



ENERGY STAR® New Homes Program

The ENERGY STAR New Homes rebate program offered by Xcel Energy can assist Colorado builders like you in constructing more energy-efficient homes. The program offers builders up to \$2,700 in incentives with the construction of a qualifying home.

How the program works

To qualify, your new-construction home needs to be located in Xcel Energy's natural gas service and enrolled by an Xcel Energy-approved RESNET certified Home Energy Rating System (HERS) rater. Your HERS rater will assess and measure the home's energy efficiency and provide the required home information to Xcel Energy. A HERS index score, an industry standard for measuring residential energy efficiency, will be determined by your rater for each enrolled home.

Xcel Energy's program implementer, Residential Science Resources (RSR), can help you find a rater in your area or answer any questions you may have about the program.

Xcel Energy is an ENERGY STAR program sponsor and recognizes the benefits of building homes that are ENERGY STAR certified. Homes qualifying for the Xcel Energy ENERGY STAR New Homes program are not required to achieve ENERGY STAR certification; however, builders can earn a bonus rebate for ENERGY STAR certified homes.

What your HERS rater will do for you

Your HERS rater will provide building science consulting service and quality control assistance before, during and after construction.

Before you build: Your HERS rater will review your building plans and determine if the home is on track to perform at an optimal level of energy efficiency and durability and meet the Xcel Energy ENERGY STAR New Homes program requirements.

During construction: Your rater conducts up to two site inspections—before and after insulation—to assess quality control and offer suggestions and tips on how to maintain an airtight envelope and manage any problem areas. Your rater will inspect each house under construction against the Thermal Enclosure System guidelines in the Rater Field Checklist created by the EPA's ENERGY STAR program. Each inspection is customized for the individual home and detailed comprehensive reports are available from your rater for your review.

Final site inspection: At the completion of the construction process, your rater will return for a final site inspection to complete the HERS rating process and ensure the home is qualified for the ENERGY STAR New Home rebate.

ENERGY STAR New Homes program incentives

HERS rating performance rebate

The HERS rater uses REM/Rate or other Xcel Energy approved software modeling tool, to compare the as-built home's energy consumption to that of a reference home built to the minimum code requirements for your local jurisdiction. The difference in energy



Get a \$100 bonus with ENERGY STAR certification

To earn the bonus rebate the home must meet the following criteria:

- Must have both Xcel Energy natural gas and electric service in Colorado
- Must qualify for a "Percent Better Than Local Code" rebate; and
- Must earn the ENERGY STAR label; label must be affixed to the breaker box



savings between the as-built home and the reference home is converted to a “better-than-code percentage.” The more energy efficient the home is, the higher the percent improvement over code, and the higher the rebate will be. The HERS index determined by your HERS rater is not used to determine the rebate award but is a valuable tool or way to communicate the home’s efficiency to potential home buyers.

Additional add-on rebates

Builders who are eligible for a “Percent Better Than Local Code” rebate can also receive a rebate for installing any combination of ENERGY STAR-qualified appliances and lighting. Homes that receive only natural gas service from Xcel Energy are not eligible for the ENERGY STAR refrigerator or high-efficiency lighting rebates.

Your HERS rater will confirm that the appliance is installed, and will document the model specifications. The information is then submitted to Xcel Energy on your behalf.

Thinking about building a zero energy ready home?

A zero energy ready (ZER) home is a highly energy-efficient home that incorporates added features that make it ready for the installation of a PV system in the future. The high performance and PV ready features optimize the size and installed cost of the PV system and ensure that the buyer receives the maximum benefit at the lowest cost.

The Department of Energy offers a zero energy ready program that can provide additional information at buildings.energy.gov/zero.

Xcel Energy offers two rooftop solar programs. Solar applications typically are managed by the solar installer and are submitted as either customer owned, or third party owned projects, depending on the parties’ agreement.

- **Solar*Rewards®** - Through the incentivized Solar*Rewards program, earn production-based incentives (PBIs) and net metering credits for installing on-site solar energy. The PBIs are paid to the owner of the solar system for all the kWhs of energy produced by the system each month, and the homeowner receives the net-metering benefits on their monthly utility bill. Xcel Energy is assigned all the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) for these PV projects.
- **Net Metering** - Also referred to as the Non-Solar*Rewards program. Install on-site solar and the homeowner receives net metering credits on their utility bill for excess solar energy they’re not using. The homeowner keeps all the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) for their own use.

Learn more at xcelenergy.com/solar

Percent better than local code

2009 IECC or lower	Rebate
10% – 14.999%	\$200
15% – 19.999%	\$350
20% – 24.999%	\$500
25% – 29.999%	\$650
30% – 34.999%	\$800
35% – 39.999%	\$1,000
40% and higher	\$1,400

Percent better than local code

2012 IECC or higher	Rebate
10% – 14.999%	\$250
15% – 19.999%	\$400
20% – 24.999%	\$600
25% – 29.999%	\$900
30% – 34.999%	\$1,300
35% – 39.999%	\$2,000
40% and higher	\$2,550

ENERGY STAR Appliance Rebates

Appliance/lamp	Rebate
ENERGY STAR clothes washer	\$30
ENERGY STAR refrigerator	\$10
High efficiency lighting – 200 IECC or lower with CFL or LEDs (minimum 20 lamps)	\$20
High efficiency lighting – 2012 IECC or higher with 100% high efficiency CFLs or LEDs	\$10

Find an approved rater in your area

You can find an approved HERS rater by calling RSR at **844.802.4443**.

The ENERGY STAR New Homes program is available in Xcel Energy’s natural gas service territory. To verify whether your new home is located within one of our service areas, please call **844.802.4443**.