

EmPower NY & Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Eligible Measures List

The Combined Residential Application determines program eligibility for incentives based on household income. Households identified as Tier 1 are considered low-income households and are eligible to receive incentives through EmPower New York. Tier 3 households are considered moderate income households and are eligible to receive incentives through Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®.

This is a general guide to measures eligible for incentives available for Tier 1 and Tier 3 households. Eligibility may vary based on the energy efficiency requirements for each upgrade type, results of the comprehensive home assessment, fuel type, energy utility, and funding source availability.

Subject to the terms described on pages 1-6, measures marked with a “✓” below are “Prequalified” and eligible for Tier 1 and Tier 3 incentives for income-eligible households and contractor incentives for Tier 3 projects. Tier 1 and Tier 3 projects marked as “Prequalified” below require no additional cost-effectiveness screening. Items on this list without a checkmark, “Standard” measures, may have limited, or not be eligible for, incentives. If the project includes one or more “Standard” upgrades, the project is subject to a project lifetime savings review as described on page 6. For Tier 3 projects, “Prequalified” measures are eligible for contractor incentives. NYSERDA also offers several financing options through NYSERDA’s Green Jobs Green New York (GJGNY) Residential Loan Fund: Smart Energy Loan, On-Bill Recovery (OBR) Loan, Renewable Energy Tax Credit Bridge Loan, Companion Loan. Review the [GJGNY Residential Financing Implementation Manual for Participating Contractors](#) for loan descriptions and requirements. All items listed are eligible for financing, subject to cost-effectiveness requirements.

No-Heat Situations

With the exception of natural gas HVAC equipment, the program will no longer subsidize fossil fuel HVAC equipment unless the home is in an emergency no-heat situation and the customer has either applied for the [Heating Equipment Repair and Replacement \(HERR\)](#) benefit and received a denial letter or discussed the project with implementation staff and the project has been determined ineligible for HERR. Please refer to Section 5.9 of the [Program Manual](#) for No-Heat Guidelines.

! - No Heat Emergency Only

Table 1. Eligible Measures List

Eligible Measures		Minimum Efficiency Requirements	Prequalified	Incentive Cap (Tier 1/Tier 3)
Primary Heating and Cooling System ^{1,2,3}	Air Source Heat Pump (electric split systems) ⁴	Listed on NEEP Cold Climate and ENERGY STAR Qualified. Waiver required if dollar savings are not positive.		
	Ground Source Heat Pump	See NYS Clean Heat Program for requirements.		
	Furnace ^{5,6} – Natural Gas	AFUE 96% with ECM (Mobile Home: AFUE 95% with ECM). Only replacing existing Natural Gas furnace with efficiency of 80% or less.	✓	\$4,000/2,000
	Furnace ^{5,6,7} – LP	! AFUE 95%		\$4,000/2,000
	Furnace ^{5,6,7} – Fuel Oil, Kerosene	! AFUE 85%		\$4,000/2,000
	Boiler – Natural Gas Condensing	AFUE 90%. Includes combi-boilers. Only replacing existing Natural Gas boiler with efficiency of 80% or less.	✓	\$4,000/2,000
	Boiler – LP Condensing ⁷	! AFUE 90%		\$4,000/2,000
	Boiler – Fuel Oil/Kerosene Condensing ⁷	! AFUE 87%		\$4,000/2,000
	Boiler – LP/Natural Gas Non-Condensing ^{7,8}	! AFUE 85%. Project must include boiler reset control.		\$4,000/2,000
	Boiler – Steam ⁷	! AFUE 82% (size must be matched to cumulative capacity of connected radiators, per Institute of Boilers & Radiator Mfrs (IBR) standards).		\$4,000/2,000
	Pellet Stove ⁹	EPA certified for particulate matter output of 2.0 grams per hour or less. Replacement of existing less efficient pellet or wood stove model.	✓	\$2,000/1,000
	Pellet Stove-Recycling Fee ⁹	An additional \$500 incentive is available if an existing wood stove, pellet stove, or insert (with firebox) is recycled.	✓	\$500
	Central Air Conditioner (split system) ^{10,11}	AHRI Certificate Required. 14.5 SEER and ENERGY STAR Qualified.		No Incentive
	Room Air Conditioner ¹²	ENERGY STAR Qualified. Health & Safety only with a doctor’s note.		\$0/\$250
	Clean & Tune (Gas, Oil) ²³	As needed to correct high smoke or CO issues.	✓	\$200-\$300/\$0
	Distribution Improvements ¹³	Installed in accordance with all applicable state and local codes.		
	Heat Pipe Insulation	R-3	✓	
	Duct Sealing	UL 181B mastic or tape; use of “duct tape” is disallowed.		
Duct Insulation	Installed in accordance with all applicable state and local codes.			
Retrofit Electronically Commutated Motor (ECM)	Separate measure for blower fan replacement only. Installed in accordance with all applicable state and local codes.			
Building Shell ¹⁴	Insulation – Cellulose, Fiberglass	See Table 1A for specific R-value requirements. Must be accompanied by blower door assisted air sealing per BPI and program guidelines.	✓	
	Insulation – Spray foam, Foam board ¹⁵	See Table 1A for specific R-value requirements. Must be accompanied by blower door assisted air sealing per BPI and program guidelines.		
	Air Sealing ¹⁶	Supervised by professional; blower door assisted per BPI and program guidelines. Some measures not prequalified.	✓	
	Exterior Doors	ENERGY STAR Qualified. May be subject to SHPO review.		
	Replacement Windows	U Value 0.28, SHGC .032, Air Leakage ≤ 0.3 CFM/ft ² . Including Jalousie window. May be subject to SHPO review.		
	Movable Window Insulation	R-3		

