



Contact Us:

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Energy Upgrade California™ is a residential energy efficiency program offering resources, rebates, and information to San Mateo County homeowners for home energy improvements. As part of the program, homeowners will have access to a list of [approved contractors](#) who are eligible to install energy upgrades and secure rebates for completed work.

Energy Upgrade California™ rebates will help you cover the cost of improvement measures such as duct sealing, insulation, and air sealing which allow you to:

- Live more comfortably
- Create a healthier home
- Reduce your utility bills



HOMEOWNER INFORMATION

How energy efficient is your home?

Energy efficient appliances are often the first place homeowners start when improving energy efficiency in their home. It's a great place to start. But those upgrades usually only get at the surface of potential energy savings your home can achieve. Home performance takes a different approach. By sealing the building envelope of your home and attacking inefficiencies at the root of the problem, home performance improvements can nearly cut your home's energy consumption in half.

What can Energy Upgrades do for you?

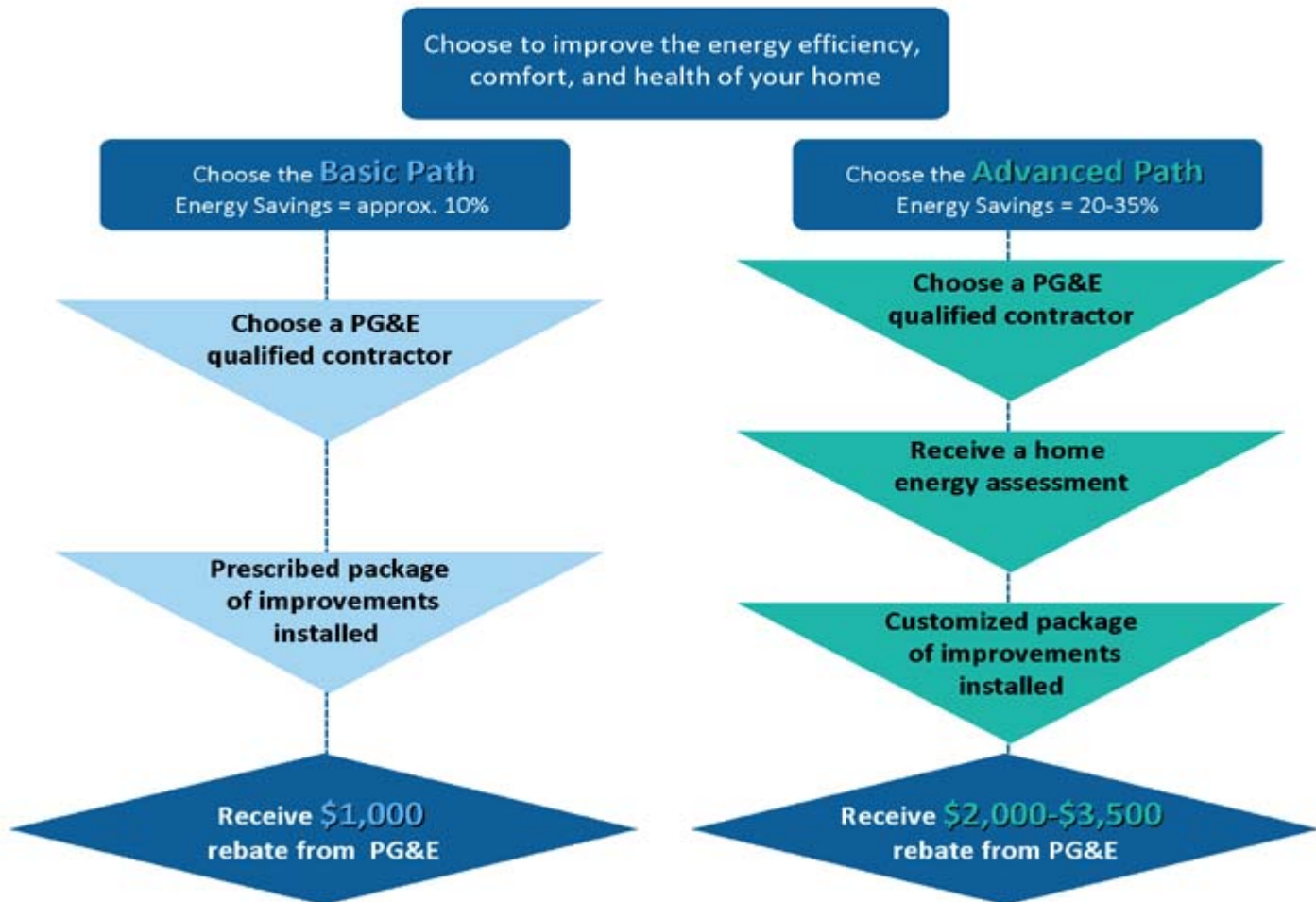
Energy Upgrade California™ is a rebate program covering the cost of improving **home performance** fundamentals. To understand **home performance**, it is helpful to imagine your home as a system. Your house (the system) has the potential for many leaks and inefficiencies. When air can escape or enter through your roof, walls, or floors, the system is not performing as efficiently as it could. These inefficiencies can also lead to discomfort in the form of temperature differences throughout the home, drafts, and moisture issues that can lead to mold and unhealthy air in your residence.

