workshops. Also, keep an eye on your inbox for special announcements and opportunities from the Office of Resilience.

13. **Who should I contact if I have more questions or need additional assistance?** Please contact Resilience@miamidade.gov so we can schedule a time to chat and answer your questions.