

# ST MARY'S

## COLLEGE *of* MARYLAND

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*The Public Honors College*

### EPEAT

*Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool*

## 1.0 Overview

EPEAT (***Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool***) is managed by the [Green Electronics Council](#), a non-profit organization founded in 2005 to inspire and catalyze environmental leadership throughout the lifecycle of electronic technologies.<sup>[1]</sup> In the system, device manufacturers self-declare which environmental criteria their products meet, with those declarations overseen by a network of Conformity Assurance Bodies<sup>[2]</sup> that help manufacturers demonstrate that their products meet the [IEEE 1680](#) family of 'green electronics' standards. Products are rated Bronze, Silver or Gold depending upon the number of criteria the devices meet. Bronze-rated products meet all the required criteria in each EPEAT product category. Silver-rated products meet all the required criteria plus at least 50% of the optional criteria. Gold-rated products meet all the required criteria plus at least 75% of the optional criteria.<sup>[3]</sup> .

## 2.0 Purpose

To ensure that St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM), Office of Information Technology purchases equipment that meets at least the Bronze EPEAT rating, thus helping SMCM meet its sustainability goals.

## 3.0 Policy

1. Beginning 01/2019, consistent with the environmentally preferable purchasing policy adopted by St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM), Office of Information Technology, departments shall only purchase personal computers, notebook computers and monitors that meet at least the EPEAT Bronze rating level, with a preference for Silver or Gold rating.
2. For all IT equipment not currently rated according to EPEAT standards, such as computer servers, printers, and routers, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Office of Information Technology will propose application of criteria to guide environmentally preferable purchasing practices in consultation with the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and of office of procurement. These guidelines will seek to minimize levels of toxic components, ensure the highest level of energy efficiency, incorporate recycled content, facilitate end-of-life recycling, and minimize unnecessary packaging.
3. For product categories where an EPEAT standard is in development, now or in future, once a product standard and registration process is in force, all products shall meet the minimum relevant EPEAT standard. Further consideration may be given to those products that meet higher levels of qualification under the product registration system.
4. SMCMs Office of Information Technology has a goal of allowing no more than 5% of purchase dollars in the product area(s) covered by the EPEAT rating system to be spent on non-EPEAT-registered products. Such exemptions may be allowed, for example, if no

registered products meet the specific performance needs of a purchaser, or if the EPEAT registered product will not be cost-effective over the life of the product.