Eligible Measures		Minimum Efficiency Requirements			Prequalified	Incentive Cap (Tier 1/Tier 3)
Water Heater ^{2,3,17,18}	Heat Pump Water Heaters ⁴	ENERGY STAR Qualified.			✓	\$3,000/1,500
	Electric Resistance Storage Tank ¹⁸	Replacement for Health & Safety only. As high an efficiency (UEF) as possible based on product availability.				\$1,250/625
	Natural Gas or Propane Power Vented Storage Tank ¹⁸	Replacement for Health & Safety only.				\$2,000/1,000
		Draw pattern dependent.	≤ 55-gallons	> 55-gallons		
	ENERGY STAR Qualified.	≥ 0.64/0.68 UEF	≥ 0.78/0.80 UEF			
	Mobile Home Storage Tank ¹⁸	Replacement for Health & Safety only. Electric: 0.92 UEF, Mobile Home Rated. Sealed Combustion (Direct Vent): Mobile Home Rated				\$2,000/1,000
Appliances ^{2,3,19}	Refrigerator	Existing appliance greater than 10 years old. ENERGY STAR Qualified.			✓	NA/\$400
	Freezer	Existing appliance greater than 10 years old. ENERGY STAR Qualified.			✓	NA/\$400
	Dehumidifier	ENERGY STAR Qualified. Can only be installed in basement/crawlspace.			✓	\$400/200
	Air Purifier ²⁰	Replacement of existing appliance or determined to be medically necessary (Doctor's note required). AHAM Verifide® . Follows EPA Guidance . ENERGY STAR Qualified.				\$250/125
Direct Install ^{3,21}	LEDs	ENERGY STAR Qualified. Refer to Lighting Guidelines in CRM.			✓	
	DHW Pipe Insulation	R-3. 9' maximum length (3' Cold and 6' Hot) for Direct Install.			✓	NA/\$500
	Low Flow Showerhead	EPA WaterSense: 2.0 gallons per minute. Aerating type showerheads not eligible. Limit one per household member.			✓	
	Advanced Power Strip ²²	Up to 2 Tier 1 or Tier 2 APS replacements that need to provide 1 primary and 3 secondary outlets with at least 1,000 joules of surge protection.			✓	
	DHW Pressure Relief Valve Discharge Pipe				✓	\$25
	Door Sweep	Exterior doors (including to unconditioned spaces (i.e., basement)).			✓	NA/\$500
	Weatherstrip	Exterior doors (including to unconditioned spaces (i.e., basement)).			✓	NA/\$500
	Detectors - CO & Smoke	UL Listed. When one isn't already present. Limit one per dwelling.			✓	
	Furnace Filter				✓	
	Furnace Filter Slot Cover	When not present or malfunctioning.			✓	
	Programmable Thermostat	5+2 day programmable thermostat including smart thermostat. Limited to one thermostat installed per zone.			✓	

¹ Defined as the primary heating system for the space being conditioned. Addition/replacement of secondary heating systems is not eligible. The new unit must be the primary heat for the space being served.

