

## Georgia's Home Energy Rebates Qualified Electrification Projects (QEP) – HEAR Guidance

To qualify for an electrification and appliance rebate, i.e., Georgia's Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR), your project must meet certain criteria established by the U.S. Department of Energy. These standards are commonly known as “qualified electrification projects” (QEP), which ensure all equipment types meet program requirements needed to qualify for a rebate.

See below for specific guidance for appliances and other upgrades that are eligible for HEAR.

### Electric Heat Pump Water Heaters:

Eligible electric heat pump water heaters include:

- Integrated heat pump water heaters that operate on 120V or 240V
- Split system heat pump water heaters
- Central heat pump water heating systems\*

\*Central heat pump water heating systems are restricted to multifamily dwelling units, whose owner is applying for a rebate for multiple dwelling units. This upgrade includes all ancillary equipment such as fans, blowers, pumps, storage tanks, piping, and controls, as applicable.

In all cases, the rebated model or system must be ENERGY STAR-certified.

### **Purchase and installation of an electric heat pump water heater is eligible for rebate only when:**

- Installed in new construction;
- Installed as a replacement for a non-electric water heater; or
- The purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump water heater, e.g., when upgrading an electric-resistance storage water heater.

Electric tank water heaters are eligible for rebates if upgrading to a heat pump water heater.

### Electric Heat Pump for Space Heating and Cooling:

Eligible electric heat pumps for space heating and cooling include:

- Ducted and non-ducted air-source heat pumps
- Ground source heat pumps
- Variable refrigerant flow heat pumps

The rebated model must be ENERGY-STAR-certified.

Room heat pumps currently do not have a heating test procedure, metric, or ENERGY STAR

criterion in heating mode allowing manufacturers to certify. Therefore, models on the ENERGY STAR Qualified Products List (QPL) for Room Air Conditioners are not eligible for rebates at this time.

Please note, costs eligible for rebate include all materials for installation, including smart thermostats and other grid-enabling technologies, pads for outdoor units, necessary ductwork, or other DOE-approved materials.

### **Purchase and installation of an electric heat pump for space heating and cooling is eligible for rebates only when:**

- Installed in new construction;
- Installed as a replacement for a non-electric heating unit, e.g., gas, propane, or oil direct heating equipment; gas, propane, or oil forced-air furnace; gas, propane, or oil hot water or steam boiler; or
- The purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump for space conditioning and is installed to provide the primary heating and cooling for the household.

Please note:

- Homes with existing air conditioning and an existing electric furnace, boiler, or electric baseboard heating can be eligible for a heat pump upgrade. The new heat pump must be the primary source of heating and cooling for the home.
- A home may continue to use its pre-existing heating and cooling systems as backup and/or to provide secondary heating or cooling services to the home.
- A heat pump used to supplement an existing electric appliance for space conditioning is not eligible for a rebate.

### **Electric Heat Pump for Clothes Dryers**

Installed model must be ENERGY STAR-certified and legal for distribution in the U.S. at the time of purchase.

#### **The purchase and installation of an electric heat pump clothes dryer is eligible for rebate only when:**

- Installed in new construction;
- Installed as a replacement for a non-electric clothes dryer; or
- The purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump clothes dryer for the dwelling unit, including upgrading an electric clothes dryer to a heat pump dryer.

Clothes dryers are eligible for rebates if upgrading an electric clothes dryer to a heat pump clothes dryer.

## Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, or Oven

The installed model of electric stove, electric cooktop, or electric range must be ENERGY STAR-certified and legal for distribution in the U.S. at the time of purchase. Dual-fuel models are not eligible.

**Purchase and installation of an electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven is eligible for a rebate only when:**

- Installed in new construction;
- Installed as a replacement for a gas or dual-fuel gas-electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven; or
- The purchase is a first-time purchase of an all-electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven.

Replacing an electric kitchen appliance with an induction appliance is not allowed.

Replacing an existing electric kitchen appliance with a new electric appliance is not allowed.

## Insulation

For certain insulation projects, ENERGY STAR certification is not required, if certification is not available for a specific product. However, when an ENERGY STAR-certified product is available for that product type, e.g., blanket insulation, the ENERGY STAR-certified product must be used.

Eligible insulation products include:

- Certified blanket (batts and rolls) insulation
- Loose-fill insulation
- Blown-in insulation
- Rigid board (foam or fiber) insulation
- Spray foam
- Foamed-in-place forms of insulation.

Duct sealing and insulation is also eligible for rebates. Insulation with low embodied carbon is encouraged.

## Ventilation

Ventilation materials are eligible for rebates only in homes that also receive air sealing services **or** achieve low air leakage rates of less than 3 ACH50 per International Energy Conservation Code IECC.

Eligible ventilation materials include:

- ENERGY STAR-certified range hoods
- ENERGY STAR-certified in-line (single and multi-port) fans
- ENERGY STAR-certified bathroom/utility room fans

Products must be installed in the configuration certified by ENERGY STAR.

If a range hood is installed in a way that causes exhaust air to recirculate throughout the dwelling unit, it will not be eligible for a rebate.

## **Air Sealing**

No ENERGY STAR requirements for air sealing upgrades (caulking, weatherization, etc.)

## **Electric Load Service Center & Electric Wiring**

No ENERGY STAR requirements for electric load service center and electric wiring upgrades. However, these upgrades must be included with another eligible HEAR measure or upgrade or HER project to qualify for rebates.