

EnerGuide for Existing Houses

Looking to save money
on your heating and power bill?

The EnerGuide for Existing Houses program may be for you.

You'll get access to valuable energy analysis tools and you'll be eligible for rebates when you make energy efficiency upgrades. You'll save money (an average of 30 per cent on your heating bill) and you'll make your home more comfortable in the process. For most families, roughly 50-60 per cent of their energy bill goes to heating. That means your savings can really add up.

Efficiency Nova Scotia offers residential energy efficiency evaluations through licensed service organizations to owners of single-family homes, including detached and semi-detached homes.

Energy advisors certified by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) conduct a detailed on-site evaluation of your home's energy use from the attic down to the foundation. They then provide you with a personalized report, including a checklist of recommended retrofits to improve the energy efficiency of your home and, in some cases, reduce water consumption.

On the following pages, you will find a list of improvements and retrofits that are eligible under the Efficiency Nova Scotia EnerGuide for Houses program and the corresponding rebate amounts. The maximum rebate is \$6,000 per home. There are larger rebates available for multi-unit buildings with maximums dependent on the size of building.

The rebate total is based on rebate amounts and eligibility requirements that are in effect at the time of the post-retrofit evaluation. You must complete your retrofits and receive your post-retrofit evaluation within 18 months from the date you had your pre-retrofit evaluation, subject to available funding.

How to take part

Sign up today by calling toll-free 1 877-999-6035.

Here's how the process works:

Step 1

Receive an energy efficiency evaluation on your home before starting any upgrades.

Efficiency Nova Scotia pays two thirds of the cost of the initial energy evaluation up front. Your cost is \$150 plus HST.

Step 2

You'll receive a detailed report with a prioritized list of energy upgrades for your home.

Step 3

Complete your retrofits and receive your post-retrofit evaluation within 18 months from the date you had your pre-retrofit evaluation.

Step 4

Contact your energy auditor for a follow-up evaluation. The cost is included in the original audit cost.

Step 5

Receive your rebate for eligible work completed.



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Available Rebates

When replacing any of the equipment eligible under this program, the new equipment must have an efficiency rating equal to or higher than that of the original equipment.

SPACE HEATING SYSTEMS

(Maximum of \$4,500 for Heating and Hot Water Heating System Rebates)

“Central” or “Ducted” Heat Pump Systems	
<p>Install an ENERGY STAR® central air-source heat pump with electric heater backup (must replace existing electric heating system). See ‘Important information about Air-Source Heat Pumps’</p> <p>Electric heating systems include electric baseboards, electric boilers, electric in-floor radiant heat, electric furnace, etc. Portable electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.</p>	<p>\$900</p>
<p>Install an ENERGY STAR® central air-source heat pump with non-electric heater backup (must replace existing electric heating system). See ‘Important information about Air-Source Heat Pumps’</p> <p>Non-electric backup includes heating systems using fuels such as oil, natural gas, propane, etc. Portable non-electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.</p>	<p>\$1,200</p>
“Mini Split” or “Ductless” Heat Pump Systems	
<p>Install an ENERGY STAR® ductless air-source heat pump with electric heater backup (must offset use of existing electric heating system). See ‘Important information about Air-Source Heat Pumps’.</p> <p>Electric heating systems include electric baseboards, electric boilers, electric in-floor radiant heat, electric furnace, etc. Portable electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.</p>	<p>\$750</p>
<p>Install an ENERGY STAR® ductless air-source heat pumps with non-electric heater backup (must offset existing electric heating system). See ‘Important information about Air-Source Heat Pumps’.</p> <p>Non-electric backup includes heating systems using fuels such as oil, natural gas, propane, etc. Portable non-electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.</p>	<p>\$1,000</p>



“Ground Source” or “Geothermal” Heat Pump Systems

Install an ENERGY STAR® ground source heat pump or a ground source heat pump compliant with CAN/CSA-C448 and certified by the Canadian GeoExchange Coalition (must offset use of existing electric heating system).

Electric heating systems include electric baseboards, electric boilers, electric in-floor radiant heat, electric furnace, etc. Portable electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.

\$2,500

Qualified Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) Systems

Qualifying ETS systems must have the ability to store heat during NS Power’s off peak hours. The system must have appropriate timing and controls in place to operate with NS Power’s Time-of-Day power rates. Timing and control options include meter signals, programmable thermostats or time clocks.

Install an Electric Thermal Storage (ETS) room unit (must offset use of existing electric heating system).

Customer must be on Time-of-Day rate.

Electric heating systems include electric baseboards, electric boilers, electric in-floor radiant heat, electric furnace, etc. Portable electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.

Up to 4 at
\$100 each

Install an ETS forced air furnace (must offset use of existing electric heating system)

Electric heating systems include electric baseboards, electric boilers, electric in-floor radiant heat, electric furnace, etc. Portable electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.

