



## **New Homes Program**

### **GUIDELINES**

*Effective January 24, 2007*



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## 1. Objective

The objective of **Efficiency NB's New Homes Program** is to promote the construction of highly efficient new homes, thereby helping New Brunswickers:

- reduce their energy consumption,
- save money through lower home heating costs, and
- lessen the impact of energy use on the environment.

## 2. The Program

The **New Homes Program** provides financial assistance to first owners of new homes that achieve an **EnerGuide** rating of at least **80** or are **R2000** certified.

### **2.1 The EnerGuide Rating Service and R2000 Certification**

The **EnerGuide** Rating Service and **R2000** certification are administered by the **Canadian Home Builders Association – NB (CHBA-NB)**, on behalf of Natural Resources Canada.

Under these programs:

- A homeowner or builder pays a program fee and submits their building plans to the CHBA-NB;
- The CHBA-NB reviews the building plans and advises of any changes required to ensure that an **EnerGuide** rating of at least 80 will be attained;
- The new home is built in accordance with the plans as reviewed and/or amended by the CHBA-NB;
- The new home is evaluated upon completion and receives a final, confirmed **EnerGuide** rating or **R2000** certification

### **2.2 Cost of the EnerGuide Rating Service and R2000 Certification**

Fees for the **EnerGuide** and **R2000** programs are set by the **CHBA-NB**, and are payable to the **CHBA-NB** at the time of submission of building plans.

### 3. Financial Incentives

After receiving an **EnerGuide** rating of at least **80** or **R2000** certification, the homeowner can apply for the following incentives:

#### 3.1 The Grant

There are three grant incentives available based on the primary heating source used in the home.

##### 3.1.1 Basic

A **\$1,000 grant** will be awarded for homeowners with electric baseboard as their primary heating source.

##### 3.2 Central Heating – Electric

A **\$2,000 grant** will be awarded for homeowners with electric central heating systems as their primary heating source.

##### 3.3 Central Heating – Non-Electric

A **\$3,000 grant** will be awarded for homeowners with non-electric central heating systems as their primary heating source.

#### 3.2 The ENERGY STAR® Bonus

A bonus of **\$250** is available to homeowners who:

1. Install energy efficient lighting in all applicable fixtures
2. Install at least **2** of the following **ENERGY STAR** rated appliances:
  - Refrigerator
  - Freezer
  - Clothes Washer

**The ENERGY STAR mark is administered and promoted in Canada by Natural Resources Canada and is registered in Canada by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.**

### **3.3 Application Process**

Eligible homeowners may apply to the **New Homes Program** anytime after the **EnerGuide** rating or **R2000** certification has been completed on their new home.

To apply for a grant, a homeowner must provide the following:

- a completed application form (including certification of heating system by the **EnerGuide** advisor or **R2000** file manager); and
- a copy of the home's **EnerGuide** label or **R2000** certificate.

To apply for the **ENERGY STAR Bonus**, a homeowner must provide originals or copies of receipts for their new **ENERGY STAR** appliances.

**Grant checks** are mailed directly to applicants within **2 weeks** of application approval.

## **4. Eligibility**

All owners of newly constructed residential properties are eligible to apply for the **New Homes Program**. Ownership includes landlords and non-profit organizations or trusts. Ownership **DOES NOT** include building contractors.

### **4.1 Eligible Homes**

To be eligible for a grant under the **New Homes Program**, a home must:

- be located in New Brunswick;
- be a single family home, row house or side-by-side duplex (this includes site-built and manufactured homes)
- have been occupied for no longer than 6 months and
- have attained an **EnerGuide** rating of at least **80**  
**OR**  
be **R2000** certified

A new home will be eligible only once under this program

Vacation properties and cottages are **NOT** eligible under this program.

## **4.2 Eligible Central Heating Systems**

### **4.2.1 Central Heating – Electric**

In order to qualify for a **Central heating – Electric**, a new home's primary heating system must be one of the following:

- forced air furnace
- hot water boiler
- **ENERGY STAR** air source heat pump with electric backup

### **4.2.2 Central Heating – Non-Electric**

In order to qualify for a **Central heating – Non-Electric** grant under this program, a new home's primary heating system must be one of the following:

#### **1. Natural gas:**

- **ENERGY STAR** forced air furnace or any furnace with an equivalent **AFUE**<sup>2</sup> rating (presently 90%)
- **ENERGY STAR** hot water boiler or any boiler with an equivalent **AFUE**<sup>2</sup> rating (presently 85%)

#### **2. Oil:**

- **ENERGY STAR** forced air furnace or any furnace with an equivalent **AFUE**<sup>2</sup> rating (presently 83% but scheduled to increase to 85% October 1, 2007)
- **ENERGY STAR** hot water boiler or any boiler with an equivalent **AFUE**<sup>2</sup> rating (presently 85%)

#### **3. Geothermal Heat Pump:**

- **CSA** rated with a **COP**<sup>3</sup> of at least **3.3** for closed loop systems, **3.5** for direct expansion systems and **3.6** for open loop systems, and be zoned for **Region V**.

#### **4. Air Source Heat Pump:**

- **ENERGY STAR** or a heat pump with a **HSPF**<sup>1</sup> of 7.1 or higher; with non-electric backup

## 5. Wood and Wood Pellet Furnaces:

- EPA-certified

Any system not specified above is NOT eligible for a **Central heating – Electric** or a **Central heating – Non-Electric** grant under this program.

<sup>1</sup> HSPF = Heating season performance factor

<sup>2</sup> AFUE = Annualized fuel utilization efficiency

<sup>3</sup> COP = Coefficient of performance

*Efficiency NB reserves the right to modify the above guidelines as it deems necessary from time to time.*