

2021 Washington State Energy Code – Residential  
 Prescriptive Energy Code Compliance for All Climate Zones in Washington  
 Single Family – New & Additions (effective March 15, 2024)



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
**Energy Program**

<b>Permit#</b>			
<b>Address or Lot &amp; Block</b>			
<b>City</b>		<b>Zip</b>	

**These requirements apply to all the IRC building types, including detached one- and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses).**

**Instructions:** This single-family project uses the requirements of the Prescriptive Path below to incorporate the minimum values listed. Based on the conditioned floor area of the structure, the number of required additional credits must be selected by the permit applicant.

Provide all information from the following tables in building permit drawings: Table R402.1.2 - Insulation and Fenestration Requirements by Component, Table R406.2 - Fuel Normalization Credits and R406.3 Energy Credits.

<b>Authorized Representative Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	
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All Climate Zones Table 402.1.3		
	R-Value <sup>a</sup>	U-Factor <sup>a</sup>
Fenestration U-Factor <sup>b,j</sup>	n/a	0.30
Skylight U-Factor <sup>b</sup>	n/a	0.50
Ceiling <sup>e</sup>	60	n/a
Wood Frame Wall <sup>g,i</sup>	20+5 or 13+10	n/a
Floor	30	n/a
Below Grade Wall <sup>c,h</sup>	10/15/21 int + 5TB	n/a
Slab <sup>d,f</sup> R-Value & Depth	10, 4 ft	n/a
<b>a</b>	R-values are minimums. U-factors and SHGC are maximums. When insulation is installed in a cavity which is less than the label or design thickness of the insulation, the compressed R-value of the insulation from Appendix Table A101.4 shall not be less than the R-value specified in the table	
<b>b</b>	The fenestration U-factor column excludes skylights.	
<b>c</b>	"10/15/21 +5TB" means R-10 continuous insulation on the exterior of the wall, or R-15 continuous insulation on the interior of the wall, or R-21 cavity insulation plus a thermal break between the slab and the basement wall at the interior of the basement wall. "10/15/21 +5TB" shall be permitted to be met with R-13 cavity insulation on the interior of the basement wall plus R-5 continuous insulation on the interior or exterior of the wall. "5TB" means R-5 thermal break between floor slab and basement wall.	
<b>d</b>	R-10 continuous insulation is required under heated slab on grade floors. See Section R402.2.9.1.	
<b>e</b>	For single rafter- or joist-vaulted ceilings, the insulation may be reduced to R-38 if the full insulation depth extends over the top plate of the exterior wall.	
<b>f</b>	R-7.5 continuous insulation installed over an existing slab is deemed to be equivalent to the required perimeter slab insulation when applied to existing slabs complying with Section R503.1.1. If foam plastic is used, it shall meet the requirements for thermal barriers protecting foam plastics.	
<b>g</b>	For log structures developed in compliance with Standard ICC 400, log walls shall meet the requirements for climate zone 5 of ICC 400.	
<b>h</b>	Int. (intermediate framing) denotes framing and insulation as described in Section A103.2.2 including standard framing 16 inches on center, 78 percent of the wall cavity insulated and headers insulated with a minimum of R-10 insulation.	
<b>i</b>	The first value is cavity insulation, the second value is continuous insulation. Therefore, as an example, "R13+10" means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-10 continuous insulation	
<b>j</b>	A maximum U-factor of 0.32 shall apply to vertical fenestration products installed in buildings located above 4000 feet in elevation above sea level, or in windborne debris regions where protection of openings is required under Section R301.2.1.2 of the International Residential Code.	

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Each dwelling unit **in a residential building** shall comply with sufficient options from Table R406.2 (fuel normalization credits) and Table 406.3 (energy credits) to achieve the following minimum number of credits. To claim this credit, the building permit drawings shall specify the option selected and the maximum tested building air leakage, and show the qualifying ventilation system and its control sequence of operation.

1. Small Dwelling Unit: ..... **5.0 credits**  
 Dwelling units less than 1500 square feet in conditioned floor area with less than 300 square feet of fenestration area. Additions to existing building greater than 500 square feet of heated floor area but less than 1500 square feet.
2. Medium Dwelling Unit: ..... **8.0 credits**  
 All dwelling units that are not included in #1, #3 or #4.
3. Large Dwelling Unit: ..... **9.0 credits**  
 Dwelling units exceeding 5000 square feet of conditioned floor area.
4. Dwelling units serving Group R-2 occupancies: ..... **6.5 credits**  
 Section R401.1 and residential building Section R202 for Group R-2.
5. Additions 150 square feet to 500 square feet: ..... **2.0 credits**

The drawings included with the building permit application shall identify which options have been selected and the point value of each option, regardless of whether separate mechanical, plumbing, electrical, or other permits are utilized for the project

Before selecting your credits on this Summary table, review the details in Table 406.3 (Single Family), on page 4.

