

**For more information on  
Be SMART Business Loans:**

**Go to:**

[www.mdhousing.org/besmart](http://www.mdhousing.org/besmart)

**Or contact:**

**Be SMART Business Loan Program**

Neighborhood Revitalization  
Maryland Department of Housing and  
Community Development  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, Maryland 21032

1-855-876-5717 or 410-514-7740

E-mail: [besmartbusiness@mdhousing.org](mailto:besmartbusiness@mdhousing.org)

TTY/Relay: 711 (in Maryland) or 1.800.735.2258

*The Be SMART Program also finances improvements  
to single family and multifamily buildings.*

*For more information go to:*

[www.mdhousing.org/besmart](http://www.mdhousing.org/besmart)

**Be SMART Home  
Be SMART Multifamily**



MARTIN O'MALLEY, Governor

ANTHONY G. BROWN, Lt. Governor

RAYMOND A. SKINNER, Secretary

CLARENCE J. SNUGGS, Deputy Secretary



**DHCD**  
Maryland Department of Housing  
and Community Development  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032

# Be SMART Business

## **Low Interest Loans for Energy Efficiency Improvements:**

ENERGY STAR Appliances and Equipment

Heating & Cooling Systems

Commercial Refrigerators

Hot Water System Improvements

Insulation in Attic, Floors and Walls

Lighting Retrofit

Windows and Doors

Building Envelope

Solar Panels

# BE SMART

Save Money and Resources Today



*The Be SMART Business Loan Program is part of the  
Better Buildings Program administered by the  
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development  
and funded by the US Department of Energy through an  
Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant award.*

## What is the Be SMART Business Loan Program?

The Be SMART Business Loan Program offers innovative financing to improve commercial building energy efficiency through replacement and upgrading of appliances, heating, cooling and ventilation systems and whole building envelope improvements.

The Be SMART Business Loan Program offers two types of loans: **Be SMART Business** and **Be Smart Business Plus**.

### Who is Eligible?

Business and commercial building owners, with preference given to projects located in the city and/or town limits of the following state-designated Main Street Maryland communities:

Berlin	Elkton
Cambridge	Havre de Grace
Chestertown	Oakland
Cumberland	Princess Anne
Denton	Salisbury
Dundalk	Takoma Park
Easton	Westminster
Frostburg	Baltimore City A&E

Loan approval will also be based on:

- Business' ability to service the debt
- Credit score of business owner
- Minimum 15% savings from energy saving cost measures

Be SMART Business Loan Programs			
Be SMART Business			
Main Street Improvement Program for upgrading of energy efficient appliances, heating and cooling systems, programmable thermostats, ceiling fans, insulation, windows and doors or any eligible use		<b>Up to \$50,000</b>	<b>Up to 5% Unsecured Up to 5 year term</b>
<i>Example:</i> A restaurant upgrades appliances to Energy Star	<b>Energy savings per year: \$447</b> Commercial refrigerator \$140, Ice machine \$154, Commercial Heat pump \$153 (based on Energy Star savings calculators at <a href="http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=sb_guidebook.sb_guidebook">http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=sb_guidebook.sb_guidebook</a> <a href="http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/technologies/eep_eccalculators.html">http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/technologies/eep_eccalculators.html</a> ) <b>Cost savings continue for useful life of appliances up to 15 years</b>	\$10,000 loan for 5 years @3%	Payments \$179/month
Be SMART Business Plus			
Larger energy efficiency optimization projects with a focus on energy cost saving measures for buildings exceeding 6,000 sq. ft. or extensive energy efficient retrofits		<b>Loan Amount determined by project energy cost saving measures</b>	<b>Up to 5% Secured Up to 15 year term</b>
Energy represents as much as 30% of a building's operating costs. Now consider this: undertaking energy efficiency measures can reduce energy consumption - and thus, utility bills - by 30% or more. These savings add directly to the bottom line. A 30% reduction in energy consumption can <b>lower operating costs by \$25,000 per year for every 50,000 square feet</b> of office space. The best part is that these improvements to energy efficiency can often be attained through no-cost or low-cost projects that also enhance the indoor environment of commercial office buildings. <a href="http://www.fypower.org/bpg/index.html?b=offices">http://www.fypower.org/bpg/index.html?b=offices</a>			

### How Do You Get a Be SMART Business Loan?

1. Verify that your business is in an eligible area.
2. Provide us with a complete application which can be found on our website at: [www.md.housing.org/besmart](http://www.md.housing.org/besmart); or can be provided by your area Green Team or Main Streets representative.
3. Let us do an Energy Audit of your business and include energy saving measures as part of your loan application. (No cost during introductory period.)

4. Choose an eligible contractor ([www.mdhousing.org/besmart](http://www.mdhousing.org/besmart)) to receive an estimate for your energy efficiency improvements.
5. Once your loan is approved, you will receive a commitment.
6. Upon closing your loan, funds will be disbursed by DHCD on a draw basis after inspection. Loans require inspector confirmation that work has been completed to specifications.

