

What is New Home Construction?

New Home Construction is Nova Scotia's energy efficiency rebate program for new homes. It provides expert advice to help you make more informed choices and incentives to build more energy efficient homes.

How does the program work?

The intent of the program is to encourage energy efficiency upgrades that would not have happened otherwise. Therefore, the home needs to be registered before construction begins. Once registered, a certified energy evaluator will model the home's energy performance by reviewing the building plans.

The energy evaluator will recommend potential upgrades to reduce the home's energy use and then you decide which upgrades make sense for you. Once the home is built the energy evaluator conducts an on-site inspection to test the house and verify that the recommended measures were installed. Once this is completed, rebates are issued to the homeowner, or the owner may transfer the rebates to the builder in exchange for a reduced purchase price.

How to Take Part

The cost to you for the energy evaluation is \$300 + HST (the true cost for this evaluation is \$600 + HST, and Efficiency Nova Scotia pays the other half). You can register for the program with one of the following groups:

- AmeriSpec Home Inspection Service: 1-902-462-7883
- Nova Scotia Homebuilders' Association: 1-800-668-2001
- Sustainable Housing and Education Consultants: 1-877-722-2842

Program participation is limited. Once registered, you have one year from your registration date to complete construction of the home and have the final energy assessment performed. Either the builder or the homeowner may register the home, but the rebate will go to the owner unless the owner assigns the rebate to the builder.

Program Eligibility

New Home Construction is intended to inform and encourage builders and homeowners to make energy efficiency improvements to their new home plans. Following is the program eligibility:

1. The home's building permit is dated no more than 30 days before the date of application.
2. Homes must be completed and final energy evaluation performed within one year of the New Home Construction registration date.

What types of incentives are available?

If the home receives ENERGY STAR certification, the registration fee (\$300) is refunded to the registrant. As a bonus, any ENERGY STAR home that has a predicted usage of less than 19,000 kWh when modelled in software will receive an additional \$1500.

For Homeowners and builders that do not wish to pursue ENERGY STAR certification, a minimum EnerGuide rating of 85 must be reached to qualify for the \$300 assessment refund and \$1500 bonus for consuming less than 19,000 kWh.

This Rebate structure is effective **January 1st, 2014**

For more information please call 1-877-999-6035 or visit:

www.energycns.ca/newhomes