Table R406.2 ENERGY EQUALIZATION CREDITS			
System Type	Description of Primary Heating Source	Credits - select ONE system type	
1	For combustion heating equipment meeting minimum federal efficiency standards for the equipment listed in Table C403.3.2(5) or C403.3.2(6)	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	For an initial heating system using a heat pump that meets federal standards for the equipment listed in Table C403.3.2(2) and supplemental heating provided by electric resistance or a combustion furnace meeting minimum standards listed in Table C403.3.2(5)b found in the 2021 WSEC- COMMERCIAL ENERGY CODE	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	For heating system based on electric resistance only (either forced air or Zonal)	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 <sup>c</sup>	For heating system using a heat pump that meets federal standards for the equipment listed in Table C403.3.2(2) or C403.3.2(9) or Air to water heat pump units that are configured to provide both heating and cooling and are rated in accordance with AHRI 550/590	3.0	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	For heating system based on electric resistance with: 1. Inverter-driven ductless mini-split heat pump system installed in the largest zone in the dwelling, or 2. With 2kW or less total installed heating capacity per dwelling	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>

a. See Section R401.1 and residential building in Section R202 for Group R-2 scope.

b. The gas back-up furnace will operate as fan-only when the heat pump is operating. The heat pump shall operate at all temperatures above 38°F (3.3°C) (or lower). Below that “changeover” temperature, the heat pump would not operate to provide space heating. The gas furnace provides heating below 38°F (3.3°C) (or lower).

c. Additional points for the HVAC system are included in Table R406.3.

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Summary of Table R406.3				
Options	Energy Credit Option Descriptions	<i>Credits – limited to one energy option from each category<sup>d</sup></i>		Comments:
1.1	Efficient Building Envelope	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.2	Efficient Building Envelope	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.3	Efficient Building Envelope	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
1.4	Efficient Building Envelope	2.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.1	Air Leakage Control and Efficient Ventilation	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.2	Air Leakage Control and Efficient Ventilation	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2.3	Air Leakage Control and Efficient Ventilation	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.1 <sup>a</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.2 <sup>a</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.3 <sup>a,c,d</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.4 <sup>a,d</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.5 <sup>d</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.6 <sup>a</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.7 <sup>a,d,e</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.8 <sup>a,d</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	1.0		
3.9	High Efficiency HVAC	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3.10 <sup>f</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	2.5		
3.11 <sup>c</sup>	High Efficiency HVAC	0.5		
4.1	High Efficiency HVAC Distribution System	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.1	Efficient Water Heating	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.2	Efficient Water Heating	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.3	Efficient Water Heating	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.4	Efficient Water Heating	1.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.5	Efficient Water Heating	1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.6	Efficient Water Heating	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.7	Efficient Water Heating	2.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5.8	Efficient Water Heating	2.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.1	Renewable Electric Energy (4.5 credits max)	0.5-4.5		
7.1	Appliance Package	0.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Total Credits</b>				

- a. An alternative heating source sized at a maximum of 0.5 Watts/ft<sup>2</sup> (equivalent) of heated floor area or 500 Watts, whichever is bigger, may be installed in the dwelling unit.
- b. See Section R401.1 and residential building in Section R202 for Group R-2 scope.
- c. Option 3.11 can only be taken with Options 3.1 and 3.3. To qualify to claim Option 3.11 with 3.3, the system shall be a 1-2 speed heat pump system. Variable capacity heat pumps are ineligible from claiming this option.
- d. This option may only be claimed if serving System Type 4 or 5 from Table R406.2.
- e. Primary living areas include living, dining, kitchen, family rooms, and similar areas.
- f. Option 3.10 may only be taken with Efficient Water Heating Options 5.1 or 5.2. Equipment sizing for space heating shall be calculated as provided in Section R403.7 with increased capacity to provide a minimum of 75 percent of peak hot water demand or shall be sized in accordance with approved manufacturer's specifications or guidance. Supplementary heat for water heating system shall be in accordance with Section R403.5.7.