**Award Description:**

The Partner of the Year and Sustained Excellence awards for home builders recognize ENERGY STAR builder partner that have demonstrated excellence and innovation in constructing and promoting ENERGY STAR certified homes.

**Applicant Eligibility:**

**To be eligible for recognition, applicants must have**[[1]](#footnote-1)**:**

* Formally committed to building 100% of their homes to meet ENERGY STAR program requirements in 2017;
* Built at least 50 ENERGY STAR certified homes (for market rate home builders) or 25 ENERGY STAR certified homes (for affordable housing builders) in 2017;
* Maintained active ENERGY STAR partnership in good standing for at least one full year; and
* Maintained satisfactory compliance with all applicable EPA regulations (Note that a compliance/enforcement screening will be performed as part of the application review process for all applicants).

**Application Instructions:**

**Please review all instructions carefully. Changes from previous years’ applications have been made.**

See *General Instructions for All Applicants* at [www.energystar.gov/awards](http://www.energystar.gov/awards).

* **If awarded a 2017 Sustained Excellence Award, please complete only Sections A and C (NOT Section B).**
* **All other applicants, please complete Sections A and B (NOT Section C).**

**Submitting Your Award Application:**

**Submit your completed application and electronic copies of supporting materials** through your “My ENERGY STAR Account” ([www.energystar.gov/mesa](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cbookerc%5CDownloads%5Cwww.energystar.gov%5Cmesa)). When possible, please consolidate supporting materials into one electronic file. Any materials submitted may be used by EPA in promotion of the ENERGY STAR program and will not be returned to applicants.

**Selection of Award Winners:**

Each Home Builder award applicationwill be assigned to one of the following categories for evaluation:

1. Small Builder: A single entity building 50-150 ENERGY STAR certified homes in 2017.
2. Medium Builder: A single entity, OR a single division within Large/National builder, building 151-750 ENERGY STAR certified homes in 2017.
3. Large/National Builder:A single corporate entity submitting an application covering multiple participating divisions, building a total of more than 750 ENERGY STAR certified homes in 2017.
4. Affordable/Low-income Housing Builder: A single entity, single division, or corporate entity building at least 25 publicly subsidized, non-market rate ENERGY STAR certified homes in 2017.

**Additional Notes on Selection of Award Winners:**

* The same corporate entity cannot win an award in multiple categories. For example, a large/national builder and one of its divisions cannot receive separate awards.
* Multiple divisions within the same corporate entity may only apply together with a single application when the corporate entity is applying on behalf of all its divisions and has formally committed to building 100% ENERGY STAR certified homes across the organization.
* A builder cannot be recognized in the Affordable/Low-income Housing Builder category and in another category.

**Section A**

All applicants complete this section

**Company Name:**

**Mailing Address:**

**ENERGY STAR Contact:**

**Phone Number:**

**E-mail Address:**

**Company Web Site:**

**ENERGY STAR Web Page(s):**

**Executive Summary
New this year: entered through your online MESA account awards application form.**

Through your online MESA account awards application form, enter a brief description of your organization and 6-10 bullet points showcasing your organization’s ENERGY STAR achievements in the corresponding fields. The content you enter will serve as the Executive Summary for your application, and if you earn an award, it will help populate the event script and slideshow, as well as the online [*Profiles in Leadership*](https://www.energystar.gov/about/2017_energy_star_award_winners). Please see Page 3 of the 2018 ENERGY STAR Awards General Instructions to prepare this content.

**Home Energy Rater/Accredited Rating Provider Acknowledgement:**

**New for 2018:** In recent years, Home Energy Raters and Providers have not submitted their own award applications and EPA has recognized these organizations based solely on the recommendation of their builder clients. This year, we will once again require Home Energy Raters and Providers to submit their own applications for recognition.

