

Understanding Wisconsin's ENERGY PROGRAMS

How do I participate?



Home Energy Plus is the umbrella program that includes Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) and Weatherization Services—offering the highest levels of rebates and incentives for eligible households.

1. Check income eligibility for Energy Assistance.

Use the QR code to the right OR visit energyandhousing.wi.gov, click "Energy" and then "Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)" to view eligibility table. If your household qualifies, go to Step 2 (If you don't, skip to Step 8).



2. Apply for Energy Assistance.

Start your application using the QR code to the right OR visit energybenefit.wi.gov.

Energy Assistance is the first step to participate in all Home Energy Plus programs, including Weatherization.



3. Automatic referral for Weatherization.

If you qualify for energy assistance, you'll automatically be placed on a waiting list to determine eligibility for Weatherization Services. The waiting period can be 6–9 months.

4. Contact from Project Home.

When you reach the top of the waiting list, Project Home—the Dane County Weatherization provider—will call you to schedule a home assessment.

5. Home assessment. During the visit, Project Home will:

- Evaluate your home for weatherization opportunities to determine if you meet the minimum energy savings requirements for eligibility.
- Check for home health and safety issues such as mold—these are called pre-weatherization services, and you may qualify for them before full weatherization work begins.

6. Pre-weatherization (if needed).

If your home needs pre-weatherization work, Project Home will connect you with the appropriate program to address those issues first.

7. Weatherization next steps.

If your home is approved for Weatherization:

- Project Home will schedule the next phase of work with you.
- This step can take an additional several weeks, based on scheduling and program demand.

8. If your home is not eligible.

If your home doesn't qualify for Weatherization, you can still apply for Home Energy Rebates.

Focus on Energy IRA Home Energy Rebates – HOMES & HEAR

As part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Wisconsin has been allocated \$149 million for Home Energy Rebates, including Home Efficiency Rebates (HOMES) and Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (HEAR). Focus on Energy was selected to deliver these programs.

1. Complete Income Qualification.

[Watch a video about the Income Qualification Process using the QR Code or visiting \[focusonenergy.com/home-energy-rebates\]\(http://focusonenergy.com/home-energy-rebates\).](#)



Use the QR code to the right to start the pre-qualification process or visit focusonenergy.com/home-energy-rebates. If you qualify, a message confirming your eligibility will appear on your screen. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select Continue to make an account.

- **Sign into or create your account.** If you already have an account, select Sign In. If not, add your name, address, contact and sign-in information. When you're done, select Accept & Continue at the bottom of your screen. Write down your login email and password for future use.
- **Apply.** Upon Signing in, a 6-step application should pop up on your screen. Submit your household, energy bill, and income information. You'll need:
 - The name of every household member.
 - An energy bill showing your account number.
 - Proof of income for each household member who earns income (such as IRS Form 1040, W-2, or a pay stub from the month before you apply).
 - When you're done, select Submit to finish your application.
- **Confirm receipt.** You should receive a confirmation email right after submitting your application—check your spam or junk folder if you don't see it.
- **Approval email.** You should receive an email within one week with your approval details. If you don't hear back within one week, follow up using one of the following methods.
 - Call Focus on Energy at 800-762-7077, email iraher@focusonenergy.com, or log in to your Focus on Energy account and check your application status under the Applications tab.
- **For HEAR next steps, flip the sheet over. For HOMES, go to Step 2.**

2. Get an energy assessment.

Once your application is accepted and you receive your approval email, choose a home energy assessor (or select from the list your Guide provides). A home energy assessment must be done before any work is started.

- There is a cost for the assessment. Low-income households are eligible for up to a \$500 rebate to help cover the cost.
- Assessments take about two hours—be home and ready to discuss possible upgrades.

3. Review and approve your plan.

Your assessor will provide a report with their findings and a proposed scope of work. Review and sign to confirm your selected improvements.

4. Select your IRA Registered Contractor(s).

- Continue with the same IRA Registered Contractor who completed your assessment, or
- Hire a different IRA Registered Contractor to complete the improvements.

5. Complete the work.

Construction will be carried out according to the approved scope of work.

6. Post-construction evaluation and final report.

A site evaluation will be conducted to verify completion and quality of work. You'll get a summary of the completed improvements and confirmation of your rebate eligibility.

Focus on Energy IRA Home Energy Rebates – HEAR, cont.

1. If you have completed Step 1 on the flip side of this sheet, go to Step 2; if not do that first.

2. Select your IRA Registered Contractor and/or Qualifying Equipment.

Now that you know what rebates you are qualified for, there are two options to participate in HEAR.

- **Use an IRA Registered Contractor.** Most HEAR rebates will require working with an IRA Registered Contractor. These trusted program partners help you choose the best qualifying equipment for your home. They will guide you through the program and install qualifying HVAC equipment, electrical upgrades, insulation, air sealing, and more.
- **Install or Purchase Equipment Yourself.** If your HEAR project involves upgrading qualifying kitchen or laundry equipment or self-installing an ENERGY STAR® electric heat pump water heater, you can purchase from any store or website that carries qualifying products. Stores may offer an instant discount; where, the purchase price is reduced. Or a post-purchase rebate. After you make your purchase, you will fill out your rebate request online and receive a check in the mail.

3. Install equipment.

Install your new energy-efficient equipment yourself or have your IRA Registered Contractor complete the installation.

4. Get the rebate.

Your rebate may come as an instant discount on your invoice or mailed to you as a check. Otherwise, return to focusonenergy.com/ira-hear, to submit your rebate information. Be sure to keep your proof of purchase and installation information and return to submit your rebate for your store purchase.

Note: One street address may not receive a rebate from both IRA Home Efficiency Rebates (HOMES) and HEAR for the same upgrade type. Projects receiving rebates from either of these programs may also be eligible to receive Focus on Energy rebates.

Retroactive Rebates

Retroactive rebates are not available for HEAR.

Other Ways to Save

IRA Home Energy Rebates are not the only ways to save on your home energy projects. You may be eligible for other programs, including Focus on Energy rebates and discounts, the Weatherization Assistance Program, and tax credits.

Plus, you can combine many of these with IRA Home Energy Rebates for even more savings! The Get Started tool at focusonenergy.com/get-started will help you identify what you are eligible for.