

Providence BERO Compliance Guide



How to comply with the Providence Building Energy Reporting Ordinance (BERO)

About BERO: The Providence Building Energy Reporting Ordinance (BERO) was established with the purpose of helping the City conserve energy, reduce energy costs for businesses, and meet its goal to be carbon neutral by 2050. The program requires large building owners to benchmark their buildings' energy use and report this data to the City.

How to Report Your Building(s)

1. Confirm your property is on the Covered Properties List

- A Covered Property is all residential and non-residential buildings and campuses in the city that contain 20,000 or more gross square feet, and all municipal buildings and campuses that contain 10,000 or more gross square feet.
- Buildings above 50,000 gross square feet are required to report beginning in 2025; buildings above 20,000 gross square feet are required to report beginning in May, 2026. The Covered Properties List and information about exemptions can be found here: <https://www.providenceri.gov/sustainability/building-energy-reporting/>

2. Fill out a BERO Contact Survey

1. Visit the Knowledgebase at <https://providence-ri.beam-portal.org/helpdesk/>
2. Select "New Ticket" on the left-hand side
3. Select "BERO Contact Survey"
4. Submit a response

3. Set up Portfolio Manager and BEAM Building Owner Portal accounts

- Portfolio Manager is required to report your building to the City. Create an account here: <https://www.energystar.gov/buildings/benchmark>.
- Creating a BEAM account is optional but allows you to:
 - Better understand your building's energy performance;
 - See what Providence program administrators see;
 - Identify data flags and warnings.
- <https://providence-ri.beam-portal.org/>

4. Upload/Transfer data to Portfolio Manager

- You can complete this step through 1 of 3 options: Rhode Island Energy's Building Data Portal (recommended)
- Spreadsheet upload
- Manual data entry

5. Review your report

- Portfolio Manager's "Data Quality Checker," accessible from the Summary Tab of each property, will help you identify energy values and property use details that are unusual given your building's use, possible typos, incorrect meter readings, missing information, incorrect units of measure, and other common data entry issues.

6. Share your property with the City of Providence

- After entering and checking all of your data, you must share your report with the City of Providence through Portfolio Manager.
- Full written guidance on sharing can be found in the BEAM Knowledgebase and a video demo is available online: <https://youtu.be/JXynTGyjA5Q?si=eqiPt3lgUCdmJh29>

7. Analyze your data

- BEAM aggregates benchmarking data and is capable of performing automated compliance tracking based on a jurisdiction's specific benchmarking or building performance standard policy.
- Once you share your property with the City of Providence, you will receive an email indicating whether your property is compliant or your report has outstanding errors.

8. Act on your findings and implement energy efficiency strategies

- Rhode Island Energy's efficiency programs can help you reduce your energy usage and costs. Learn more here: <https://www.rienergy.com/site/ways-to-save/save-money-with-rebates-and-incentives>

For More Information Visit

<https://providence-ri.beam-portal.org/helpdesk/kb> or contact us at providence-benchmarking@beam-portal.org

