

EmPower+ Contractor Certifications

Participating contractors may only submit projects to the Program for which they have the necessary certifications or by using a sub-contractor who maintains the necessary credentials as identified by the Program below. The participating contractor shall ensure that work performed through the Program adheres to the technical standards established and maintained by the credentialing organization, for each certification, and meet the Program requirements outlined below and in the Program Manual. NYSERDA may modify or update these requirements at any time and will provide participating contractors with notice through a Program Announcement.

The participating contractor shall provide NYSERDA written documentation identifying each certified individual and copies of their certifications. This is inclusive of staff who will be onsite in a customer's home and not office staff or other support staff not at project locations. As an ongoing requirement, the participating contractor shall immediately inform the Program of any change to the list of certified staff. If a sub-contractor is utilized to install Program measures, it is the participating contractor's responsibility to ensure the sub-contractor meets the certification requirements and the name of the sub-contractor must be included as part of the project documentation.

Participation in the Program allows NYSERDA to obtain information from BPI for the purpose of verifying employee certifications.

Certifications by Measure

Audit Contractor- Reserved for participating contractors performing audits (home energy assessments) and/or electric reduction, direct install projects only. Personnel completing home energy assessments through the program must maintain one of the following certifications below.

Home Performance Contractor- Reserved for participating contractors performing home energy assessments and maintaining the certification requirements for one or more of the home performance installation services outlined below. In addition to measure certification, it is highly recommended the participating contractor pursue any manufacture's training/certifications for any equipment they are installing as part of a Program project. Home performance measures must meet all Program installation and health and safety requirements as outlined in the Program Manual.

Below are the certification requirements for each specialty:

Acceptable Certification	Specialty
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Building Analyst -or- • BPI Building Analyst Technician -or- • BPI Energy Auditor -or- • BPI Multifamily Building Analyst -or- • AEE Certified Energy Auditor -or- • ASHRAE- Building Energy Assessment Professional -or- • HERS Rater -or- • LEED Rater -or- • ICP Quality Assurance (QA) Assessor -or- 	Energy Assessments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Envelope Professional -or- • BPI Building Analyst Professional -or- <p><i>NYSERDA will consider the following BPI advanced certifications in lieu of BPI Envelope Professional, provided the participating contractor can meet Program requirements, as outlined in Section 2.4 of the Program Manual:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Crew Leader -or- • BPI Energy Auditor -or- • BPI Quality Control Inspector -or- • BPI Retrofit Installer Technician -or- • BPI AC/Heat Pump -or- • NATE AC -or- • NATE Heat Pump 	Air Sealing & Insulation ¹
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA 608 Technician Certification in accordance with 40 CFR 82.161 and • Manufacturer heat pump installation training certificate and • BPI AC/Heat Pump -or- • NATE Heat Pump -or- • Approved Installer in NYS Clean Heat 	Heat pump installation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI AC/Heat Pump -or- • Manufacturer's training/specification -or- • Company is licensed plumber and/or electrician in the locality where the work will be performed -or- • Approved installer in NYS Clean Heat 	Heat Pump Water Heaters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Heating Professional -or- • NATE Oil Heating -or- • NORA Oil Heat Silver -or- • NORA Oil Heat Gold 	Oil Heat Work*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Manufactured Housing Professional Certification -or- • Provide documentation of your company's detailed procedures for serving manufactured homes. Details provided must be enough to demonstrate to Program staff that the applicant exhibits proficiency with installing energy efficiency measures in manufactured housing stock. NYSERDA reserves the right to request additional supporting information as necessary to establish a contractor's experience. Acceptable documentation should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Type of work performed (Insulation/mechanicals) ○ Materials used ○ Number of manufactured homes served in the last 6 months ○ Installation methods 	Manufactured Housing

○ Any manufactured home-specific training received in the past 36 months	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Heating Professional -or- • NATE Gas Heating 	Gas Heat Work/Domestic Hot Water Heaters*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPI Heating Professional -or- • Chimney Safety Institute of America (CSIA) – Certified Chimney Sweep® -or- • National Fireplace Institute (NFI) – Pellet Stove Specialist 	Pellet Stove*

*Not an option for specialties listing on the participating contractor website.

¹ Effective October 1, 2025, all Participating Contractors installing Spray Foam through EmPower+ must complete trainings per the requirements outlined in the table below.

- Contractors are required to keep documentation of all staff that attended the trainings. Documentation must include the training title, staff names, and dates the training was completed. Participating Contractors using sub- contractors must ensure the subcontractor meets these requirements. At NYSERDA's request contractors must submit this documentation within 48 hours of the request.

Contractors are required to submit a signed document that their company meets these training requirements. This document is available on the contractor support site at <https://hpwescontractorsupport.com/program-resources/sprayfoamresources/>.

- Contractors must notify NYSERDA in writing within 48 hours if and when their company no longer meets these requirements.

The chart below lists the Spray Foam trainings required by job title or equivalent job description.

TRAINING CLASS	Field Employee	Applicator	Crew Leader	Auditor
CPI High Pressure Spray Polyurethane Foam Health & Safety	X	X	X	
OSHA Hazard Communications Standard	X	X	X	
Proprietary Manufacturer, Distributor, or Trade Association Training		X	X	X
PSD Don't Be Left Exposed Part 1 & Part 2			X	
OSHA 30 or Confined Space/Fire Safety			X	
BPI Building Science Principles			X	

To access the trainings and for additional information, please visit the contractor support site at <https://hpwescontractorsupport.com/program-resources/sprayfoamresources/>.

Version History

March 2025- Added Spray Foam Training Requirements

June 2025 – added acceptable certifications to a table with accompanying specialty.