



TRUSTED PARTNER PROGRAM FOR COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS

Stearns Electric Association's Trusted Partner Program tracks commercial, industrial and agricultural referrals. All contractors who provide qualifying referrals to the Energy Services department at Stearns Electric can earn points and ultimately a spot on our Trusted Partner List. Please contact our Energy Services department at (800) 962-0655 or energywise@stearnselectric.org to learn more.

HELP YOUR CUSTOMERS GET EVERY REBATE DOLLAR AVAILABLE WITHOUT HAVING TO DO ALL THE PAPERWORK!

As contractors, you are already doing the work. Let us help you make the customer experience even better! When you submit a referral, we will follow-up directly with your customer (our member business) to help guide them through the rebate process and get their rebate check.

You help them receive their full rebate with minimal additional work. Stearns Electric benefits by counting qualifying energy-savings upgrades toward mandated energy-saving requirements. It's a win-win!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. SUBMIT REFERRALS AND EARN POINTS!

Easily submit referrals via Stearns Electric's online form, available at stearnselectric.org/contractors.

If you're assisting a commercial, industrial or agricultural business with energy-saving equipment or another project that might qualify for a rebate from Stearns Electric, submit your referral! Stearns Electric will connect with that member-business to help calculate their rebate, calculate their projected energy savings and assist with rebate paperwork.

Please note: Contractors MUST confirm that the referral is for a Stearns Electric Association member-business prior to filling out the referral.

2. SUBMIT REQUIRED PRODUCT INFORMATION AND EARN EVEN MORE POINTS!

In order for our commercial, industrial and agricultural members to receive their full rebate, we need some important information from them: equipment quantity, description and pricing, manufacturer and model numbers, final invoices, proof of payment, etc. You can help your customers by submitting any or all of this information directly to Stearns Electric. Earn additional points when you assist your customers.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Electrical, plumbing or HVAC contractor within Stearns Electric's service territory.
- Must contact Stearns Electric before your customer does; referral will be noted in database at that time.

BENEFITS:

- Earn referral points during the year for a spot on our Trusted Partners list and/or VISA gift card rewards.
- Receive product and program info to help identify rebates for your customers.
- Receive complimentary literature to leave behind.

QUESTIONS:

Contact Stearns Electric's
Energy Services team:

energywise@stearnselectric.org
(800) 962-0655

Find resources online:
stearnselectric.org/contractors

STEARNS ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

29643 Frontage Road | PO Box 816 | St. Joseph, MN 56374
(800) 962-0655 | stearnselectric.org

TRUSTED PARTNER INCENTIVES

REFERRAL POINTS

Contractors can earn points multiple different ways. Earning 50 points in 2025 will secure your spot on our 2026 Trusted Partner list. Qualify for additional rewards by earning 115 points or more.

	POINTS
Submit an Online Tip <i>excludes tips for generators and irrigation systems (VFDs DO qualify)</i>	20 points
Submit Supporting Materials for your Customer	10 points
Successful Rebate Application Approved from Referral	10 points
Successful Interruptible (generator) Program Enrollment	75 points
Sign up for the Stearns Electric Email List	5 points per email <i>(limit 25 points per year)</i>
Attend Annual Contractor Meeting	30 points

REWARDS:

REWARD LEVEL	POINTS	REWARD
1	115 points	(3) \$25 VISA Gift Cards (\$75 value)
2	235 points	(3) \$50 VISA Gift Cards (\$150 value)
3	355 points	(3) \$100 VISA Gift Cards (\$300 value)
4	435 points	(5) \$100 VISA Cards (\$500 value)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REBATE FORMS AND RESOURCES

Detailed information on all rebates, along with many required forms and wiring diagrams, are available on Stearns Electric's website, stearnselectric.org/contractors.

MARKETING SUPPORT AND MATERIALS

Stearns Electric has one-page handouts for both commercial and industrial rebates and agricultural rebates available through the Cooperative. Help both your employees and customers better understand what qualifies.

The Cooperative also has a detailed handout to give to your customers letting them know that their project was submitted as a referral and that someone from Stearns Electric Association will be in touch with them directly.

ADVERTISING PROGRAM

Looking to do a special advertisement or promotion for energy-saving equipment that might qualify for a rebate? We can help! Our Contractor Advertising Program offers matching advertising funds, up to \$500 per contractor per year, while funds are available. Find more information at stearnselectric.org/contractors.

Please contact Whitney Ditlevson at wditlevson@stearnselectric.org for additional copies of these marketing or supporting materials, or for more information on our advertising program.