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Understanding the HOMES Provisions in the IRA

Last month the Inflation Reduction Act made seismic changes in the landscape for home performance upgrades and beneficial electrification. The historic legislation will direct federal dollars towards reducing building emissions and assist the move to electrification over the next ten years

Over the coming months we will take a look at each of the programs that will help direct IRA funds for residential improvements. Today we'll look at Section 50121, Home Energy Performance-Based, Whole-House Rebates (HOMES).

HOMES allocates \$4,300,000,000 through September 30, 2031, to award grants to State Energy Offices to develop and implement a HOMES rebate program. Grants will support state-run HOMES Rebate programs across the country to accomplish performance-based residential energy efficiency retrofits. Each State Energy Office must apply for the funding and make plans for implementation.

The law encourages strong achievement in retrofits by tying rebate amounts energy savings using either a measured or modeled approach to quantify energy saved. The modeled approach [references](#) BPI's ANSI-accredited standard, [BPI-2400](#), as the standard procedure to calibrate modeled energy savings to energy use history. We will cover the measured approach in next month's newsletter.

When a retrofit achieves energy system savings of between 20 and 35 percent, the rebate equals either \$2,000 or %50 of the project cost, whichever is lower. But when a retrofit achieves energy savings of 35% or more, the rebate doubles to the lesser of \$4,000 or 50% of project cost.

Perhaps most excitingly, HOMES rebates are doubled for low- and moderate-income (LMI) households, those who make less than 80 percent of area median income. Contractors may also claim a \$200 rebate for each LMI home that achieves 20% or greater energy savings. You can find a detailed logic model of eligible measures and rebate amounts [here](#).

BPI has set the standards for delivering home performance since 1993. We are extremely proud of the skills and professional dedication of our Certified Professionals, and confident in their ability to achieve great things in their communities with the support of this funding.

We foresee a greater need than ever for professionals to enter and advance in the field. To be on the forefront of this work, check out the [Building Analyst](#) and [Energy Auditor](#) certifications. These certifications contain the skills and knowledge needed to model the savings called out in the IRA.

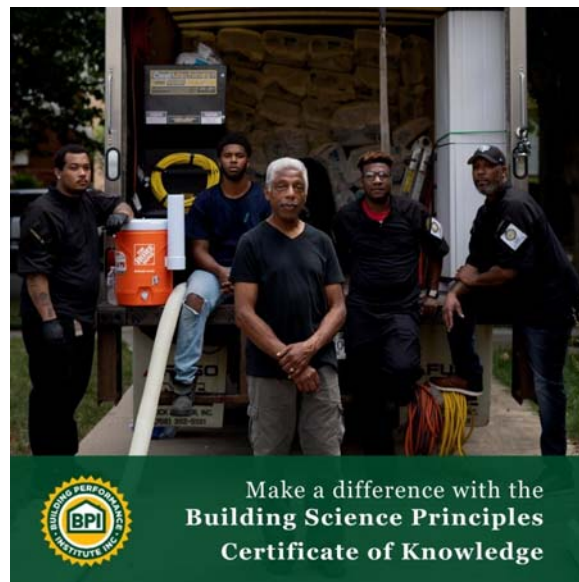
The IRA also aggressively incentivizes performance improvement for multi-family buildings. When a retrofit achieves 20-35% energy savings the rebate will be \$2,000 per dwelling unit, with a maximum of \$200,000 per multifamily building. For a multifamily retrofit that achieves 35% or greater the rebate is \$4,000 per dwelling unit, with a maximum of \$400,000 per multifamily building.

At BPI we are greatly encouraged by the IRA's strong support of multifamily housing performance. It will improve quality of life for low-income households and communities of color, who are more likely to be renters. Our [Multifamily Building Analyst](#) certification and [Technical Standards for the Multifamily Building Analyst Professional](#) can help prepare professionals for work in multifamily retrofits.

BPI's mission is to provide the benefits of home performance to all the nation's homeowners, not just those with capital ready to invest in home energy upgrades. We applaud the HOMES provisions, which will help Americans with the highest energy burdens afford upgrades.

