



Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative (SMECO)
Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Program

Rebate and Incentive Instructions

SMECO.coop/save



Rebate and Incentive Instructions

Application Instructions	1
Rebate Requirements	2
Comprehensive Home Energy Audit	2
Air Sealing and Insulation	2
Air Sealing.....	3
Attic Flat Insulation.....	3
Attic Slope Insulation.....	4
Attic Kneewall Insulation.....	4
Exterior Above-Grade Wall Insulation.....	5
Band Joist Insulation.....	5
Cantilever Floor Insulation.....	6
Gas Tankless Water Heater Rebate	6
HVAC Rebates	7
Central AC and Air-Source Heat Pumps.....	7
Gas Furnaces.....	7
Duct Sealing.....	7
Quality Installation.....	8
Diagnostic Tune-Up.....	8
Direct-Install Measure Requirements	8
CFLs.....	8
Electric Water Heater Tank Wrap.....	9
Water Heater Pipe Insulation.....	9
Efficient-Flow Showerheads.....	9
Faucet Aerators.....	9

Application Instructions

1. Submit your application.

- Create a Beacon Home Energy Advisor record. Include all of the recommendations that you made after the audit. Then, in the Update Measures screen, uncheck the recommendations that the customer did not accept.
- Use your scope of work to complete the Rebate Application. If you are applying for a rebate, you must show that the existing and final condition requirements will be met using the Rebate Worksheet. The requirements are described in the contractor guidebook and in the Rebate Requirements, which are available from your Account Manager. If any work does not meet those requirements, do not include it in the amount that you submit for a rebate. If you do, your application will be rejected and you will need to correct it.
- Scan (PDF) a signed copy of the Rebate Application, including the Terms and Conditions, the Rebate Worksheet, and a signed copy of your scope of work.
- Send your Account Manager an email with the following PDF documents:
 - Signed Rebate Application (attached to email)
 - Rebate Worksheet (attached to email)
 - Signed scope of work (attached to email)
 - Scenario number for Beacon HEA record (no PDF required)
- Your Account Manager will review your submission and let you know whether or not it is accepted. If they have any questions, you will need to provide answers before they can approve your application.

2. Perform the work.

- Work must be completed to meet program standards and the submitted application and contract before it will be approved for payment. If changes to the scope of work require changing the application or contract, you must scan and send your Account Manager a signed copy of the Change Order Form and update the Beacon HEA record. Failure to do this or to meet program requirements will cause the application to be rejected.

3. Send your test-out results.

- Once you have completed the job, scan a signed copy of the Test-Out Form and send it to your Account Manager. Your Account Manager will let you know if your application has been approved.

Comprehensive Home Energy Audit (CHEA) Rebate

Customer Rebate

- \$250

Rebate Requirements

- Customer must accept work that constitutes a Home Performance job
- Home Performance work must begin within 6 months of CHEA date

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Home Performance work begins more than 6 months after a CHEA without inspections confirming preexisting conditions.

Air Sealing and Insulation Rebate

Customer Rebate

- 15% of eligible work cost up to \$1,000
- This includes work described below for:
 - Air sealing
 - Attic flat insulation
 - Attic slope insulation (space-constrained assemblies)
 - Attic accesses (hatches and drop-down stairs)
 - Attic kneewall insulation (vertical attic walls)
 - Exterior above-grade wall insulation
 - Band joist insulation

Air Sealing and Insulation Rebate (continued)

Air sealing

Rebate Requirements

- Reduce air leakage $\geq 20\%$ (CFM₅₀)

Examples of Eligible Work

- Blower door-guided air sealing
- Boxing and air sealing recessed lights
- Air sealing rim joists
- Backing kneewalls, dense-packing walls
- Dense-packing cantilevers
- Installing blocking in joist bays between cantilever floors and conditioned space or between a bonus room and an unconditioned attic
- Gasketing an attic hatch or door
- Attic hatch cover (must be airtight)

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Insulating rim joist (unless insulation is spray foam)
- Sealing duct joints
- Replacing a door

Attic flat insulation

Existing Condition Requirements

- $\leq R-22$
 - 6" cellulose
 - 8" blown fiberglass
 - 12" fiberglass batts (fair)

Final Condition Requirements

- $\geq R-38$ (total R-value of initial and installed insulation)

Examples of Eligible Work

- Blowing additional insulation
- Building attic hatch dam to permit full-depth insulation up to hatch perimeter
- Installing baffles at soffit vents to permit additional insulation

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Adding insulation that does not raise the final R-value to R-38

Air Sealing and Insulation Rebate (continued)

Attic flat insulation – Hatch requirements

Existing Condition Requirements

- \leq R-22.

