



**Decarbonizing
the World's
Laboratories**



*Alexandria Real
Estate Equities,
Cambridge,
Massachusetts
Photo courtesy of NBBJ*



International Institute for
Sustainable Laboratories

Sponsorship Program

Join the Elite Group of Industry Leaders Supporting a Transformational Lab Sustainability Program

Whether for developing the COVID-19 vaccine or testing vehicle emissions, laboratories are critical contributors to public health and environmental improvements. With their unique air quality and safety requirements, however, energy-intensive laboratories have an outsized impact on carbon emissions compared to other buildings. Recognizing how vital decarbonization is to reducing climate change and other environmental impacts of the built community, the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL) has created a major new initiative, the Labs2Zero program.

The mission of Labs2Zero is to address the complex nature of safely reducing laboratory energy use and emissions while accelerating the transition of the research community to net zero carbon buildings. As I2SL's most significant initiative to date, Labs2Zero requires significant industry investment and support. A variety of program elements are under development over the next two to three years, and I2SL has already released a Lab Energy Score, Operational Emissions Score, and Embodied Carbon Benchmarking, along with other improvements to its Lab Benchmarking Tool. To make this ambitious program a reality, 30 organizations have provided funding and technical input to ensure a balanced and sustainable program suitable for the laboratory community.

Labs2Zero Sponsorship Program

Sponsors who choose to support the program will receive a variety of benefits, which will increase as

Laboratories have higher energy consumption due to their need for tighter environmental controls and increased ventilation, as well as the inability to recirculate laboratory air to other zones due to safety concerns.

the program is developed. Gold level sponsors and higher will secure seats on the various councils organized to develop Labs2Zero programmatic aspects. And for sponsors that wish to commit to three or more years of funding support, I2SL will provide a 10 percent discount, as described below. Payments received near the end of the year will automatically apply to the following year as an annual payment.



Labs2Zero Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

Annual Sponsorship Level Costs	Diamond	Platinum	Gold	Silver
Minimum annual sponsorship level cost	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$15,000	\$7,500
Upfront payment for three-year sponsorship Note this represents a 10 percent annual discount	\$135,000	\$81,000	\$40,500	\$20,250
Benefits for Sponsoring				
One voting member on the Leadership Council	X			
Logo on all pages of the I2SL website	X	X		
Inclusion in program media announcements	X	X		
I2SL-hosted webinar on the topic of your choice	X	X		
Voting member(s) on Technical Advisory Council(s)	3	2	1	
AIM Report subscription discounts and free subscriptions	35% off + two free 1-year subscriptions	25% off + one free 1-year subscription	15% off + two 1-month subscriptions	10% off + one 1-month subscription
Logo on the I2SL and LBT websites and all AIM Reports	X	X	X	X
Opportunity to add case studies to Labs2Zero tool	X	X	X	X
Mentions in I2SL communications and social media	X	X	X	X
Recognition at the I2SL Annual Conference	X	X	X	X

Program Element Sponsorship Benefits and Opportunities

With the help of sponsors, I2SL is developing a variety of specific program elements. Following are the tools that will comprise Labs2Zero and how sponsors can get involved in their development and promotion.

- **Energy Score for Labs:** This 1-100 score provides a quantitative, normalized percentile rating based on energy use intensity (EUI), compared to other similar lab facilities in the I2SL Laboratory Benchmarking Tool. Over time, water use intensity will be added.
- **Emissions Scorecard for Labs:** Using the EUI from the LBT, this rating will calculate and compare a lab's greenhouse gas emissions with similar facilities. The

scorecard will also include embodied carbon emissions.

- **Actionable Insights and Measures (AIM) Report:** Based on user-entered lab characteristics and performance data, this tool will automatically generate an extensive screening report for existing buildings. This standardized, independent report will recommend appropriate energy and carbon reduction measures to achieve approximate energy savings and emissions reductions, plus estimated implementation costs and calculated return on investment, where appropriate. The report will also include logos and case studies from sponsors that are relevant to the recommended energy conservation measures. Sponsors also receive AIM Report subscription discounts, and some receive free AIM Report access.

- **Design2Zero Tool:** For new lab construction and major renovations, this suite of tools will allow building designers to select a desired energy and emissions score and receive the estimated EUI and greenhouse gas emission targets based on planned design characteristics. The tool will provide suggestions on the best approaches to reduce energy and emissions to help achieve that desired score or rating, factoring in both estimated performance and costs. Sponsors will provide technical inputs to the tool and have their case studies featured.
- **Decarbonization Certification:** To publicly recognize and celebrate those facilities leading the way in energy and emissions reduction, I2SL will develop a certification scheme to verify the labs' performance on the scorecards and validate that baseline lab safety requirements are met. Sponsors will be associated with this certification program.
- **Labs2Zero Training and Accreditation Program:** Individuals will be trained to benchmark lab buildings, act on AIM report recommendations, use the Design2Zero tool, and earn accreditation to verify lab building results as part of the lab decarbonization certification program. Sponsors will inform the curriculum and be associated with course promotion.
- **Laboratory Benchmarking Tool (LBT):** This existing tool developed by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and I2SL is free to use, and with data from more than 1,200 lab buildings, it is the world's largest lab building energy and emissions benchmarking database. I2SL is planning to improve the LBT with enhancements such as weather normalization. As the foundation for many of the other Labs2Zero components, sponsorship allows for broad exposure to everyone who uses the tool and contact lists of users where appropriate.

Labs2Zero 2024 Highlights

Added a target-setter to the **free** pilot **Lab Energy Score**

Launched **Operational Emissions Score** and **Embodied Carbon Benchmarking**

Over **1,200 lab buildings** in the LBT database

Over **100** volunteers joined **5** Technical Advisory Councils

30 Sponsors donated **\$360,000+**

Key Labs2Zero Efforts—2025:

- Complete pilot and refine Energy Score for lab buildings and designs.
- Update Operational Emissions Score for labs with market-based aspects.
- Establish a pilot Embodied Carbon Score for labs.
- Add features to improve the Lab Benchmarking Tool user experience.
- Promote free Labs2Zero tools to lab owners and consultants.
- Continue to pilot and update initial AIM Report on improving energy performance in existing buildings.

For organizations wishing to sponsor particular aspects of the Labs2Zero program, I2SL would be happy to customize financial and recognition aspects of the contribution. For more information, please contact Gordon Sharp at president@i2sl.org.