

Building your new home

with Efficiency Vermont

Specifications & Incentives

Effective January 1, 2018

Efficiency
Vermont

Where does **your project** fit in?

Requirements & Incentives	Efficiency Vermont Certified: Base Level 2.0	Efficiency Vermont Certified: High Performance Level
Appliances	ENERGY STAR® certified (refrigerator, dishwasher, and clothes washer)	
Slab edge insulation	R-15, 4 ft.	R-30 (slab on grade); R-20 (unheated, below grade)
Insulation under slab	R-15 under heated slab only	R-30 (slab on grade); R-20 (unheated, below grade)
Foundation wall insulation	R-15 continuous <u>or</u> R-20 cavity	R-30
Floor insulation (exposed)	R-38 cavity <u>or</u> R-30+5 (cavity + continuous)	R-40
Ceiling insulation	R-49 sloped <u>or</u> R-60 flat	R-60
Insulation installation	Grade I	
Wall insulation and band joist	Minimum R-5 continuous; total minimum R-26 ¹	R-40
Air leakage	≤ 2 ACH50	≤ 1 ACH50
Ventilation	High-efficiency balanced ventilation ²	
Lighting	95% ENERGY STAR certified bulbs/fixtures	
Windows	U-0.28 or less	U-0.21 or less
Doors	U-0.28 or less	U-0.25 or less
Heating and cooling equipment ⁴	ENERGY STAR certified; all distribution/ductwork fully in conditioned space ³	
Water heating	ENERGY STAR certified or equivalent	ENERGY STAR certified
Bathroom water fixtures	At least 2/3 of all toilets, showerheads, and sink faucets are WaterSense (or flow-equivalent) fixtures	
Incentive	\$2,500	\$3,000

Services Provided	Efficiency Vermont Certified: Base Level 2.0	Efficiency Vermont Certified: High Performance Level
Home Energy Rating Certificate with HERS Index	✓	✓
Design review and consultation	✓	✓
Design meeting	✓	✓
Preliminary energy rating		✓
Preliminary blower door test		✓
Thermal enclosure inspection (before drywall)	Site Visit Required (see Step 2 below)	
Vermont RBES certificate	✓	✓
Stretch Code assistance	✓	✓
Final verification including blower door test	Site Visit Required	

After you enroll your project

1. An Energy Consultant will be assigned to your project, and will contact you to provide technical assistance and conduct the required inspections.
2. The first required inspection happens after insulation is completed, but **before any drywall goes up**. Please schedule this inspection at least a week in advance.
3. Once the home is complete, a final inspection—including a blower door test—will be conducted.



If you are interested in ENERGY STAR Homes certification, ask your Energy Consultant for details.

Washington Electric Cooperative customers are eligible to receive additional incentives. See back page for details. Incentives for projects within the city of Burlington are paid by Burlington Electric Department.

¹ Overall wall R-value varies by assembly detail; ask Energy Consultant for strategies that take moisture safety into account

² Heat/energy recovery systems must be high-efficiency models installed within thermal envelope. Ask Energy Consultant for accepted strategies

³ Boiler minimum 94% AFUE; boilers and furnaces must have programmable thermostats

⁴ Heat pumps must meet cold climate testing requirements. Qualifying units can be found at www.encyvermont.com/cchp-qpl

Additional Incentive Details

Efficient product rebates - up to \$1,200 off the cost of qualifying appliances and devices. Ask your Energy Consultant for details.

Washington Electric Cooperative Customers - \$500 completion incentive and an additional \$500 bonus for a heat or energy recovery ventilation system.

Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) customers may be eligible to receive additional incentives for achieving Efficiency Vermont Certification, but cannot also receive VGS heating and water heating system rebates.

Enrollees who are not interested in or able to meet the Efficiency Vermont Certification requirements are eligible to receive up to three hours of free technical support with an Energy Consultant.

Glossary of terms

ACH50

Air changes per hour at 50 pascals pressure difference between indoors and outdoors—a measure of a home's air tightness

Grade I insulation

Air-permeable wall insulation enclosed on six sides; in full contact with enclosure; no gaps; less than 2% compression

HERS Index

Nationally-recognized score showing the home's overall energy efficiency with projected energy usage info. The HERS Index can be entered into the Real Estate Multiple Listing Service to document the home's efficiency (the lower the score, the better).

R-value

Measures insulation levels (the higher the better)

RBES

Residential Building Energy Standards (a.k.a. Vermont energy code)

U-factor

Measures how well a material conducts heat (the lower the better)

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