

Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals

Monthly Project Bulletin: April 2012

This bulletin is your monthly source for project updates on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project. This issue covers:

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Questions?

Send any questions about the Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project to workforce.guidelines@nrel.gov.

The project team will review all questions and provide feedback via personal response, the monthly bulletin, or the [Guidelines website](#).

Pilot Certification Open: Register Now

The Building Performance Institute, Inc. (BPI) recently announced **four new Home Energy Professional certifications** for the nation's weatherization and home performance workforce. These certifications focus on the most common job classifications in the home energy upgrade industry: **energy auditor, retrofit installer, crew leader, and quality control inspector**.

BPI will pilot written and field practical exams for the new certifications beginning in June. The results of the pilot test cycle will be used to set passing scores for the national exams, scheduled to roll out this fall.

Registration information, exam prerequisites and FAQs for the pilot certification exams are available at: www.bpi.org/pilot. Scheduling for pilot exams will begin in May 2012, yet due to the length of application processing time, **interested individuals should apply now**.

Update on Voluntary Standard Work Specifications for Energy Upgrades

Industry and public collaboration is essential to the success and effectiveness of the Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project. The standard work specifications for the three housing types are available as follows:

- Public review of the Standard Work Specifications for **Multifamily** Energy Upgrades opened on March 12, 2012. This review will remain open until **May 4, 2012**.
- Public review of the Standard Work Specifications for **Single-Family** Energy Upgrades opened on March 29, 2012. This review will remain open until **May 15, 2012**. Additionally, users can view all [submitted and integrated comments](#) from the first review period.
- Final public review of the Standard Work Specifications for **Manufactured Housing** Energy Upgrades will begin in **mid-May 2012**.

To review these documents, please create an account using the [new commenting tool](#).

Revised Retrofit Installer Technician JTAs

The [Job Task Analyses](#) (JTAs) developed under the Guidelines project, describe the knowledge, skills and abilities required to perform four specific jobs—residential energy auditor, retrofit installer, crew leader, and

quality control inspector—at a high level of competency, and were developed in accordance with industry-recognized practices for workforce evaluation. Recently, the Retrofit Installer Technician JTAs underwent a minor revision to address a few technical inconsistencies that users identified. [Download the revised version](#), which includes a summary of changes, from the [Guidelines website](#).

Upcoming Conferences and Events

Interested in speaking with the Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project team? We will be presenting at the following conferences and events:

- [Energy OutWest](#)
- [New York Contractor Exchange](#)

Additionally, [Sustainable Ideas](#) is offering a **4-part webinar series**, providing specific information on the impact and benefits of the new home energy performance certifications. Get all of your questions answered and learn more about the advantages of either taking the certification exam yourself, or having your employees certified.

- April 18, 2012 - [Building Sales with Certification Webinar: Energy Auditor](#) (recorded presentation)
- April 25, 2012 – [Building Sales with Certification Webinar: Retrofit Installer Technician](#)
- May 2, 2012 – [Building Sales with Certification Webinar: Crew Leader](#)
- May 9, 2012 – [Building Sales with Certification Webinar: QC Inspector](#)

Project Testimonial

"The standard work specifications are a bold and important step for our industry — to build consistency and accuracy for homeowners and investors alike!"

— Amy Fazio, Executive Director of Affordable Comfort Inc. (ACI)

About the Project

The Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project is a collaboration between DOE and industry to support high-quality home energy upgrade work through standard work specifications, accredited training programs, and voluntary national worker certifications.

Learn more about the [Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project](#).

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