

Facilities cost more to operate when they are being used. Unlike most electrical appliances air conditioning systems will use more energy depending on how long they run and how hard they work.

When a building is occupied, heat gains from people, lights and outside air will cause the air conditioning systems to load up or work harder to maintain temperatures. Additionally, when buildings are in an unoccupied state the energy management control systems can allow higher set point or room temperatures that contribute to energy savings. These unrealized savings are an expense to the districts utility cost.

Many factors can impact the loading or cost of an air conditioning system but it is generally accepted that the energy use will increase as the building becomes occupied.