



Determination of Tier 1 and Tier 3 Work Scopes and Incentive Caps

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®.

Overview

- A. Tier 1 households are eligible for no-cost energy efficiency measures with project incentive caps of \$10,000 for single-family homes and \$5,000 per unit for 2-4 family homes.
- B. Tier 3 households are eligible for 50% of the cost of the eligible measures capped at \$5,000 for a single-family home and up to \$10,000 for a 2-4 family home.
- C. Program caps are subject to a three year look back.
- D. Fossil Fuel heating equipment, when allowed, is capped at \$4,000 per heating system for Tier 1 eligible households and \$2,000 per heating system for Tier 3 eligible households. These incentives are included as part of the overall incentive cap.
- E. For projects with all pre-qualified measures, health and safety measures are capped at \$1,000 per project for Tier 1 eligible households and \$500 per project for Tier 3 eligible households with no additional project level cost effectiveness requirements. For all other scenarios, health and safety measures will be considered as part of the overall project level cost effectiveness.
- F. Program implementation staff will ensure that incentive caps are maintained, and that proposed work scopes are consistent with current guidelines and the needs of the home.
- G. In situations where a Tier 1 project work scope is deemed reasonable, but exceeds funding or timing limits, implementation staff will work with the participating contractor and NYSERDA to review project options, which may include coordinating the project with a Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) contractor or a program rule exception may be granted at NYSERDA's discretion to allow for program funding above project caps. A program rule exception does not guarantee the same exemption will be approved on similar future projects.

Direct Install

For all Participating Contractors approved to provide energy efficiency services to Tier 1 and Tier 3 households, at the time of the audit, the household must be evaluated for Direct Install

Measures. Please refer to Section 5.14 of the [Program Manual](#) for Direct Install procedures.



Additional Measures

- A. Participating contractors are required to provide audit reports and work scopes for further recommended measures to the program implementer for approval using an approved audit instrument to determine which measures are most cost effective .
- B. In situations where variations in procedure are required, the participating contractor must first discuss and document potential changes with the program implementer.