\$500

Install an ETS central hydronic system (including in-floor heating or baseboard radiant) (must offset use of electric heating system)

Electric heating systems include electric baseboards, electric boilers, electric in-floor radiant heat, electric furnace, etc. Portable electric heaters are not considered a backup heating system.

\$600

Electric Heating System Accessories

Programmable electronic thermostats
(must be used for electric baseboard heating and replace turn dial thermostats)

Eligible heat pump units must be ENERGY STAR® qualified by Natural Resources Canada and must meet defined minimum requirements. See NRCan website for more information.

Up to 13 at
\$15 each



Domestic Hot Water Systems (All Hot Water Systems)

Rebates are based on the efficiency of the system, determined by an independent testing facility.

Qualified drain water heat recovery systems can be found on the NRCan website.

Improve efficiency by 30% to 41.9%	\$75
Improve efficiency by 42% or more.	\$130

Domestic Hot Water Systems (Electrically Heated Only)

Solar domestic water heating systems (must be used to supplement electric hot water heater and must appear on Efficiency Nova Scotia list to be eligible.)	\$1,250
Electric water heater pipe wrap with a thermal resistance of R3 or higher. Foam pipe wrap must cover a minimum of six feet of the exposed hot water pipes exiting the water heater and a minimum of three feet of the exposed cold water pipes entering the water heater.	\$10
Aluminum foil or fibreglass electric water heater tank wrap.	\$25

Domestic Hot Water Systems (Oil or Gas Heated)

Indirect hot water heater with low mass boiler	\$250
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Building Envelope (Maximum of \$1,500 in rebates for the following)

When adding insulation to the building envelope, pay special attention to the type and placement of vapor barriers per local building codes.

Ceiling Insulation

A minimum of 20 per cent of the total ceiling area must be insulated to qualify. When the roof has more than one type (i.e. attic, cathedral ceiling, flat roof), all applicable rebates are pro-rated based on the ceiling area that is insulated. The maximum rebate for any combination of attic, cathedral ceiling and flat roof is \$600. Rebates listed reflect 100 per cent of the ceiling area being of one roof type.

	Starting Point	Starting Point	Starting Point
Increase the insulation value of:	R-12 and less	Greater than R-12 and up to R-25	Greater than R-25 and up to R-35
your attic to achieve a total minimum insulation value of RSI 7 (R-40)	\$400	\$200	N/A
your attic to achieve a total minimum insulation value of RSI 8.8 (R-50)	\$600	\$300	\$100
your flat roof and/or cathedral ceiling to achieve a total minimum insulation value of RSI 5 (R-28)	\$600	\$200	N/A

Add a minimum insulation value of RSI 1.8 (R-10) to your uninsulated flat roof and/or cathedral ceiling and qualify for a rebate of \$400

Exterior Wall Insulation

A minimum of 20 per cent of the total exterior wall area must be insulated to qualify. The rebate is based on the percentage of wall area that is insulated and does not include walls between individual dwelling units. See “Important Note about Semi-Detached and Row Houses”.

	Minimum Additional Insulation	Minimum Additional Insulation
Per cent Area	R-3.8 to R9	Greater than R-9
20%	\$180	\$300
40%	\$360	\$600
60%	\$540	\$900
80%	\$720	\$1,200
100%	\$900	\$1,500



Exposed Floor Insulation

(overhangs and floors above an unheated space, excluding crawl spaces)

Insulate your entire exposed floor and increase its insulation value by a minimum of RSI 3.5 (R-20). A minimum floor area of 14 square metres (150 square feet) must be insulated to qualify.

\$150

Foundation Insulation

When both a basement and crawl space are present, all applicable rebates are prorated to a maximum of \$1,000 based on the total wall area that is insulated.

Basement Insulation

A minimum of 20 per cent of the foundation's wall area (including basement and crawl space walls, when applicable) must be insulated to qualify. The rebate is based on the percentage of wall area that is insulated and does not include walls between individual dwelling units. See "Important Note about Semi-Detached and Row Houses".

Per cent Area	Minimum Additional Insulation	Minimum Additional Insulation
	R-10 to R-23	Greater than R-23
20%	\$100	\$200
40%	\$200	\$400
60%	\$300	\$600
80%	\$400	\$800
100%	\$500	\$1,000

Basement Header Insulation

Seal and insulate your entire basement header area, increasing its insulation value by a minimum of RSI 3.5 (R-20)

\$100



Crawl Space Insulation

Insulate 100 per cent of the crawl space's total exterior wall area, including the header area.