Final Condition Requirements

- \geq R-30
- Air sealed/weather-stripped
- Fiberglass batts insulation or rigid foam board insulation should be attached to the door with liquid nail, spray adhesive, or caulking.
- To prevent loose-fill insulation falling through opening, a box shall be constructed.
- Box may be framed with wood, plywood, or rigid insulation. A cardboard box is not acceptable.

Examples of Eligible Work

- Weather-stripping and insulated with R-30 batts or rigid insulation

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Insulation less than R-30 attached to attic hatch
- Batts or rigid insulation not attached to attic hatch
- Batts or rigid board glued or stapled to attic hatch

Attic flat insulation – Drop-down staircase requirements

Existing Condition Requirements

- Existing insulation, if present, must be below R-22.

Final Condition Requirements

- Weather-stripped and insulated to a minimum of R-10
- Insulating boxes can be constructed of rigid foamboard or can be purchased
- Weather-stripping and/or insulation shall not prevent easy operation of stairs
- Box may be framed with wood, plywood, or rigid insulation. A cardboard box is not acceptable.

Examples of Eligible Work

- Weather-stripping and insulated to a minimum of R-10

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Insulating to less than R-10

Attic slope insulation (space-constrained attic assemblies)

Existing Condition Requirements

- \leq R-10

Final Condition Requirements

- \geq R-19 to R-38, as space allows

Examples of Eligible Work

- Insulating cavities to at least R-19 that are not deep enough to permit \geq R-38

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Insulating sloped surfaces to R-19 that could be insulated to a higher level

Air Sealing and Insulation Rebate (continued)

Attic kneewall insulation

Existing Condition Requirements

- ≤ R-10

Final Condition Requirements

- ≥ R-13
- Rigid backside air barrier
- Insulation fills cavity

Examples of Eligible Work

- Cutting access to insulate and back kneewall
- Blowing attic kneewalls
- Installing full-depth fiberglass batts
- Installing a rigid backside air barrier

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Blowing kneewalls using mesh fabric to enclose the cavity
- Backing a kneewall with kraft paper or a flexible radiant barrier

Attic kneewall insulation – Hatch requirements

Existing Condition Requirements

- ≤ R-10

Final Condition Requirements

- ≥ R-13
- Air sealed/weather-stripped
- Insulation fills cavity to maintain permanent contact with air barriers
- Rigid backside air barrier

Examples of Eligible Work

- Cutting access to insulate and back kneewall, gasket and insulate with rigid foamboard to R-13
- Attaching rigid foamboard to an existing access to serve as backside air barrier and/or increase R-value to R-13
- Gasketing a properly-insulated hatch

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Gluing batts to the back of the hatch with no rigid backside barrier
- Insulating the hatch with 1" of XPS (R-5)

Air Sealing and Insulation Rebate (continued)

Exterior above-grade wall insulation

Existing Condition Requirements

- ≥ 50% of above grade exterior wall R-0

Final Condition Requirements

- ≥ R-13

Examples of Eligible Work

- Dense-packing uninsulated wall sections
- Removing and reattaching siding to blow walls
- Insulating under-insulated cavities with low-expansion foam

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Insulating a kneewall – Kneewall insulation should be submitted in the Kneewall Insulation section and meet those requirements.
- Insulating a band joist – Band joist insulation should be submitted in the Band Joist Insulation section and meet those requirements.

Band joist insulation

Existing Condition Requirements

- R-0

Final Condition Requirements

- ≥ R-13
- Air sealed

Examples of Eligible Work

- Air sealing and insulating basement or crawlspace rim joist. (Consistent with Beacon Home Energy Advisor, band joists between conditioned stories are considered part of the Exterior Above-Grade Wall Insulation Rebate.

