

# NGBS Green Certification

## Options for Single-Family Homes



The ICC 700 National Green Building Standard™ (NGBS) is the only green building rating system exclusively for homes and multifamily buildings approved by ANSI, the American National Standards Institute, as an American National Standard.

Under the NGBS, single-family homes and townhomes have two compliance choices.

1. Homes can earn the **Certified level** if they comply with all applicable green practices from the 2020 NGBS Chapter 12. This streamlined yet rigorous certification path requires homes to be designed and constructed to be more efficient than 2018 IECC code-compliant homes and to include important building practices that ensure the home provides a healthier indoor environment, is more water efficient, and is more durable. The NGBS Chapter 12 Certified Path focuses on the most impactful practices that improve energy and water efficiency, create a healthier living space, and manage potential moisture issues. For energy efficiency, builders have a choice among Prescriptive, Performance, and Energy Rating Index (ERI) paths. For water efficiency, builders have a choice between Prescriptive and Performance paths. This certification option is more streamlined and, to keep verification costs lower, NGBS Green Verifiers can batch multiple homes for both registration and verification report submittal. Certification fees are significantly less for this path and, as always, Home Innovation can deliver the NGBS Green certificate within days of receiving the final completed paperwork.



2. Alternatively, homes can earn **Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Emerald level** certification via the more traditional certification path in the 2015 or 2020 NGBS. In addition to the mandatory provisions, homes must include enough green building practices in each of the six categories to meet the category minimums for the desired certification level.

As an ANSI-approved green building rating system, the NGBS provides builders and consumers with a credible definition of green building. Since it provides a flexible system for certification it offers home builders an affordable process to build green, sustainable homes that are appropriate for their specific climate and location, and meet the needs of their particular market and homebuyers.

To determine the best NGBS Green certification path for your single-family homes, check out the following chart. For more information, visit [www.HomeInnovation.com/Green](http://www.HomeInnovation.com/Green). Questions? Contact us – [www.HomeInnovation.com/NGBSGreenContact](http://www.HomeInnovation.com/NGBSGreenContact).

# Which NGBS Green Certification Path is Right for Your Homes?

	Certified Path	Bronze, Silver Gold, or Emerald
<b>Eligible Buildings</b>	Single-family homes, townhouses, duplexes	Residential buildings, residential portions of mixed-use buildings, or mixed-use buildings where residential portion is >50%.
<b>Compliance Method</b>	List of mandatory green practices required	Points-based approach. Some mandatory practices, but building earns points toward certification by selecting from diverse list of voluntary green practices.
<b>Registration</b>	Free, but mandatory. Mass registration available.	Free, but mandatory. Mass registration available for single-family homes.
<b>Categories of Green Practices, Products, or Systems</b>	Lot development, resource efficiency, energy efficiency, water efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and homeowner operation and maintenance	Lot development, resource efficiency, energy efficiency, water efficiency, indoor environmental quality, and homeowner operation and maintenance
<b>Energy Efficiency Target</b>	7.5% above 2018 IECC energy cost targets	Bronze = 2018 IECC energy performance level, Silver 7.5% above Bronze performance level, Gold 15% above Bronze, Emerald 35% above Bronze
<b>Energy Efficiency Compliance</b>	Performance, Prescriptive, or ERI Target Path	Performance*, Prescriptive, ERI Target Path*, or alternative compliance path based on ENERGY STAR, IECC, or IRC
<b>Water Efficiency Compliance</b>	Performance or Prescriptive	Performance or Prescriptive
<b>Blower Door and Duct Testing</b>	Required	Required unless 4 stories or higher
<b>Sampling</b>	Prohibited; 100% inspections	Limited amount allowed for energy-efficiency measures
<b>Verification Report Submittal</b>	Batches of up to 30 homes allowed	Batches of up to 20 homes allowed
<b>NGBS Green+ Badges</b>	Not Available	Available
<b>Certification Fees</b>	\$100/home; volume discount available	\$200/single-family home; volume discount available
<b>Main Benefit</b>	Streamlined paperwork; easier compliance across multiple home designs and models; simplified verification	Greater design flexibility, recognition for higher performance levels
<b>Best For</b>	Production builder or those new to green certification	Small volume, custom, or very high-performance builders

*\*Emerald level certification requires Performance or ERI Target paths.*