



**U.S. Green Building Council West Michigan
Grand Rapids 2030 District
Energy Assistance Program
Contractor Request for Participation**

The U.S. Green Building Council of West Michigan presents a unique opportunity for minority-owned contractors who wish to expand their skill set of energy efficiency and carbon analysis of buildings. This includes a potential for a professional certification and youth volunteer opportunity.

The USGBC of West MI's [Energy Assistance Program](#) is designed to aid hard-to-reach building sectors on their path towards energy efficiency by sponsoring a customized ASHRAE level "1.5"- styled audit. The Grand Rapids 2030 District contracts its Professional Stakeholders to perform ASHRAE qualified building audits. For those interested in professional stakeholdership, see the [Join the District webpage](#).

Opportunity to Shadow an Auditor

For contractors who wish to expand their energy auditing skill sets, the USGBC of West MI offers contractors the opportunity to shadow Professional Stakeholders during live audits. During these audits, the Professional Stakeholder will demonstrate the steps of an audit in a dialogue with the interested contractor.

Certification Funding Opportunity

This opportunity is being broadened to be available to reimbursements for up to 100% of cost for additional energy related exams fees, including but not limited to BPI certifications.

Research shows that hands-on learning cements new information in ways traditional book work may fall short. The USGBC of West MI invites interested contractors to shadow professional stakeholders to expand their skill set of energy auditing. If the contractor desires certification, the USGBC of West MI will consider reimbursement up to 100% of exam fees for an energy-related certification.

Opportunity for Black-owned Contractors

Via the Energy Assistance Program, a unique project is developing in partnership with the USGBC of West MI and a community center of a predominantly-Black neighborhood. The center's youth mentorship program is shadowing the energy audit process of the building as a learning lab STEM exposure to building sciences. Representation matters; it is important that the youth see professionals with whom they can identify during the mock walkthrough.

Please provide a direct communication to: Gillian Giem, gillian@usgbcwm.org, (616) 935-5134.