

Electricity-consuming Devices



Appliances, machines, and electronic devices use about 18 percent of a typical school's energy. Any appliance that is designed to change temperature uses a lot of energy. You can help save energy at school by:

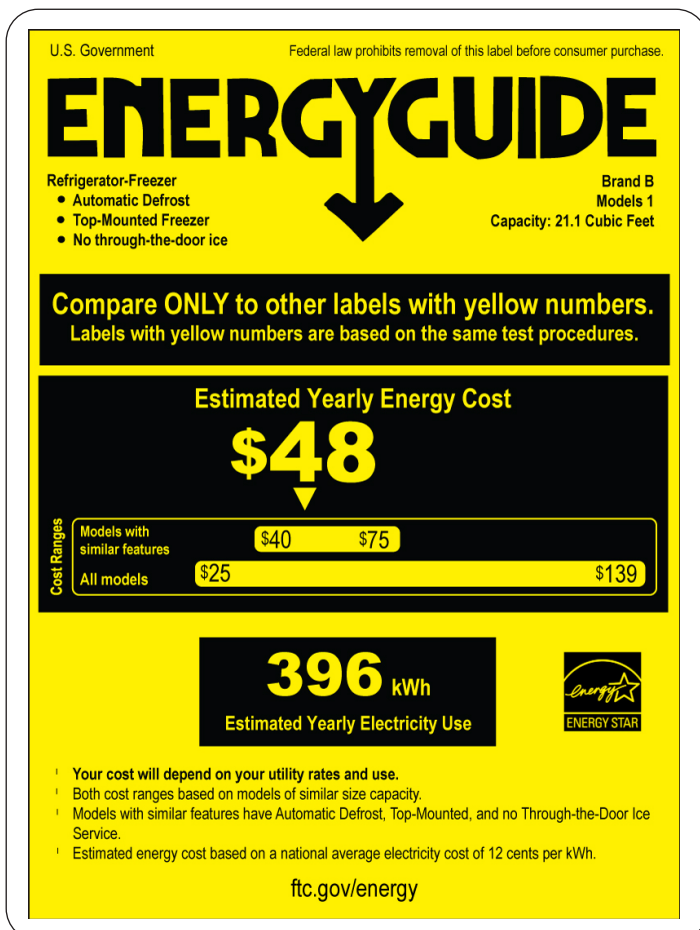
- turning off appliances and machines when you aren't using them;
- keeping the doors closed as much as possible on refrigerators and freezers—know what you want before you open the doors; and
- being aware that many machines use energy even when turned off—save energy by unplugging them.

When schools are shopping for a new appliance or electronic device, there are two prices to consider. The first one covers the purchase price—the down payment. The second price tag is the cost of operating the appliance. The second price will be paid on the utility bill every month for the next 10 to 20 years. An energy efficient appliance will usually cost more to purchase, but it will save a lot of money in energy costs. An energy efficient model is almost always a better deal in the long run.

ENERGY STAR®

School leaders can save money by looking for the **ENERGY STAR®** label—it is a guarantee that the product saves energy. ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances and electronics incorporate advanced technologies that use less energy and water than standard models. A list of energy efficient appliances can be found on the ENERGY STAR® website at www.energystar.gov.

ENERGYGUIDE LABEL



EnergyGuide Labels

Another way to determine which appliance is more energy efficient is to compare energy usage using EnergyGuide labels. The government requires most appliances to display bright yellow and black **EnergyGuide labels** in the store. Although these labels do not tell which appliance is the most efficient, they will show the annual energy consumption and operating cost of each appliance so you can compare them.

All appliances and electronics will run most efficiently if they are maintained properly. Air vents should be vacuumed periodically to remove dust, and seals on refrigerators and freezers may need to be replaced if they do not seal tightly. A little bit of work will keep a machine running well and save energy costs.

