

# NHSaves Rebate Guide

Qualifying and applying for the New Hampshire Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program

## Stuck? Confused? Ask for Help!

The following **NHSaves program contacts** receive and accept NHSaves rebate applications for your electric utility. They can answer questions about your NHSaves application and (if applicable) confirm your status on the rebate wait list.

**Liberty Utilities:** Deanna Bennett (deanna@horizon-res.com, 603-369-4834)

**Eversource:** Gordon Tuttle (gordon.tuttle@eversource.com, 603-634-2605)

**New Hampshire Electric Coop:** Phil LaMoreaux (lamoreauxp@nhec.com, 603.536.8856)

## What you **NEED TO KNOW** about the NHSaves Weatherization Rebate



The NHSaves Home Performance with ENERGY STAR weatherization rebate program is part of a statewide suite of NHSaves energy efficiency programs delivered through New Hampshire's electric utilities, including Eversource, Liberty Utilities, and New Hampshire Electric Coop.

### Eligibility for Weatherization Rebates:

- **Energy Use:** Your home must use above a certain amount of energy per square foot, determined by a simple online calculator at [energyaudit.nhsaves.com](http://energyaudit.nhsaves.com).
- **Fuel Use Records:** You must provide records for at least 12 months of heating fuel usage. Two years of records is preferred. See **page three** for detailed instructions.
- **Contractor:** You must have the work completed by an NHSaves participating contractor (this includes all of the NH contractors on our Weatherize Hanover list).
- **Income:** There is no income limit for the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program. A separate NHSaves Home Energy Assistance is available for low-income residents. Call your NHSaves program contact to learn more (contacts listed above).



**Incentives:** NHSaves will charge you \$100 for your energy audit (which is credited toward your project if you move forward), pay 50% of your project cost up to \$4,000 in rebates, and offer 0% and 2% loans to cover remaining project cost. Rebates can be used toward air sealing, insulation, and other approved upgrades.

**Deadlines:** Each year's funding pool begins on January 1 and is available on a first-come-first-serve basis. If funding runs out, eligible residents will be placed on a wait list.

### Basic Process:

1. Find out if you qualify using the NHSaves calculator at [energyaudit.nhsaves.com](http://energyaudit.nhsaves.com) (instructions on Pg. 2).
2. Submit a 1-page application with fuel use records to validate your eligibility.
3. NHSaves assigns you to a pre-approved contractor and sets aside rebate funding for you.
4. Get your energy audit and decide on a work scope.
5. NHSaves approves your work scope.
6. NHSaves pays the contractor directly, so all you have to pay is your co-pay.

## Your **FIRST STEP**: Find out if you qualify for rebates

Use the online NHSaves Home Heating Index to find out if you qualify:

[energyaudit.nhsaves.com](http://energyaudit.nhsaves.com)

*NOTE: the calculator only accepts **two fuel sources** at a time. If you use more than two heating fuels, see page three for special instructions.*

If you use enough energy to qualify, you will be invited to sign up for a home energy audit by completing an enrollment form.

If you do NOT use enough energy to qualify, go

ahead and contact a contractor directly to schedule an energy audit on your own. After your energy audit your contractor will double check whether you can qualify for rebates, just in case. NHSaves may also offer you a separate "Visual Audit" at no cost, conducted by CLEAResult, including a home walk-through and free installation of basic energy saving items (e.g. LED bulbs, low-flow shower heads, pipe wrap).



### Enroll For Home Efficiency Audit

Complete and submit your enrollment form. For more information about our energy audits and weatherization program, [click here](#).

PROCEED TO ENROLLMENT FORM

## How do I calculate my conditioned square footage?

Conditioned square footage is the areas of your home that you heat in the wintertime. For most homes, this is the same as the "Finished Square Footage" on your property tax assessment. Hanover residents can find their property tax assessment online at <https://property.spatalest.com/nh/hanover/#/>. Be aware that finished basements and areas of the home where you keep the thermostat set very low all winter must still be counted.

## What fuel use records are acceptable?

**Delivered fuel** – If you have a company deliver fuel to your house, call and ask them to send you a summary of your fuel deliveries (amount of fuel delivered on specific dates, not amount paid) from the past two years. Or send copies of each individual delivery bill.



**Propane** – Lots of people use propane for heating AND hot water, cooking, and/or clothes drying. That's OK. Go ahead and include ALL your propane use.



**Cord wood** – Most people don't have any written record of their cord wood usage. As proof of your claimed annual cord wood usage, NHSaves will accept a photograph of your woodpile AND a photograph of your woodstove.

**Bagged wood pellets** – Most people don't keep receipts when they purchase bagged wood pellets. Submit any receipts you do have. And as proof of your claimed annual wood pellet usage, NHSaves will accept a photograph of where you store your pellet bags AND a photograph of your pellet stove.

**Electricity** – If your heating includes electric resistance baseboard heat or heat pumps, do NOT enter your total electric usage into the rebate eligibility calculator. Instead, determine how much electricity you use each month when the heat is not running, then subtract that "baseload" from all 12 months of the year to determine approximately how much electricity you use for heating. If you are unsure, contact the NHSaves program contact at your electric utility for help (contact info at the top of Page 1).

**Space Heaters** – You are not allowed to list temporarily installed heating sources like space heaters as a heating fuel source to help you qualify for rebates.

## What if I use three or more fuels for heating?

The online calculator can only take two fuel sources. However, NHSaves can accept as many fuel sources as you need. You just need to call your electric utility program contact directly so they can crunch the numbers for you on the back end. Their contact information is listed at the top of page 1.

## What if the calculator says I don't qualify, but I'm RIGHT on the line?

There are many reasons your home may not qualify for NHSaves incentives, including keeping the thermostat low (and therefore using less fuel), using more than two types of fuel that you were unable to account for, or seasonal occupancy. It is also possible that you did not enter your square footage accurately or forgot to include one of your heating fuel types. Contact your NHSaves program representative if you have questions or concerns about your eligibility.

If you go ahead with your energy audit, your contractor will do everything they can to help you find cost effective energy efficiency improvements and qualify for rebates if possible. Our NH-based Weatherize Hanover partner contractors are experts at helping homeowners qualify for the NHSaves rebate if at all possible.

## Your **SECOND STEP**: Submit your enrollment form

After clicking "**Proceed to Enrollment Form**" (if invited to do so) will be taken to the **Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program Application** and fill in all the fields. This includes:

- ✓ Contact Information
- ✓ Your electric utility account number
- ✓ Your primary heat and hot water fuel type
- ✓ Basic information about your home (age, # of occupants, etc)

You will also be asked to **upload images of your heating bills from the past 12 months**. If you prefer to mail in your fuel records, skip this step and continue filling out the application and select "Print and Mail" at the end. See page three for tips on what fuel records are acceptable.

**You will be assigned a pre-approved contractor unless you request otherwise.** If you wish to request a specific contractor, select that contractor from the "Auditor" drop down menu next to the signature field.

When you're done, you have **two options for submitting your application**:

**SUBMIT (DIGITAL)**

**SUBMIT (PRINT & MAIL)**

**In BOTH cases:**

- Your electric utility will receive a copy of your application by email immediately.
- Your electric utility program contact will contact you (typically by email) to confirm they received your application and request any missing documentation.
- Your application will not be accepted without heating fuel use documentation.

**If you submit digitally**, you will be redirected back to the "Check Your Eligibility" page, with a message saying "*The heating index report has been submitted successfully.*"

**If you select "print and mail,"** the system will generate a PDF document for you to print, sign, and mail in. That document will include an address to which you can mail your application and fuel bills.