2012 vs. 2015 NGBS – An Overview: This document is intended to be a high-level overview 2015 NGBS compared to the 2012 NGBS; it is not necessarily comprehensive. To determine project compliance, please review the full version.

Overview of NGBS Revisions
- Baseline of 2015 NGBS = 2015 IECC, 2015 IRC, and 2015 IBC
- Reduction in total points and for Chapter 7 required for Silver, Gold, and Emerald certification to reflect higher energy efficiency baseline

### 2012 NGBS / 2015 NGBS Table 303
**Threshold Point Ratings for Green Buildings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Green Building Categories</th>
<th>2012 NGBS Rating Level Points</th>
<th>2015 NGBS Rating Level Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 5 Lot Design, Preparation, and Development</td>
<td>BRONZE</td>
<td>SILVER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 6 Resource Efficiency</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 7 Energy Efficiency</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60/45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 8 Water Efficiency</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 9 Indoor Environmental Quality</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 10 Operation, Maintenance, and Building Owner Education</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Points from any category</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points:</strong></td>
<td>231</td>
<td>349/334</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chapter 5: Lot Design, Preparation, and Development**
- More than doubled points for lot within certified land development
- Revamped stormwater management options to encourage low-impact development practices
- Increased points available for projects in high density areas and lots with a landscape plan
- Points eliminated for low slope sites
- Greater recognition of multi-modal transportation options including bicycle parking, pedestrian connectivity, proximity to transit, and electric-vehicle charging

**Chapter 6: Resource Efficiency**
- Reduced points for dwelling units 700 - 2,500 sq. ft.; but gives more points for units ≤ 700 sq. ft.
- Clarification for Prefinished Materials, previously called site-applied finishing materials
- Termite barrier practice revised to reflect varying infestation levels
- New points available for building envelope assemblies designed for moisture control
- Five new universal design practices that earn 1 point each
- Points for submission of Product Declarations

**Chapter 7: Energy Efficiency**
- Energy efficiency baseline (and Bronze certification) is 2015 IECC compliance, plus two practices
- Reduced Chapter 7 point minimums for Silver, Gold, and Emerald certification levels because of higher energy efficiency baseline
- Revised Alternative Compliance Path for Bronze and Silver, adds ENERGY STAR MFHR program
- Additional flexibility in Performance Path compliance
- Three new Mandatory Practices for Prescriptive Path
- New HERS Index Target compliance path and new Tropical Climate Zone provisions
- Grade I insulation installation is now mandatory
- Most Chapter 7 tables (point values) are revised – check for new requirements
- New multifamily building notes and, in some cases, dedicated point tables

Contact us online at www.homeinnovation.com/NGBSGreenContact.
Increase to 75% of total hard-wired lighting fixtures or the bulbs in those fixtures to qualify as high efficacy and earn points, or lighting power calculation as alternative
Duct leakage testing is required, and points only available if testing is not required by code
Several new innovative practices available for points, such as EV charging stations and automatic demand response systems

Chapter 8: Water Efficiency
- New Mandatory Practice: if irrigation system is installed, irrigation plan and implementation are executed by qualified professional certified by a WaterSense labeled program or equivalent program (waiver available for areas without adequate number of qualified professionals)
- Greater recognition of WaterSense program
- New point allocations for showerheads

Chapter 9: Indoor Environmental Quality
- Fireplaces in common areas of multifamily buildings exempt from venting requirement
- Carbon monoxide alarms mandatory for buildings regulated by the IRC
- Condensing clothes dryers exempt from venting requirement
- New fenestration practice to promote natural ventilation in buildings
- Ventilation specs revised from ASHRAE Standard 62.2-2007 to 62.2-2010

Chapter 10: Operation, Maintenance, and Owner Operation
- Training of building owners, for single-family and multifamily projects, is now mandatory
- Two new practices that earn points: one to increase public awareness of the NGBS and increase demand for high performance homes; one for enabling building owners to determine if energy and water usage deviate from expected levels
- While Chapter 10 points required for certification levels was unchanged, the loss of potential points for training makes compliance for this chapter harder

NGBS Green Program Notes
- Construction deadline for projects seeking 2012 NGBS certification is July 2021, unless the project is permitted in a state where the state code is less stringent than the 2012 IECC – see the BRG for more details.
- Only NGBS Green Verifiers accredited to the 2015 NGBS can inspect projects seeking 2015 NGBS Green certification.

Get Your Green Home NGBS Certified
- Review the Builder’s Resource Guide
- Score Your NGBS Project (or get help with scoring from this video)
- Introduction to NGBS Green Scoring Tool (VIDEO)
- New to Green? Use the NGBS Bronze Cookbook
- Find a Verifier
- Find Available Incentives