² Costs beyond caps are responsibility of customer.

³ Specific requirements for ENERGY STAR Qualified products can be found by visiting: <https://www.energystar.gov/products>.

⁴ Measures only require positive dollar savings when replacing electric, propane, oil, kerosene, or wood units. Natural gas units require the project lifetime savings to be greater than the Program incentive and have positive energy savings. The home where the heat pump is being installed (heating/cooling only) must meet the minimum insulation level specification set by NYSERDA (see [Program Manual](#) Section 5.10).

⁵ When ECM is part of a new furnace, savings must be included in that new unit.

⁶ Furnace humidifier costs are required to be included in the new furnace installation costs.

⁷ Only eligible for Tier 1 customers in no-heat emergency with [Heating Equipment Repair or Replacement \(HERR\)](#) denial or implementation staff has determined the project ineligible for HERR.

⁸ In instances where venting conditions require the installation of a non-condensing boiler, boiler reset controls must be included in the project; tank-less coil DHW is not allowed.

- ⁹ Pellet stove must supply a primary portion of heat. Listed on [EPA-Certified Wood Stove Database](#) or manufacturer documentation showing that the unit meets requirements.
- ¹⁰ Not eligible for program incentives but measure savings can be used to determine project lifetime savings.
- ¹¹ Measure is only eligible when there is a replacement of an existing appliance or existing cooling system.
- ¹² Tier 1 customers must be referred to [OTDA Cooling](#) for assistance. If denied, full cost of unit may be covered.
- ¹³ In instances where an area of a home lacks adequate distribution, installation of new distribution to serve the area is eligible. The area lacking adequate distribution must be located within the pre-existing thermal boundary.
- ¹⁴ Moving objects on behalf of the customer costs are required to be included in the insulation installation costs.
- ¹⁵ Rim joists and cantilever foam measures are Prequalified.
- ¹⁶ The following air sealing measures are NOT Prequalified: Glass block and hopper windows in unconditioned basement space and window glass repair. Incentives for these measures have a per window cap at \$400 for Tier 1 projects \$200 for Tier 3 projects. Measures require project lifetime savings to be greater than the Program incentive. Note that glass block in conditioned space is not an eligible measure and hopper windows in conditioned space must be entered as windows and meet minimum efficiency requirements.
- ¹⁷ Use manufacturer’s sizing guidelines or visit <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/water-heating/sizing-new-water-heater>. For ENERGY STAR criteria, including UEF ratings and draw patterns, visit energystar.gov/products/water_heaters/residential_water_heaters_key_product_criteria
- ¹⁸ Incentivized only to correct Health & Safety issues in situations where a HPWH is not a feasible option. Acceptable Health & Safety issues for water heater replacement include: non-operational, leaking and not passing BPI test procedures. Existing fuel type must be used; fuel conversions not allowed. Electric units with burned out electric elements must be replaced with Heat Pump Water Heaters unless the space doesn’t allow for one. Measure will require project lifetime savings to be greater than the Program incentive.
- ¹⁹ Only the base price of the appliance plus applicable tax is eligible; delivery, set-up, warranties or appliance accessories, and any associated taxes on these items are not eligible for incentives.
- ²⁰ Utilize [AHAM’s Room Air Cleaner Certification Program](#). CADR ≥ 2/3 of the room’s area.
- ²¹ See [Program Manual](#) Section 5.14 for additional details on Direct install pricing and procedures.
- ²² Tier 1 APS must be replacement for AV and/or IT equipment plugged in a standard power strip. Tier 2 APS must be replacement for AV equipment only plugged in a standard power strip or Tier 1 APS.
- ²³ For Tier 1 households, Clean and Tune pricing is capped at \$300 for oil-fired heating systems and \$200 for natural gas/propane-fired heating systems.

