

ENERGY STAR® New Homes Program Overview



The ENERGY STAR® New Homes Program promotes the benefits of homes with high levels of comfort, indoor air quality, and energy efficiency achieved through a set of guidelines developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and verified according to the Home Energy Rating System (HERS). The Services and Incentives offered help you build an ENERGY STAR Qualified Home—a home nationally recognized for greater value, lower operating costs, increased durability, comfort, and safety.

New homes that are heated with an Ameren Illinois fuel source (natural gas or electricity) are eligible for incentives through the ENERGY STAR New Homes Program. Working in partnership with the builder, a participating HERS Rater will assess the energy efficiency of the new home and provide on-site verification services. The home will be assessed using the ENERGY STAR Performance Path. This is a flexible approach that allows a builder to “trade off” certain energy efficiency features to achieve a computer-modeled, performance-based benchmark.

ENERGY STAR New Homes Program Benefits and Services include:

- ✓ ENERGY STAR New Homes Qualification
- ✓ Energy modeling, design assistance
- ✓ On-site training
- ✓ Co-marketing with ENERGY STAR and ActOnEnergy®
- ✓ Verification report for Federal Tax Credits
- ✓ LEED® for Homes point verification

Incentives:

Each ENERGY STAR qualified home is eligible for incentives as follows:

- Ameren Illinois natural gas heat with other electric utility: \$450 base incentive
- Ameren Illinois natural gas heat with Ameren Illinois electric: \$750 base incentive
- Ameren Illinois electric heat: \$750 base incentive
- Bonus incentives:
 - HERS Index 71-85: Base incentive (\$450 or \$750)
 - HERS Index 56-70: Double incentive (\$900 or \$1,500)
 - HERS Index 55 or less: Triple Incentive (\$1,350 or \$2,250)

Process:

1. The Builder signs the Ally Agreement with Ameren Illinois (one-time only).
2. The Builder selects a participating HERS Rater and completes the EPA Partnership Agreement.
3. The Rater reviews the home plans and works with the builder to make any needed changes to ensure the home will meet the minimum program requirements.
4. The Rater or Builder enrolls the Project in the ENERGY STAR New Homes Program.
5. The Builder and Rater receive an Enrollment Confirmation from Ameren Illinois verifying enrollment.
6. The Rater conducts the required site inspections and testing to verify the home meets both program and ENERGY STAR requirements.
7. The Rater submits a Data Collection Form and the REM/Rate™ file to Ameren Illinois.
8. Incentives are paid by Ameren Illinois to the Builder.

