

## Alternative Compliance Paths for 2021 IECC/ASHRAE 90.1-2019

### Initial List 12-20-24

In HUD's 4/26/2024 final determination ([89 FR 33112](#)), HUD adopted the 2021 IECC and/or ASHRAE 90.1-2019 energy efficiency standards for certain HUD programs. HUD has determined that the following high performance building standards qualify as alternative compliance paths for the 2021 IECC and/or ASHRAE 90.1-2019.

*Additional standards may be added to this preliminary list if they are deemed equally or more efficient than the IECC and ASHRAE standards. Other standards not included in this preliminary list may be considered and interested parties are invited to provide documentation of alignment with the 2021 IECC and/or ASHRAE 90.1-2019. Please submit such documentation to [EnergyAction@hud.gov](mailto:EnergyAction@hud.gov).*

### Federally supported standards or current codes that offer compliance:

#### 1. Energy Star (EPA)

- Energy Star for Single Family New Construction (Version 3.2, 3.3\*, 3.4)
- Energy Star for Multifamily New Construction (Version 1.2, 1.3\*, 1.4)
- Energy Star Indoor AirPLUS Version 1 (Rev.04) (with minimum Energy Star Version 3.2/3.3\* or 1.2, 1.3\*)
- Energy Star Indoor AirPLUS Gold Version 2 (with Energy Star Version 3.2,3.3\* or 1.2,1.3\* baseline)
- Energy Star Next Gen Homes and Apartments 1.0 Rev.0

#### 2. Zero Energy Ready Homes (DOE)

- Zero Energy Ready Homes Multifamily Version 2
- Zero Energy Ready Homes Single Family Version 2

#### 3. Updated Energy Codes

- 2024 IECC
- ASHRAE 90.1-22

### Non-federal programs that embed or reference the above standards

#### 4. Enterprise Green Communities.

- Enterprise Green Communities Certification
  - Criterion 5.1a Must meet minimum Energy Star SFNC Version 3.2, MFNC Version 1.2, or California 3.4, 1.4
- Enterprise Green Communities Certification Plus
- Green Communities Certification Plus Zero Emissions

## 5. LEED:

Single Family:

- *LEED v4 BD+C: Homes with ENERGY STAR Single Family New Homes v3.2 or later (includes LEED v4 2024 Energy Update)*
- *LEED v4.1 Residential: Single Family with ENERGY STAR Single Family New Homes v3.2 or later*

Low-Rise Multifamily (< 4 stories):

- *LEED v4 BD+C: Homes with ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction v1.2 or later*
- *LEED v4.1 Residential: Single Family with ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction v1.2 or later (LEED v4.1 Residential: Single Family is available to projects with up to 4 dwelling units)*

Multifamily Residential (4+ Stories) options:

- *LEED v4 BD+C: Multifamily Midrise with 15 points achieved under EA Credit: Annual Energy Use prior to Home Size Adjustment*
- *LEED v4 Multifamily Midrise (2024 Update) with 10 points achieved under EA Credit: Annual Energy Use prior to Home Size Adjustment*
- *LEED v4 BD+C: New Construction or BD+C: Core and Shell with 8 points achieved under EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance*
- *LEED v4 BD+C: New Construction or BD+C: Core and Shell (2024 update) with 2 points achieved under EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance*
- *LEED v5 New Construction or Core and Shell (note, ASHRAE 90.1-2019 or 90.1-2022 compliance is mandatory for all LEED v5 NC or CS projects per EA Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Efficiency)*

## 6. ICC 700 National Green Building Standard

- 2020 NGBS Green - Emerald for Energy Efficiency
- 2020 NGBS – Additional levels TBD, under review
- 2020 Alternate Compliance Option (single family): Must achieve Energy Star SFNC Version 3.2 or 3.3,\* or Zero Energy Ready Home Version 2.0
- 2020 Alternate Compliance Option (Multifamily) : Must achieve Energy Star MFNC Version 1.2 or 1.3,\* or Zero Energy Ready Multifamily 1.2
- 2025 NGBS levels with minimum 2021 IECC
- 2025 NGBS Silver, Gold, Emerald Alternate Compliance Option (Pending release)

## 7. Passive House (Phius)

- Phius 2024 CORE (Single Family and Multifamily)

- Phius 2024 ZERO (Single Family and Multifamily)

#### 8. Earth Advantage

- Earth Advantage Multifamily (Silver, Gold, Platinum)
- Earth Advantage Multifamily Zero Energy Ready
- Earth Advantage Multifamily Zero Energy
- Earth Advantage Multifamily Zero Energy Plus

#### 9. Earthcraft

- Earthcraft House - Performance Badge (single family)
- Earthcraft Multifamily - Platinum (multifamily)

#### 10. Living Building Challenge

- Living Certification 4.1
- Core Certification 4.1
- Petal Certification (Energy) 4.1
- Zero Carbon Certification 1.1

#### 11. Pearl

- Pearl Zero Emissions (Single Family)

#### 12. Green Globes

- Green Globes HUD Multifamily for New Construction
- Green Globes Multifamily for New Construction with Net Zero
- Green Globes Multifamily Performance Plus with Journey to Net zero (NC+JNZ)
  - Green Globes Journey to Net Zero Energy (NZE)
  - Green Globes Journey to Net Zero Carbon (NZC)  
Note: ASHRAE 90.1 compliance paths only.
- New January 2025: Green Globes Multifamily with Net Zero NC (v.3.0)

#### 13. BREEAM

- BREEAM New Construction Version 7 (pending 2025 release).

#### 14. Passive House PHI

- TBD

15. GreenPoint Rated

- Greenpoint Rated New Home Multifamily Versions 9, 9.1

16. Home Energy Rating System (HERS)

- TBD

\*Energy Star Version 3.3. HUD will accept Energy Star Versions 3.3 (Single Family) and 1.3 (multifamily) on publication by EPA.

Note On Above Certifications. To best understand the programs included in this list, it is important to point out that there are two Federally-supported standards that are specifically designed to exceed current energy codes by at least 10%. The first, EPA's Energy Star, provides the baseline certification for the second, DOE's Zero Energy Ready Homes. Newer versions of EPA's Energy Star program, and correspondingly DOE's Zero Energy Ready Homes Program, are updated on an on-going basis to reflect the publication of newer codes on a three-year cycle. It follows that any non-government program that also embeds requirements for certification of the most current EPA's Energy Star program will logically exceed the energy code as well.

Builders may be incentivized by varying federal, state, and local funding streams, tax credits or other mechanisms that require these programs and should work closely with owners and developers to best maximize these opportunities