



ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATION GUIDANCE FOR COMPUTERS AND MONITORS

The District of Columbia is committed to procuring quality goods and services in a timely manner and reasonable cost that support the District in meeting its sustainability goals. Compliance with specification guidance is sufficient to meet PPRA Section 1101(a) environmentally preferable procurement requirements. To access solicitation documents with full contract language, click [here](#).



BENEFITS

2,200

Megawatt-hours
of electricity
could be saved each
year if the District
utilizes only EPEAT
Gold computers
and monitors

This would result
in a reduction of
1,144 metric tons of
greenhouse gases and
save the District
\$265,000 per year

ESTIMATES BASED ON 2010
DC CLIMATE ACTION DRAFT
PLAN.

Scope

This specification addresses the following product categories:

1. Desktop computers
2. Notebook (laptop) computers
3. Computer displays (monitors)

For the purposes of this specification, the desktop computer category includes products classified on the EPEAT registry as “integrated desktop computers” and “workstation desktops.” The notebook computer category includes products classified on the EPEAT registry as “thin clients” and “workstation notebooks.”

Specification Language

Desktop computers, notebook (laptop) computers, and computer displays (monitors) purchased by the District of Columbia shall meet the environmental criteria defined below.



Products shall be listed on the U.S. EPEAT registry with a rating of Gold, using the most recent version of the EPEAT rating system in effect at the time of purchase.

Reporting

At the frequency specified in the solicitation, the Contractor shall submit to the Contracting Officer an Environmentally Preferable Products and Services (EPPS) Report, indicating that the products supplied to the District comply with the District’s EPPS criteria. The following information shall be included in the report:

- a. Contractor name
- b. Contract award date
- c. Contract #
- d. PO#
- e. Product description - manufacturer description of product
- f. Sku
- g. Number of units sold
- h. Price per unit
- i. Total cost
- j. Compliance with DC environmental criteria – Indicate whether each item purchased is compliant with DC environmental requirements.

An EPPS Report template is available to assist Contractors in meeting the District’s EPPS reporting requirements on the [Sustainable Purchasing Program web page](#).



Background Information



EPEAT registration indicates that the manufacturer of an electronic product has attested that the product satisfies a standard set of environmental criteria; compliant products are listed

on the [EPEAT](#) registry. EPEAT stands for the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool. The required criteria are detailed in a corresponding standard developed by the [Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers](#) (IEEE), specifically, [IEEE 1680.1](#) for personal computer products. EPEAT-registered products are classified as Bronze, Silver, or Gold. Gold products (the level set by this specification) must meet the standard's required criteria plus 75 percent of the optional criteria. These criteria address the use of hazardous substances (incorporating the requirements of the [EU RoHS Directive](#)); use of recycled content and other sustainable materials; design

for end-of-life; product longevity/life cycle extension; energy conservation (incorporating the requirements of the [ENERGY STAR](#) rating system); end-of-life management; packaging; and corporate environmental performance.

EPEAT-registered products have significant market share in the U.S. and worldwide. Several jurisdictions require the purchase of EPEAT computers and monitors, including the federal government. The most common requirement is for EPEAT Silver, which means a Gold requirement would place the District in a leadership position. For computers and monitors, EPEAT is generally considered to be a reasonably stringent certification that conveys significant environmental benefits. For example, the [Green Electronics Council](#) estimates that in 2011, U.S. purchases of EPEAT computers and monitors resulted in electricity savings equivalent to the average annual consumption of over 400,000 households.

Environmental Hotspots The most important environmental benefits associated with this specification

ENERGY CONSUMPTION	Products listed on the EPEAT registry must meet the technical specifications of ENERGY STAR, which sets energy efficiency performance standards. On average, ENERGY STAR computers use 30% to 65% less energy than non-ENERGY STAR models, while ENERGY STAR monitors use 25% less energy than non-ENERGY STAR models.
RECYCLED CONTENT	The IEEE 1680 standards underlying the EPEAT registry include optional criteria on recycled content.
TOXICITY/HEAVY METALS	Products listed on the EPEAT registry must comply with the EU Directive on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS), which includes limits on lead, mercury, cadmium, hexavalent chromium, polybrominated biphenyls, and polybrominated diphenyl ethers.
PACKAGING	The IEEE 1680 standards underlying EPEAT include both required and optional criteria on packaging.
END-OF-LIFE DISPOSAL	The IEEE 1680 standards underlying EPEAT include both required and optional criteria on provision of a product take-back service, recyclability, and several other end-of-life considerations.



Significance to the District

SUSTAINABLE DC PLAN Sustainable DC Plan Climate & Environment Goal 1 aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sources, with a goal of reducing output by 50% by 2032. Reducing computer energy consumption helps the District to meet this goal.

PPRA PPRA § 104 specifies that products meet Default Environmental Standards, which include a minimum EPEAT Bronze and Energy Star standards.

EXISTING CONTRACTS VA-140331 & VA-14041 – Cooperative Agreements through VA give the District access to a wide array of computers. Click [here](#) to learn more about these contracts.

LEED FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS: O&M This specification addresses the requirements of LEED v4 EBOM. The LEED's Materials and Resources: "Purchasing – ongoing" credit requires at least 40 percent of total purchases of electric-powered equipment (by cost) to be EPEAT-certified unless the product is not addressed by EPEAT, in which case an ENERGY STAR certification is acceptable. Ongoing consumables must satisfy other criteria in order to earn a point for this credit.

For more information about sustainable specification guidance or the District's Sustainable Purchasing Program, please visit: <http://ocp.dc.gov/page/sustainable-purchasing>, call the OCP Customer Contact Center at: [202.724.4477](tel:202.724.4477) or email sppdc@dc.gov.