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Insulating rim joists without air sealing

HVAC Rebates

Central AC and Air-Source Heat Pumps

Customer Rebate

AHRI Rated Central AC Units	
Tier 1: ≥ 14.5 SEER, ≥ 12 EER	\$175
Tier 2: ≥ 15 SEER, ≥ 12.5 EER	\$350
AHRI Rated Air Source Heat Pumps	
Tier 1: ≥ 14 SEER, ≥ 11.5 EER, ≥ 8.5 HSPF	\$200
Tier 2: ≥ 15 SEER, ≥ 12.5 EER, ≥ 8.5 HSPF	\$400

Existing Condition Requirements

- None

Final Condition Requirements

- Installation of new CAC or ASHP with efficiency at or above qualifying tiers, above, by contractor participating in BGE HVAC Equipment Program

Duct Sealing Rebate

Customer Rebate

- \$200

Existing Condition Requirements

- SMECO customer with electric Central AC or Air Source Heat Pump \
- Leakage $\geq 10\%$ of cooling high speed fan flow
- A portion of ductwork in unconditioned space

Final Condition Requirements

- $\geq 50\%$ reduction in total leakage (CFM₂₅); OR
- 150 CFM₂₅ reduction in total leakage

Examples of Eligible Work

- Sealing air handler, plenums, boots, and metal/flex duct connections on a system with some ductwork in unconditioned space to reduce total duct leakage by 150 CFM₂₅

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Sealing ductwork that is completely within conditioned space
- Sealing ductwork without performing a metered, calibrated leakage test before and after
- Sealing is done with improper materials (e.g., duct tape in any instance; UL-181 tape, except on ductboard systems and the air handler)

HVAC Rebates (continued)

HVAC Quality Installation Rebate

Customer Rebate

- \$200

Existing Condition Requirements

- Installation of equipment that qualifies under the SMECO HVAC equipment rebate program

Final Condition Requirements

- Documented completion of SMECO HVAC QI protocol

Examples of Eligible Work

- Quality Installation of an eligible new heat pump, central A/C, or gas furnace from a contractor participating in SMECO HVAC QI program

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Quality Installation Worksheet is not properly completed
- Equipment is installed by a contractor not participating in the SMECO HVAC QI Program

HVAC Diagnostic Tune-Up Rebate

Customer Rebate

- \$75

Existing Condition Requirements

- SMECO customer with CAC or ASHP

Final Condition Requirements

- Documented completion of SMECO Diagnostic Tune-Up protocol

Examples of Eligible Work

- Diagnostic Tune-Up performed by a contractor participating in SMECO HVAC Diagnostic Tune-Up Program

Examples of Ineligible Work

- Diagnostic Tune-Up Worksheet is not completed
- Tune-up is performed by a contractor not participating in the SMECO HVAC Diagnostic Tune-Up Program

Direct Install Measure Requirements

The baseload measures below are extremely cost-effective ways to deliver comprehensive jobs that address water heating and lighting consumption. The incentive amounts listed are paid directly to the reporting contractor, not to the customer. They are designed to offset the materials and labor of installing standard models of each measure. Contractors can offer premium models of these measures and are free to determine costs to the customer.

DI Measure Requirements (continued)

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Contractor direct install payment

- \$5 each, up to 10 bulbs

Existing Condition Requirements

- Incandescent bulbs in high-use fixtures (≥ 4 hours/day)

Final Condition Requirements

- ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs

Electric Water Heater Tank Wrap

Contractor direct install payment

- \$40 per water heater

Existing Condition Requirements

- Tank $\leq R-12$

Final Condition Requirements

- $\geq R-6.7$ tank wrap
- Do not install on gas, oil, or propane-fired water heaters

Water Heater Pipe Insulation

Contractor direct install payment

- \$18/system

Existing Condition Requirements

- No heat trap

Final Condition Requirements

- $\geq 3/4$ " thick pipe insulation
- Both hot and cold water pipes insulated for 6 linear feet from tank
- Pipe insulation must be kept at least 6" away from single-walled flues and 1" away from double-walled flues

Efficient-Flow Showerhead

Contractor direct install payment

- \$18 each, up to 2

Existing Condition Requirements

- ≥ 2.5 gpm showerhead

Final Condition Requirements

- ≤ 1.8 gpm showerhead

Faucet Aerators

Contractor direct install payment

- \$6 each, up to 4

Existing Condition Requirements

- ≥ 2.5 gpm from tap

Final Condition Requirements

- ≤ 1.5 gpm aerator

Smart Strips

Contractor direct install payment

- \$15 for the installation of the materials and \$20 for the Smartstrip

Existing Condition Requirements

- At least 2 or more electronics left in stand-by mode at one outlet

Final Condition Requirements

- Smart strip must have at least 7 plug receptacles