



MAINE POWEROPTIONS MEMBER BENEFITS

- ✓ **Who we are:** Maine PowerOptions is a non-profit, energy purchasing consortium which serves as an aggregator for Maine's local governmental and non-profit organizations, and the University of Maine System. We currently serve 800 Members with over 400 participating in our Electricity and Fuel Supply programs
- ✓ **Voluntary:** This program is voluntary in nature. By joining Maine PowerOptions, your organization is not obligated to purchase energy through the Program. There are no legal constraints which limit your choice of options.
- ✓ **Education:** The main purpose of the program is to provide education to Members to help them make informed decisions. The Members benefit greatly from an unbiased resource to keep you up to date. Staff will keep you updated on regulatory and market changes and trends.
- ✓ **Market Expertise and Pro-Active pricing for Members:** The key to electricity savings is pro-active management of competitive contracts. Through the Program individual Members can take advantage of market dips to lock in prices or extend contracts, bringing budget protection and risk mitigation.
- ✓ **Administrative Support for Members:** The Program maintains Member energy data and provides account, usage, and contract tracking and analysis for Members.
- ✓ **Supply Contracts negotiated and reviewed by our attorney saving you legal fees and time.**
- ✓ **Contract terms :** We ensure that we have no auto-renewal clauses and no 'special introductory' rates. We ensure we have included beneficial terms designed to protect members from 'hidden fees'.
- ✓ **Involvement:** Any contract negotiated by Maine PowerOptions is for the benefit of its participants. The Program uses an Institutional Advisory Committee composed of members to review potential new programs, benefits and the selection of Supplier for our members.
- ✓ **Low cost with no hidden fees:** This program is unique in that it exists to provide the maximum benefits to the participants. The program membership fee is a one time, low or in many cases non-existent and is designed to be returned through savings to the participants. The Bond Bank and MHHEFA have invested significantly in the program development costs so those participants will not have to spend their much-needed funds trying to accomplish the very same thing. This provides all participating organizations with an equal opportunity to benefit in group purchasing initiatives while not having to spend the necessary time and effort to achieve the same results on a smaller scale.
- ✓ **Access to programs regardless of institution size:** Most programs of this type want to focus on the larger institutions or market groups. This only further serves to limit the options of the smaller institution already handicapped with far less resources. M.P.O. is unique in that its primary goal and legislative mandate is to provide opportunities (education, access to contracts, etc) to all eligible institutions regardless of size.