

ENERGY STAR

For homes being **RECONSTRUCTED** (i.e. new house being built), the Federal government requires that certain energy efficiency standards must be met. ENERGY STAR standards do not apply to rehabilitation projects. To determine what standards apply to your reconstruction, please reference the information below:

If you signed a contract with a contractor to reconstruct your home AFTER signing your RREM Grant, then your new home MUST be built to ENERGY STAR standards:

- To demonstrate compliance with this requirement, you must have an accredited Home Energy Rating System (HERS) rater, or other EPA approved verifier, complete and sign off on your *ENERGY STAR Plan Review Checklist Version 3.0*.
- The *Checklist* explicitly specifies energy efficiency features and construction details that demonstrate compliance with ENERGY STAR standards.
- The signed *Checklist* must be submitted to your RREM Program Manager with your first construction payment request.
- You can find a copy of the *Checklist* by visiting:
http://www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/bldrs_lenders_raters/downloads/DTEV3.pdf?a728-8db5

If you signed a contract with your contractor to reconstruct your home BEFORE signing your RREM Grant, then your new home DOES NOT need to be built to ENERGY STAR standards:

- However, you are encouraged to incorporate energy efficiency improvements for any remaining construction, to the extent feasible.
- You can use the *Green Building Retrofit Checklist Certification* as a guide to ensure materials installed in your home meet energy efficiency and indoor air quality product specifications.

If you are required to build to ENERGY STAR standards, please review these tips for meeting the required energy efficiency standards:

When designing your home:

- Include energy efficiency upgrades from the beginning. These include upgrades in energy efficient lighting, right-sized equipment, higher insulation levels, etc.
- **Speak with your architect/engineer about the checklist items before plans are drawn and have the *Energy Star Checklist* reviewed and signed by a certified professional.**
- Have your construction team visit www.energystar.gov for additional guidance regarding ENERGY STAR standards.

For the RREM Final Inspection, you should provide:

- A copy of the *Energy Star Plan Review Checklist* (if contract was signed after RREM grant award)
- Copies of appliance/equipment manufacturer's labels (collect from installer(s) and have on hand)
- Construction photos of the thermal barriers/air-sealing around windows, the insulation in the walls prior to installing drywall, insulation around pipes, etc. (either hard copy photos or a CD of digital photos from your contractor).
- See the www.energystar.gov for more information.