[Click here to explore Energy Upgrade ideas.](#)

See how a San Carlos homeowner benefited from Energy Upgrades. [\[PDF\]](#)

How can homeowners participate?

The rebates are tiered based on the types of improvements chosen by the homeowner. In the **Basic Package**, a prescribed set of high-impact and cost-effective upgrades are installed; in the **Advanced Package**, a home undergoes a home **energy assessment** and receives a customized report which will recommend a set of energy upgrades. The homeowner then chooses the energy upgrades based on their desired energy savings. The contractor will apply for the rebates online and the homeowner will receive a check in the mail. Approved contractors must meet stringent requirements to be able to participate in the program and offer each package.



What are the Rebate Packages?

Basic Package:

Homeowners can receive a \$1,000 rebate if they install six specific measures that have been identified to reduce home energy savings by 10% on average.

These measures are:

1. Air sealing
2. Duct sealing
3. Attic insulation
4. Pipe insulation
5. Low-flow showerhead
6. Carbon Monoxide Test

The Basic package is likely to cost between \$4,000 - \$6,000, though each home's size and needs will determine the final price. Plus, homeowners can qualify for up to a \$1,500 federal tax credit through

the end of 2010.

[To get started, click here to view the list of qualified local contractors.](#)

Advanced Package:

In the Advanced Package, homeowners receive a rebate of up to \$3,500.

To qualify, homeowners must receive an energy assessment from a qualified energy rater. The homeowner then chooses the energy upgrades based on their desired energy savings. Learn about the energy assessment here [\[PDF\]](#).

Energy Savings	Rebate
20 – 24.9 %	\$2,000
25 – 29.9 %	\$2,375
30 – 34.9 %	\$2,750
35 – 39.9 %	\$3,125
40 % +	\$3,500

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What types of buildings can participate?

Existing single-family and small multi-family (up to four units) residential buildings will be eligible to participate in the first phase of the program. Non-residential buildings and large multi-family (five or more units) residential buildings will be added to the program later.

How do I get started?

Visit CBPCA.org to be connected to the [list of qualified contractors](#) in the region who are qualified to offer rebates in the Energy Upgrade California™ program.



CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

Contractor qualification for Energy Upgrade California™ allows a contractor to offer its services using the Energy Upgrade California™ program and connect homeowners to available rebates. Contractors can use the Energy Upgrade logo for the purpose of soliciting homeowner interest, performing home energy assessments, or installing equipment. Each participating contractor must meet the requirements and sign a code of conduct to be eligible. Requirements vary between the Basic Package and the Advanced Package offerings.

For more information on how to become an Energy Upgrade qualified contractor, click here to visit the [California Building Performance Contractor Association's \(CBPCA\) website](#).

Basic Package:

In order to qualify to install the Basic Package, contractors must be certified and licensed according to all applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations as well as satisfactorily complete a CBPCA Basic

Training for Home Performance. The combustion safety testing for each project is to be performed by a BPI certified contractor meeting higher certification requirements.

Advanced Package:

In order to qualify to perform energy assessments and install equipment for the Advanced Package, contractors must employ at least one person in each market area who is certified as a BPI Building Analyst and also meet all requirements under the Basic Package.

Requirements Summary

Contractor Participation Requirements

- Contractor State Licensing Board (CSLB) license in the appropriate specialty
- Bonding and in good standing
- Insurance to CBPCA minimums
- A Contractor Participation Agreement
- Completion of a Program Participation Workshop Course
- A CBPCA Basic Training for Home Performance
- BPI-Analyst training and certification for Combustion Safety and Carbon Monoxide Protection and all other Minimum Health and Safety Requirements specified in the BPI *Technical Standards for the Building Analyst Professional*
- Building permits be pulled on all work that is appropriate per local jurisdiction requirements

Additional Certifications for the Advanced Package

- BPI certification in the appropriate specialty for job reporting
- BPI company accreditation (recommended)

Background on the third-party certification and quality assurance providers:

Building Performance Institute (BPI) - A national standards development and credentialing organization for residential energy efficiency retrofit work - providing training through a network of training affiliate organizations, individual certifications, company accreditations and quality assurance programs. As an independent, not-for-profit organization, BPI brings together leading building science experts from across North America to develop its standards.

California Building Performance Contractor's Association (CBPCA) - A non-profit organization was formed in 2001 under the auspices of the California Public Utilities commission. CBPCA is the only organization in California that delivers integrated training in energy efficiency, indoor comfort, healthier indoor air, and a safer, more durable building. CBPCA also participates in Home Performance with Energy Star, a nationally recognized program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Department of Energy.

To Participate:

Contractors interested in participating in the Energy Upgrade California in San Mateo County program should visit [CBPCA.org](http://www.cbPCA.org) to learn how to become a qualified contractor.

<http://www.cbPCA.org/contractors/pge.html>