

How Does CEDA Compare with the Former SBD Program?

In 2021, the California Energy Design Assistance (CEDA) program replaced the Savings by Design (SBD) program to further new construction energy efficiency. The program serves SoCalGas®, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E®), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E®), and Southern California Edison Company (SCE®) customers who will pay the public purpose surcharge. The program uses California Public Utility Commission’s Standard Practice Baseline instead of Title 24 consistent with CPUC Resolution E-4939 published in 2018. Savings claims must comply with all applicable CPUC guidance and are subject to review and contingent on approval.

Topic	California Energy Design Assistance (CEDA)	Savings by Design (SBD)
Energy Modeling for Program Incentives	Willdan’s team of energy specialists provides comprehensive energy modeling required to calculate energy savings and financial incentives	Offered differing levels of design assistance, varying by utility
Baseline	CPUC Standard Practice Baseline as defined by CEDA modeling protocol	CEC Title 24 with Hybrid CEC Title 24 and CPUC-mandated baseline
Savings Threshold	Minimum of 5% reduced site kbtu	Minimum of 10% better than T24 TDV
All-Electric Incentives	Higher incentives via an all-electric pathway for projects that do not install any natural gas or propane service at their site	None
Incentives	Based on net lifetime savings	Based on first year gross energy savings
Incentive Kicker	Available for low-income housing, schools, and projects in grid-constrained service territories	None for low-income housing, schools, or grid-constrained service territories
Incentives Caps	\$1 million incentive cap per project and lesser of 100% incremental measure cost or 50% full measure cost	\$150,000 incentive cap per project (\$500,000 for Institutional Partnerships) and 100% incremental measure cost
Design Team Incentives	Design Team Stipend will be available for projects that provide their own energy modeling to calculate incentives and program documentation through the CEDA Lite program launching winter 2021/2022	SDG&E did not offer Design Team Incentives. PG&E, SCE, and SCG offered Design Team Incentives for Whole Building Approach projects that completed their own application
Influence & Incentives	Standardized approach with increased focus on influence screening and documentation early in the process to reliably meet CPUC requirements	Influence requirements evolved over time with changing CPUC requirements
Title 24 Compliance Modeling	Title 24 compliance forms are completed by the customer design team, and compliance margin is not used to determine incentive amount	Title 24 compliance modeling completed by SBD program or design team, and compliance margin was used to determine incentive amounts
Application	Apply with one simple mobile friendly online application	Applied by sending email or with a phone call and completing paperwork that varied by utility