



Partnering with the Federal Electronics Challenge and Federal Green Challenge



PURPOSE

This factsheet provides an overview of how federal organizations can obtain technical assistance and recognition for your electronics stewardship activities through both the Federal Electronics Challenge and Federal Green Challenge.

OVERVIEW OF THE FEC AND FGC

The Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) voluntary partnership program dedicated to helping federal facilities purchase greener electronic products, reduce the impacts of electronics products during use, and manage obsolete electronics in an environmentally safe way.

Federal facilities participate as Partners in the FEC program. Facility Partners submit a baseline report on their electronics stewardship activities to the FEC, and then submit annual reports on achievements each year. The FEC provides Partners with resources and technical assistance for improving electronics management practices, and gives annual recognition to Facility Partners that have achieved specific goals.

The Federal Green Challenge (FGC) is a national initiative under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Sustainable Materials Management Program, challenging federal agencies throughout the country to lead by example in reducing the Federal Government's environmental impact.

Federal offices or facilities participate by selecting a minimum of two of the six target areas – waste, electronics, purchasing, energy, water, and transportation. At least one of the target areas selected must be waste, electronics, or purchasing. Partners commit to annual performance goals within their two selected target areas. The FGC provides technical assistance and resources to partners, and has regional and national awards.

The FEC and FGC are both supported by regional staff; share resources and best practices; and co-sponsor educational webinars. The FGC and FEC both support specific federal electronics stewardship goals:

| Electronics Stewardship Phase | Metric | Federal Goals from Executive Orders 13514 and 13423 |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Acquisition and Procurement | Percentage of EPEAT-registered products purchased compared to total number of eligible products purchased | 95% |
| Operation and Maintenance | Percentage of eligible computers and monitors with power management features enabled | 100% |
| | Average lifespan of a computer or monitor | 48 months (4 years) |
| End of Life Management | Percentage of non-reusable equipment responsibly recycled | 100% |

JOINT PARTICIPATION IN THE FEC AND FGC

Federal facilities may participate in both the FEC and FGC, gaining support and recognition for their electronics stewardship activities from both programs. Federal facilities that choose to participate in both programs do not need to report to both programs. Baseline and annual reporting information will be shared between the FEC and FGC for federal facilities that are registered with both programs.



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INFORMATION FOR EXISTING FEC PARTNERS

If you are already an FEC Facility Partner, you can easily gain credit for your electronics stewardship activities through the FGC:

1. Submit the FGC Registration Form to the FGC regional contact in your area. On the form:
 - a. In Section B, select "Electronics" as one of your target areas.
 - b. In Section F, indicate that you are enrolled in the FEC.
2. If you have not already, submit your FY2011 FEC Annual Reporting Form. This form will also serve as your baseline for the FGC in the electronics target area.
3. Set your electronics goals:
 - a. If you have not achieved all of the goals listed on page 1 of this factsheet, commit to a 5% improvement over your baseline for one or more metrics.
 - b. If you have already achieved all of the goals listed on page 1 of this factsheet, commit to maintaining these achievements in FY2012.
4. Submit your FY2012 FEC Annual Reporting Form by **December 15, 2012**. This form will also serve as your reporting form for the FGC in the electronics target area.

INFORMATION FOR NON-FEC PARTNERS

If you would like to join the FEC to access FEC resources and use the FEC forms to enter your FGC data:

1. Submit the FEC Registration Form online. On the form:
 - a. Check "Yes! We are a Federal Green Challenge Partner."
5. When your registration is processed, you will be given access to your FEC Baseline Survey. Submit the FEC Baseline Survey to the FEC within six weeks. This form will also serve as your baseline for the FGC in the electronics target area.
6. Set your electronics goals:
 - a. If you have not achieved all of the goals listed on page 1 of this factsheet, commit to a 5% improvement over your baseline for one or more metrics.
 - b. If you have already achieved all of the goals listed on page 1 of this factsheet, commit to maintaining these achievements in FY2012.
2. Submit your FY2012 FEC Annual Reporting Form by **December 15, 2012**. This form will also serve as your reporting form for the FGC in the electronics target area.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions related to this resource or need other assistance with the Federal Electronics Challenge, please contact your Regional Champion: <http://www2.epa.gov/fec/technical-assistance>.

Visit the FEC online: <http://www2.epa.gov/fec/>

E-mail the FEC: fec@epa.gov