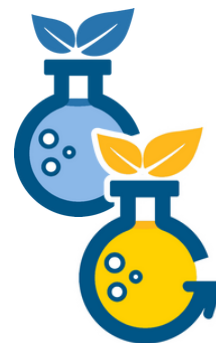




UCLA Green Labs Certification

This program will guide labs towards maximizing **sustainability** and **saving money** throughout UCLA's research sector. By following our recommended practices, labs can obtain a **Blue** or **Gold Certification** at the end of the year-long cycle. Each comes with its own rewards, including physical certificates, cling decals, digital badges, and financial incentives (as funding allows).



Energy

Establish simple habits and changes such as:

- In-lab reminders to shut fume hoods and turn off inactive equipment
- Switch monitors and equipment to energy-saving modes
- Optimize lighting usage and replace fluorescent bulbs



Cold Storage

-80C ULTs can use as much energy as a family home, but you can:

- “Chill up” ULT freezers to -70C (safe for most samples!)
- Implement proper maintenance to ensure best working condition
- Utilize high-density and vertical storage

Water

Cutting down on water consumption can be easy:

- Implement water-efficient washing procedures
- Install faucet aerators and equipment shut-down timers
- Utilize thermal beads and findensers wherever applicable





UCLA Green Labs Certification

How does it work?

Labs will have one year to implement the recommended sustainability practices in **three categories** (energy, cold storage, and water). Our team will provide assistance to make the process as easy as possible:

- A toolkit with in-depth information for each category
- In-lab materials (equipment stickers, habit trackers, maintenance logs, etc.)
- Regular program meetings
- Organizing equipment and ULT unit sharing between labs

Implementation

Most practices are simple **behavioral changes**, such as turning off inactive equipment or performing regular ULT maintenance

- By utilizing our **Progress Tracker** spreadsheet, labs can log their practices and easily determine what steps remain
- Our team will connect with labs through regular meetings, email reminders, and a mid-program check-in

Assessment

At the end of the cycle, labs will be graded based on their progress

- **Blue Certifications** will be awarded to labs that complete all basic practices
- **Gold Certifications** will be awarded to labs that went above-and-beyond to complete all basic and advanced practices

Renewal and future goals

Certifications must be renewed after **3 years**, but Green Labs will check in with participants to ensure they are keeping up with their sustainable habits!

To fully encompass laboratory sustainability, we plan to incorporate **waste management** and **procurement** categories in the next run