Table 1A. Insulation Requirements

Insulation Measure	Minimum Efficiency Requirements		
	R-Value	Cellulose / Fiberglass	Spray Foam / Foam board
Attic Entry – Hatch	R-20		Fireproofing when required.
Attic Entry – Pull-Down Stairs	R-13		Fireproofing when required.
Attic Open	R-49		N/A
Attic Floored	Attic Average R-30	Maximum depth of cavity.	N/A
Attic Knee Wall	R-15	Dense packed with air barrier.	Fireproofing when required.
Attic Slopes	Attic Average R-30	Maximum depth of cavity.	Fireproofing when required.
Attic Gable End Walls	R-14	N/A	Fireproofing when required.
Exterior Walls	R-14	Maximum depth of cavity.	
Band Joist	R-14	Maximum depth of cavity.	
Rim Joist	R-14	N/A	
Cantilever	R-21	Maximum depth of cavity.	Fireproofing when required.

Insulation Measure	Minimum Efficiency Requirements		
	R-Value	Cellulose / Fiberglass	Spray Foam / Foam board
Garage Ceiling	R-21	Maximum depth of cavity.	Fireproofing when required.
Crawl Space Ceiling	R-21	Maximum depth of cavity.	Crawlspace must not contain any mechanicals or distribution work. Space must be rendered inaccessible after insulation. Fireproofing when required.
Crawl Space Walls	R-14	N/A	Fireproofing when required.
Foundation (Basement) Walls	R-14	N/A	Down to 2' below grade; Area is not heated, and/or finished as a living space, No Drywall; Fireproofing when required.
Mobile Home Belly	R-21	See specific technical guidance document.	

Eligible Health & Safety Measures and Accessories

All Health and Safety Measures and Accessories must be itemized for the purposes of determining incentive eligibility and a project's cost effectiveness. When projects with the following Health and Safety amounts and all other measures are pre-qualified the projects will be approved without having to pass project level cost effectiveness: Tier 1-\$1,000, Tier 3-\$500.

The costs associated with the installation of certain measures can be included in the related energy saving measure. Items such as high hat covers, weather stripping, and outlet gaskets can be included with air sealing. Baffles, insulation dams, and creating access to the attic can be included with attic insulation.

Table 2. Eligible Health & Safety Measures and Accessories

Eligible Measures		Program Requirements	Prequalified
Health and Safety	Bath Fan: New, Replacement and Venting	Insulated duct in unconditioned space. Vent to exterior in all cases. Installation as needed by signs of moisture.	
	Dryer Vent Repair	Vent to exterior in all cases.	
	Combustion Appliance Zone (CAZ) Corrections: Measures to provide sufficient combustion air and prevent CAZ depressurization, spillage, or inadequate draft	Maximum incentives: Tier 1 \$500, Tier 3 \$250.	
	Fuel (gas/oil) Leak Repair	Gas leaks require confirmation with bubble solution.	
	Moisture Barriers, Crawlspace/Vapor Barrier	Required on dirt floors.	
	Heat/Energy Recovery Ventilator	ENERGY STAR Qualified.	
	Ventilation Fans	Make-up air needs to meet ventilation requirements. Whole house fans or similar attic exhaust fans are not eligible.	
	Knob and Tube Wiring Upgrade to install insulation	Performed by licensed electrician. Not cost prohibitive.	
	Chimney Liners and Caps	Only to correct Health & Safety issues.	
	Heating/DHW System Repairs/Upgrades (including power venting kits) to correct spillage, inadequate draft, carbon monoxide failures	Includes repairs only to exterior wood boilers, not upgrades.	
Home Repairs: Due to water damage, molds and mildew, ice dams or other symptoms of poor building performance, if the cause(s) of building performance-related damage are addressed	Includes gutter repair/replacement and roof repair. Mold/mildew abatement must be completed according to New York State law and EPA guidelines.		

