

The University of Chicago

Success Story



Customer

The University of Chicago

Project results

209 completed projects

Energy savings

6,744,044 therms

Rebate amount

\$5,384,013

Customer background

Founded in 1892, the University of Chicago has grown into a leading academic and research institution — and one of Peoples Gas' largest customers. Its South Steam Plant provides heat across campus, including the University of Chicago Medical Center, and once powered much of the campus cooling before the South Chiller Plant opened in 2009.

Project description

As one of the region's largest energy users, the University of Chicago presented a significant opportunity to implement large-scale natural gas energy efficiency improvements across campus facilities. To identify and prioritize these opportunities, the university partnered with Peoples Gas Major Accounts and the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program to form a collaborative energy team focused on reducing energy consumption, improving operational performance, and supporting long-term sustainability goals.

Working together, the team completed 209 energy efficiency projects across the university's campus and utility systems.

The projects were strategically implemented throughout multiple campus facilities and utility operations to improve system efficiency, reduce energy waste, and optimize building performance. Through close coordination between the university and the program team, multiple project phases were able to move forward simultaneously, helping accelerate implementation timelines while maximizing energy savings opportunities across campus.

Impact

Through participation in the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program, the University of Chicago successfully completed 209 energy efficiency projects that now generate annual savings of more than 6.7 million therms and over \$5.38 million in total savings.

The coordinated effort between the university and the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team allowed multiple projects to be evaluated, designed, and implemented in parallel across campus facilities. Improvements including heat exchanger systems, demand-controlled ventilation, building automation system optimization, steam trap replacements, insulation upgrades, boiler economizers, and kitchen efficiency measures contributed to significant reductions in natural gas consumption and operational costs.

By taking a comprehensive approach to energy management across more than 30 campus buildings, the University of Chicago was able to implement long-term efficiency improvements that continue to support operational reliability, sustainability initiatives, and ongoing energy savings opportunities.

The Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team is available to help you capture similar savings. Call 855-849-8928 today to schedule a facility assessment with one of our energy experts.



**Talk to an Energy Efficiency
Expert at 855-849-8928.**

Terms and conditions apply. Program is subject to change.
Actual savings will vary by customer's energy usage and rate.
This program is funded by Peoples Gas customers in compliance with state law.
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