

PSE&G Home Performance with Energy Star – Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When is PSE&G's Home Performance with Energy Star program launching?

A: Contractors and trade allies¹ can submit applications to the PSE&G program starting on June 1, 2021. All other electric and gas utilities will launch programs for existing buildings on July 1, 2021.

Q: What is the Home Performance with Energy Star program?

A: Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® (HPWES) is designed to transform how energy efficiency services are delivered to existing 1-4 family homes and low-rise multifamily buildings. To qualify for the Program's cash incentives and financing options:

- 1) All materials and equipment must be purchased new;
- 2) The energy efficiency improvements must be performed by a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor participating in the Program;
- 3) Must meet or exceed the minimum efficiency requirements.

All projects must include at least attic air sealing and an attic insulation upgrade if required, as defined below for each project.

Q: What is a Home Performance Energy Audit?

A: The Home Performance with ENERGY STAR audit is the first step toward improving a home's energy efficiency and reducing energy bills. During this comprehensive energy audit, the BPI-certified contractor tests and evaluates the home using advanced diagnostic equipment and building science principles to determine which areas would benefit from energy efficiency and health and safety-related improvements. Features to be tested include but are not limited to heating and cooling equipment, insulation levels, air infiltration, appliances and lighting. During the visit, the contractor will install energy-saving features, such as light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs, faucet aerators, smart power strips, and efficient-flow showerheads.

Specifically, the contractor tests for air leakage using a blower door; may identify primary leakage areas with an infrared scan; conducts a series of combustion-related tests; and looks for opportunities to improve the home's insulation, heating and cooling system, appliances, and lighting. The contractor will then explain what improvements can be made and what they will cost.

¹ Trade Allies are valued, independent contractors serving PSE&G's residential or business customers providing energy-efficiency program services.

Q: What are some of the improvements included in the Home Performance with Energy Star program?

A: Improvements may include sealing gaps, cracks, and other leaks to prevent outside air from entering a house; adding insulation and sealing, insulating, or replacing air ducts that run through attics or crawlspaces. Improvements may also include repairing or replacing old or poorly functioning heating and cooling systems and appliances. Installing ENERGY STAR® certified lighting is another commonly performed, cost-effective improvement.

Q: Who will be eligible to participate in PSE&G's Home Performance with Energy Star program?

A: To be eligible for the program, the participant must be a residential PSE&G customer with a PSE&G account number and the owner of the house at which the audit will be performed. Before July 1, 2021, participation is limited to PSE&G electric and gas customer. Beginning July 1, 2021 all PSE&G residential customers are eligible. This offer is not valid for new construction or commercial properties. Customers that receive ONLY PSE&G gas or electric service can visit njcleanenergy.com for more details.

Q: How do I apply to PSE&G's Home Performance with Energy Star Program?

A: Beginning on June 1, contractors, customers and trade allies interested in participating in PSE&G's Home Performance with Energy Star program may visit HomeEnergy.pseg.com. You may also call 1-855-846-2895

Q: What are the financial incentives I will receive for participating in this program?

A: There are two forms of incentives for participating in the programs – rebates to reduce the upfront cost of energy efficient products and projects, and on-bill repayment to allow eligible customers to repay the remaining cost of the products or project off over a period of time, typically between seven and ten years.

Q: How do I take advantage of PSE&G's on-bill repayment offering?

A: Customers with qualifying energy-efficient products or projects may apply for on-bill repayment plans. As part of the application, PSE&G will qualify customers based on payment history and/or third-party credit reporting.

Q: I'm already familiar with the New Jersey BPU's existing energy efficiency programs, how do these line up with PSE&G's new program?

A: NJCEP's Existing Buildings program are now part of PSE&G's Home Performance with Energy Star program.