Eligible Measures		Program Requirements	Prequalified
	Gas Oven Repair/Replacement	Only to correct Health & Safety issues (CO can't be corrected with a Clean & Tune). Costs beyond caps are responsibility of customer.	
Health and Safety	Oil Tank Removal or Replacement	Tier 1 only. Removal or replacement only when required by Code or to solve a Health & Safety issue.	
	Sump Pump: New or Replacement	As needed by signs of moisture.	
	Asbestos Abatement	Work must be completed according to New York State law and EPA guidelines. Not cost prohibitive.	
	Lead Abatement ¹	Work must be completed according to New York State law and EPA guidelines.	No Incentive
	Radon Abatement	Work must be completed according to New York State law and EPA guidelines.	No Incentive
Qualified Accessories	Attic Access	Cutting access and patching or adding insulated hatch only (not stairs).	✓
	Attic Insulation Damming	All hatches where loose fill insulation will be installed, areas adjacent to chimneys, chases, storage, and mechanical platforms.	✓
	Attic Ventilation: baffles, soffit, gable, or ridge vents	Installed in accordance with all applicable state and local codes.	✓
	Attic Storage Platform / Mechanical Access	Storage platform limited to two 8x4 sheets (64 ft ²).	
	Drywall Repairs	Includes reinforcing existing surface for dense packing.	
	Thermal Barriers for Spray Foam (drywall/intumescent paint)	Required if area is not permanently sealed or contains mechanicals.	
	Insulation/Debris Removal	As needed to insulate to Program minimum standards. Measure prequalified up to \$500 (Tier 1) or \$250 (Tier 3).	
	Small Job Set Up Fee	Only for project where a total of less than 500 sq ft of insulation is blown.	
	Furnace Humidifier		
	Fuel Conversion Accessories		
	Oil Burner Replacement	No heat emergency only.	
	Boiler Reset Controls	No heat emergency only. Programmed properly per manufacturer's specifications and site conditions.	
	Well Pump Replacement		

¹ Minor remediation under health and safety may be considered at program's discretion to facilitate energy efficiency work.

INCENTIVES

Tier 1 or Tier 3 income-qualified customers are eligible for incentives toward the energy efficiency work scope for single-family and 2 to 4-family homes per the table below. In the event the Tier 1 cap is exceeded or for the balance of the project cost for Tier 3 projects, the project may be eligible for financing through a Smart Energy or On-Bill Recovery Loan.

Program	Income Qualification	Work Scope Incentive*	Incentive Amount
EmPower NY (Tier 1)	< 60% State Median Income	100%	Please see Section 3.1 of the Program Manual for Tier 1 and Tier 3 Incentive Caps
Assisted HPWES (Tier 3)	60-80% Area Median Income	50%	

*Unless limited by measure eligibility or price caps.

Incentive Eligibility

Tier 1 and Tier 3 measure incentives and Tier 3 contractor incentives are available for customers in the following electric utility territories: Central Hudson, Con Edison, National Grid (NYC and Upstate), NYSEG, Orange & Rockland, and Rochester Gas and Electric. Limited Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funds are available for eligible measures for customers of municipal electric utilities.

Contractor Incentive

For Tier 3 projects, contractors can claim an Advanced Modeling Incentive (AMI). The incentive is 5% of the total prequalified measure costs and is capped at \$500.

PROJECT LIFETIME SAVINGS REVIEW

Projects with non-“Prequalified” measures require the project’s lifetime dollar savings to be greater than the Tier 1 or Tier 3 incentive. Annual Energy Savings and Effective Useful Life determined by the [New York State Technical Resource Manual \(TRM\)](#).

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Sum of [Annual Energy (\$) Dollar Savings} \times \text{Effective Useful Life (EUL)]} \\ & > \text{NYSERDA Program Incentive} \end{aligned}$$

FINANCING OPTIONS

GJGNY Residential Financing is available statewide for all eligible measures that meet the cost-effectiveness standards of the loan product. The GJGNY Residential Financing Program offers GJGNY Loans (Smart Energy, On-Bill Recovery and Renewable Energy Tax Credit Bridge Loan) which are unsecured loans up to twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) dollars for one- to four-family residential energy efficiency improvements or renewable energy system projects. NYSERDA also administers Companion Loans which are funded by the New York Green Bank, a division of NYSERDA. The Companion Loan will be available to Customers that fully utilized the GJGNY Loan for their energy efficiency or renewable energy system project and need additional loan funding to pay for remaining project costs.

For additional information about GJGNY Residential Financing including terms and conditions see the [Residential Financing Implementation Manual](#).