Please use the space below to identify any Home Energy Rating companies or Accredited Rating Providers who were integral to your success with the ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program in 2017. EPA will take this acknowledgement into consideration as a factor when reviewing the award applications submitted by these organizations.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rating Company Name** | **Contact Person** | **Email** | **Phone Number** |
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**Section B**

**All applicants complete this section**

**(Except 2017 Sustained Excellence Award winners, who complete Section C instead)**

1. **Promotion and Marketing (Maximum of 40 points):**

Please describe any marketing materials and promotional activities developed and/or used in 2017 related to ENERGY STAR certified homes. Please provide specific examples, as well as their impact. Where appropriate, please provide website URLs. Electronic examples of your outreach materials can be included in the supplemental materials attachment.

|  |
| --- |
| **ENERGY STAR Promotional and Marketing Activities** |
| ***Traditional Advertising:*** | **Used in 2017 (check all that apply)** | ***Online Promotions:*** | **Used in 2017 (check all that apply)** |
| Radio  |  | ENERGY STAR Pages on Company & Community Web Sites |  |
| TV |  | ENERGY STAR Ads on Other Web Sites |  |
| Print |  | ENERGY STAR-related On-line Videos or Blogs |  |
| Direct Mail |  | ENERGY STAR Outreach via Social Media  |  |
| Homeowner Newsletters |  | Other Online Promotions (insert here): |  |
| Billboards/Transit Signage |  | Homeowner Testimonials |  |
| Other Traditional Marketing (insert here): |  |  |  |
| Outdoor Signage (yard signs, flags, banners) |  |  |  |
| In-model Displays/Signage |  |  |  |
| Parade of Homes |  |  |  |
| ENERGY STAR-themed Community Events |  | ***Other Promotions (please identify below):*** |  |

1. **Training Activities (Maximum of 20 points):**

Please describe any training related to your participation in the ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program that were developed and/or conducted in 2017. Examples include, but are not limited to, training of sales staff to promote the features and benefits of ENERGY STAR certified homes, training of site supervisors or trades regarding ENERGY STAR program requirements, and training of customer service representatives to answer homeowner questions related to the operation of their ENERGY STAR certified homes. Electronic examples of your training materials can be included in the supplemental materials attachment.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ENERGY STAR-Related Training Activities** | **Number of Sessions Conducted in 2017** | **Percent of Staff Trained in 2017** |
| Construction Staff and Subcontractors  |  |  |
| In-house Sales Staff and Outside Real Estate Professionals  |  |  |
| Homeowners (i.e., post-sale training about their ENERGY STAR certified homes) |  |  |
| Other Training Activities (please describe) |  |

1. **Quality and Cost Control (Maximum of 20 points):**

Please describe at least one area where the ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program was used by your organization in 2017 to enhance the quality or cost control of your construction process. Please provide specific examples that quantify these impacts, such as, “HVAC-related comfort complaints decreased by 10%” or “Warranty claims related to water leaks decreased by 25%.”

1. **Innovations and Emerging Technologies (Maximum of 10 points):**

Please describe at least one innovation or emerging technology that your organization incorporated into its ENERGY STAR certified homes in 2017. These innovations may go above and beyond core ENERGY STAR program requirements, including the use of connected home technology or an advanced building practice such as ERVs, 100% LED lighting, and spray foam insulation. Electronic photos and descriptions can be included in the supplemental material attachment.

**Section C**

**(ONLY 2017 Sustained Excellence Award winners complete this section)**

1. **Participation or Activity Changes:**

Please describeany significant changes related to your organization’s ENERGY STAR participation since your 2017 application was submitted, including but not limited to, any promotion, marketing, and/or training activities that were started, updated, improved, or eliminated in 2017.

1. **Innovations and Emerging Technologies:**

Please describe at least one innovation or emerging technology that your organization incorporated into its ENERGY STAR certified homes in 2017. These innovations may go above and beyond core ENERGY STAR program requirements, including the use of connected home technology or an advanced building practice (such as ERVs, 100% LED lighting, and spray foam insulation). Electronic photos and descriptions can be included in the supplemental material attachment.

1. **Quality and Cost Control:**

Please describe at least one area where the ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program was used by your organization in 2017 to enhance the quality or cost control of your construction process. Please provide specific examples that quantify these impacts, such as, “HVAC-related comfort complaints decreased by 10%” or “Warranty claims related to water leaks decreased by 25%.”

ENERGY STAR® is the simple choice for energy efficiency. For 25 years, EPA’s ENERGY STAR program has been America’s resource for saving energy and protecting the environment. Join the millions already making a difference at [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov/).

1. Affordable housing builders who have not made the 100% commitment or who have not built at least 25 ENERGY STAR certified homes may apply for consideration to receive a Certificate of Recognition, rather than a Partner of the Year award. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)