Minimum Additional Insulation

R-10 to R-23	Greater than R-23
\$400	\$800
Or Insulate 100 per cent of the floor above the crawl space to increase its insulation value by a minimum of RSI 4.2 (R-24).	
R-10 to R-23	Greater than R-23
N/A	\$200

Important Note about Semi-Detached and Row Houses

In the case of a semi-detached or row house that is an end unit, the rebate amount for the insulation of exterior walls, basement or crawl space walls is 75 per cent of the amounts shown. In the case of a row house that is a middle unit, the rebate amount is 50 per cent of the amounts shown.

Air sealing

Perform air sealing to improve the air tightness of your MURB to achieve the air change rate indicated in your report	\$150
BONUS: If you reach 10 or 20 per cent better than the target included in your report, you can obtain an additional rebate	
For 10% higher	\$75
For 20% higher	\$150



Doors, Windows & Skylights (heated space only)

Replace windows and skylights with models that are ENERGY STAR® qualified for your climate zone.

Rebates for windows and skylights are based on the number of rough openings (RO) in which windows or skylights were replaced between the pre- and post-retrofit evaluations. Each RO is counted as one window or skylight. An RO is defined as the structurally stable opening created by the builder for the installation of the window unit (i.e. framing and glazing) or skylight. (Note that a bay window, which may be made up of several windows, is regarded as one RO).

\$30
(per unit replaced)

Replace your exterior door(s) with an ENERGY STAR® qualified model(s) for you climate zone

\$30
(per unit replaced)

To be eligible for a rebate, proof of ENERGY STAR® qualification of windows, doors and skylights is required, such as the presence of an ENERGY STAR® label on all of the replacement windows, doors or skylights indicating they are ENERGY STAR® qualified for the house's climate zone. If the labels are removed by the installer, you should request them as proof, or request a copy of an invoice indicating:

- the brand/product name
- the NRCan model reference number or the manufacturer's model code
- the climate zone for which the windows, doors or skylights are qualified

Water Conservation

Replace your toilet with a low-flush or dual-flush toilet rated at six litres or less per flush that meets the Los Angeles Supplementary Purchase Specification (SPS) and has a flush performance of 350 grams or more.

A product list is available on the Veritec Consulting Inc. Web site at veritec.ca. Click "Reports" and select "ecoENERGY Eligible."

\$50
(per unit replaced -
maximum four units
per dwelling)



Important Notes

1. Efficiency Nova Scotia reserves the right to revise the information contained in this document, including the rebate amounts and the eligibility requirements, without notice. The payment of rebates is also subject to the availability of funds. Refer to www.energycyns.ca for the most up-to-date information, or contact your local licensed service organization.
2. All upgrades or renovations must meet local codes and by-laws. Before undertaking upgrades or renovations, find out about the appropriate products and installation techniques to ensure that your home's building envelope and indoor air quality will not be compromised.
3. Read carefully the recommendations found in your Nova Scotia EnerGuide for houses report for more information.
4. Renovations that are part of an addition made to a property following the pre-retrofit evaluation are not eligible for a retrofit rebate and may reduce the rebate amount for the improvement done on the existing portion of the building. Consult your energy advisor.
5. Insulation value in RSI equals the R insulation value divided by 5.678.
6. For more information on ENERGY STAR® qualified products, visit energystar.gc.ca. The ENERGY STAR® name and the ENERGY STAR® symbol are registered trademarks of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and are used with permission.
7. New installations are not eligible in cases where improvements listed state "Replace."
8. NRCan and Efficiency Nova Scotia do not endorse the services of any contractor or any specific product and accepts no liability in the selection of materials, products, contractors or performance or workmanship.



w: energycyns.ca
tf: 1 877-999-6035

Important Information about Air Source Heat Pumps

In the case of air-source heat pumps and central air conditioners, a manufacturer's new ENERGY STAR® qualified matched condenser coil (outdoor unit comprising a condenser coil, compressor and cooling fan) and indoor evaporator coil (typically located with the furnace) must have a SEER of 14.5 or higher. Under no circumstances will the replacement of only one of these coils entitle the homeowner to a rebate, just as components that are not certified by the manufacturer as being matched (i.e. tested together) will not be accepted. Currently, some manufacturers match their low SEER air conditioner/air-source heat pump coil packages with one of their brushless DC motor-equipped furnaces (i.e. blowers) as a method to reduce the power consumption requirement for ENERGY STAR compliance and labelling. This arrangement is not accepted under this program.

To be ENERGY STAR® qualified in Canada, in addition to the minimum requirement of SEER 14.5, air-source heat pumps must also have a minimum heating seasonal performance factor (HSPF) of 7.1 for Region V, which is more reflective of the Canadian climate. If the heat pump is only rated for Region IV, which is used in the United States, it must have a minimum HSPF of 8.2. Mini-split (ductless) air-source heat pumps must have at least one head per floor, excluding the basement, to qualify for a rebate.



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