

# Green Certification to the National Green Building Standard



**Home Innovation**  
NGBS GREEN CERTIFIED™

Home Innovation Research Labs certifies green residential projects of all types in compliance with the ICC 700 National Green Building Standard.

As an independent, third-party research and testing organization, Home Innovation Research Labs has the capacity, expertise, and credentials to ensure our green certification mark stands for consistency, rigor, and credibility. We do all that while keeping our certification practical and affordable for the home building industry.

The National Green Building Standard™ (NGBS) is the preeminent residential green building rating system. It sets green baselines for all new residential construction, development, and remodeling projects. ANSI-approved and consensus-based, the NGBS provides a menu of green building practices for builders, remodelers, and developers to plan their green projects. These building practices, when employed in construction and development, improve the living environment for residents and reduce the project's environmental impacts.

The NGBS offers four levels of green certification for single- and multifamily homes: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Emerald; and four levels for land developments: One-through Four-Stars. To be certified, a project must implement a minimum number of practices in each of six green building categories. To attain higher certification levels, the project has to employ a greater number of green practices in every category, resulting in progressively increased benefits to the residents and reduced environmental impacts.



Of all the green rating systems currently available, only certification to the NGBS formally recognizes and rewards this level of commitment and performance in every area of green home construction. Home Innovation Research Labs adopted the NGBS as our green rating system because we believe certifying your single- or multifamily homes as environmentally friendly should be about more than checking boxes on some unqualified checklist. Our NGBS Green Certified mark is proof of a truly green home.

## INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION

The NGBS requires that a qualified, independent third-party inspect the project and verify that all green design or construction practices claimed by the builder toward green certification are incorporated correctly into the project. Most projects require at least two inspections. Verifiers record the results of their rough and final inspections on a Verification Report which is submitted to Home Innovation Research Labs. Home Innovation Research Labs qualifies, trains, tests, and accredits these verifiers and maintains a current list at [HomeInnovation.com](http://HomeInnovation.com). After the Verification Reports are submitted, Home Innovation Research Labs reviews them to ensure accuracy and completeness, and issues green certification to the project. Verification fees vary by market and project scope.

## MAKING THE BEST GREEN CERTIFICATION CHOICE

The NGBS is as rigorous as, if not more rigorous than, any other national green rating system currently available, yet it has always been and will continue to be the most affordable option for builders, remodelers, and developers. But don't just take our word for it. There are several independent reports that provide this type of comparative information available at [HomeInnovation.com/Green](http://HomeInnovation.com/Green).

Because of its inherent credibility as an ANSI-approved standard, the NGBS is recognized by several state and local governments and other agencies across the country for green-related financial incentives. Some jurisdictions also recognize those building professionals seeking certification to the NGBS by providing expedited permitting and other process-based incentives.

Interested in having your project(s)  
NGBS Green Certified?

**Visit [HomeInnovation.com/Green](http://HomeInnovation.com/Green)**



Our certification fees are very affordable. The cost of certification for a single-family home ranges from \$200-\$500; multifamily buildings range from \$200-\$500 per building, plus \$20 per unit. The cost for certification of a land development starts at \$1,000.

**For single- or multifamily homes to become NGBS Green Certified, the standard requires green building practices in six categories:**

Lot Design, Preparation, and Development |  
Resource Efficiency | Energy Efficiency | Water  
Efficiency | Indoor Environmental Quality |  
Operation, Maintenance, and Building Owner  
Education

Some of the practices in the NGBS are mandatory. However, builders, remodelers, and developers also have the ability to select from an array of green practices those that are best suited to their local market conditions, homebuyer preferences, and individual business strategies.

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**Finding Innovation a Home**

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