

High Performance Home Projects

(1) To be eligible for a tax credit, a High Performance Home project must be certified through the ENERGY STAR[®] Homes Northwest program, which includes builder technical assistance, independent home inspection and program quality assurance.

In addition a project must satisfy all of the following:

(a) Be constructed to the following prescriptive path, or be constructed with a combination of assemblies that together have a total U x A no higher than a base case home when evaluated according to the thermal trade-off procedure in Oregon Specialty Code chapter 11, Table N1104.1. (check reference and proper name for code)

Ceilings: $U \leq 0.026$ (e.g. R-49 attic)

Walls: $U \leq 0.048$ (e.g. R-21 cavity insulation plus R-3.5 continuous foam sheathing)

Floors: $U \leq 0.029$ (e.g. R-38 batt/blanket insulation between floor joists)

Windows: $U \leq 0.32$

(b) Incorporate HVAC system and air ducts into conditioned space, or eliminate forced-air ductwork.

(c) Include a Renewable Energy System, as described in these Technical Requirements.

(d) Obtain certification through a Green Building program recognized by the Department, or meet ENERGY STAR Homes Northwest ventilation specifications through the use of a heat or energy recovery ventilator.

(2) The amount of the tax credit for a High Performance Home, accruing to the builder of the home, shall be \$3,000 plus any tax credit allowed from the Renewable Energy System included on the home.

Homebuilder-Installed Renewable Energy System Projects

(1) The amount of the tax credit for homebuilder-installed renewable energy systems shall be capped at \$9,000. Eligible renewable energy systems must meet the following criteria:

(a) Photovoltaic Systems. Eligible installations have a Total solar resource fraction of at least 75%. Total Solar Resource Fraction (TSRF) method as described in the Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC) application. Systems must be verified by a Tax Credit Certified Technician (TCCT). This verification must cover performance, longevity, and proper documentation of the system design, operation and maintenance. System installers must provide a warrantee covering all parts and labor of the system for two years. The credit amount is based on \$3 per watt of installed system capacity.

(b) Solar Domestic Water Heating Systems. Solar thermal domestic water heating systems must have a Total Solar Resource Fraction (TSRF) of at least 75% and be designed to provide no less than 25% but not more than 70% of the annual domestic water heating load. Systems must be OG-300 certified. Systems must be verified by a Tax Credit Certified Technician (TCCT). This verification must cover performance, longevity, and proper documentation of the system design, operation and maintenance. System installers must provide a warrantee covering all parts and labor of the system for two years. The credit amount is equal to \$0.60 per kWh saved as determined by the ODOE solar domestic water heating yield table.

(c) Active Solar Space Heating Systems. Active solar space heating systems must demonstrate a whole building annual energy savings of at least 15% to be eligible. Systems that combine space heating and domestic water heating are allowed providing that the solar storage tank is not heated by a backup heat source (e.g. gas or electric water heater). Only 50% of the domestic water heating savings shall be counted toward the requirement for 15% annual heating and cooling load reduction. Systems must be verified by a Tax Credit Certified Technician (TCCT). This verification must cover performance, longevity, and proper documentation of the system design, operation and maintenance. System installers must provide a warrantee covering all parts and labor of the system for two years. The credit amount is equal to \$0.60 per kWh saved based on a calculation procedure approved by ODOE staff.

(d) Passive Solar Systems. Passive solar design strategies must demonstrate a whole building annual energy savings of at least 20% to be eligible. This can be achieved by either meeting the prescriptive requirements for a passive solar home under the residential energy tax credit or demonstrated with whole building energy modeling and certified by a professional engineer. The credit amount is equal to \$500 per home plus \$0.50 per square foot of heated floor space.

(e) Other Systems. Other renewable energy systems (e.g. wind turbines, fuel cells) will be evaluated on a case by case basis and the credit amount will be equal to \$0.60 per kWh saved. Systems must be connected to home's main service panel and System installers must provide a warrantee covering all parts and labor of the system for two years.