



NEW YORK ENERGY STAR® CERTIFIED HOMES

# New Home Buyer FAQs

## GET THE FAST FACTS AT A GLANCE

Use this quick resource to find the answers you seek and discover why a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home is the right choice for you.

## What is a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home?

New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes are new homes or apartments built to a standard higher than the New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code requires. They are designed to use less energy than traditional homes or apartments while maintaining comfortable indoor temperatures.

## Why is a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home important to me?

New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes provide superior comfort and safety and deliver operational savings year after year. In addition, New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes can be built to any size, style or budget, which puts the opportunity to enjoy these benefits within reach.



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## What makes a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home different from a traditional home?

Four key components characterize a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home:

- **Less Energy:** New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes are designed to use significantly less energy than conventionally built homes because of energy-saving features, including high-quality insulation, high-performance windows and doors, high-efficiency heating and cooling systems and energy-saving appliances and lighting.
- **Performance Tested:** Each New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home must satisfy a stringent evaluation, including home inspections which incorporate diagnostic performance testing, supported by computer-based analysis of energy use. Only homes meeting specific high-efficiency requirements can be designated as New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes.
- **Safety, Health and Comfort:** At the core of every New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home is a tightly built structure and properly designed and installed heating, ventilation and air conditioning system that improve air quality and keep the home warm in the winter, cool in the summer and free from uncomfortable drafts.
- **Real Savings:** New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes provide homeowners with recurring savings on energy costs, which helps lower overall home operating expenses.

## Will a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home cost more than a conventional home?

New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes can be built to meet any size, style or budget. They generally cost one to three percent more than a standard home, but are designed to be more energy efficient and require less maintenance, so homeowners save on energy costs each year.

### How can I learn more about building a New York ENERGY STAR Certified Home?

To learn more about New York ENERGY STAR Certified Homes or locate a builder near you, visit <http://nyserda.ny.gov/NYES-Home> or call 1-866-NYSERDA.