Home energy upgrades are not just about reducing utility bills, although they do reduce utility costs for owners and occupants. They are also about comfort and quality of life, healthy communities, and a resilient utility grid.

Please visit us [here](#) to learn how you can get involved and make a difference.



The Building Science Principles (BSP) Certificate of Knowledge is your first step into the world of energy efficient home performance. Energy efficiency should be the first step toward home solar, geothermal, or other renewable energy improvements, because it reduces the amount of work those systems must do.

Building science demonstrates how various components of a home interact to affect the home's overall performance, which in turn affects health and quality of life for occupants. The BSP provides a

thorough foundation in building science, in English or Spanish.

This online certificate will help you understand how HVAC, ventilation, appliances, and other systems affect the comfort, health, safety, and durability of the home. Get ready to make a difference for yourself and others with the **Building Science Principles Certificate of Knowledge**.



The Inflation Reduction Act includes provisions that will shape the future of the solar, HVAC, and home performance sectors for years to come. What should our industry expect from these historic changes, and how can we navigate them to ensure that contractors and customers receive the best possible benefits of the bill?

Join Energy Circle CEO and Founder Peter Troast for insight on what to expect from the IRA and how you can leverage it to benefit your business.

REGISTER



BPI is proud to support IREC's Vision Summit 2022! This one-day visionary exploration of what's needed to make our nation's bold clean energy goals a reality will take place on October 19 in Washington, D.C. and online.

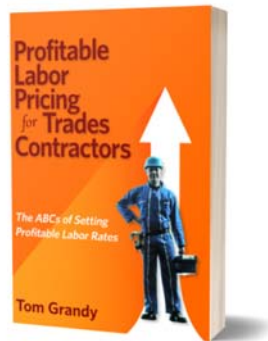
The IREC Vision Summit brings together clean energy stakeholders—including prominent industry leaders, state and federal decision-makers, advocates, and others—for a deep dive into policies and practices that are essential for all Americans to benefit from clean energy.

Register by 9/28 for early bird pricing [here](#), and use code SUMMIT22 for an added discount!



Upper Midwest Regional Conference & Trade Show

The Upper Midwest Regional Conference & Trade Show will take place November 7-8, 2022 in Minneapolis, MN. BPI will be there! Join us for two days of region-specific education, networking opportunities, and [more](#).



Set Your Rates for Profit with Tom Grandy

Our good friend and frequent GoldStar Webinar presenter Tom Grandy of Grandy & Associates has distilled his 35 years of experience in creating a profitable business into a easy to read [book](#).

Tom has consistently set the standard on how contractors should set their pricing. His easy writing style walks you through a logical and clear path to this complex issue. In this book you will discover simple methods of setting accurate and profitable hourly rates for any trade.

- How growth can lead to bankruptcy.
- How to properly set your hourly rate.
- Hidden costs that can kill profitability.

This is a physical book, perfect to carry in the truck or tool bag. Check it out [here](#).



BPI certification comes with great benefits, including free membership in Home Depot's ProXtra rewards program. With no spend minimum, you can [sign up today](#) and start earning cash back at dollar one.

All BPI Stakeholders, including BPI Certified Professionals, BPI GoldStar Contractors, Proctors, Rater Companies, Test Centers, BPI Product Listing Program manufacturers, and CEU Providers, may enroll.

Not a BPI Stakeholder yet? [Visit us online](#) to get started!



At BPI we're proud to use the Home Quiz from EDS to help customers understand how home performance work can affect their monthly budget.

The Home Quiz is a tool for customer education and engagement. By giving visualized estimates of potential savings, it can help customers understand how much they may have to gain by making improvements. To learn more about placing the Home Quiz on your own company website [click here.](#)



Are you looking to help friends and family understand job opportunities in

the clean buildings sector? The [Green Buildings Career Map](#) can help.

The Residential & Multifamily Construction and Retrofitting sector involves a range of occupations that specialize in energy efficiency, comfort, indoor air quality, health and safety, and durability of residential buildings. Job opportunities in this sector vary widely, from installation work and energy analysis and modeling to program management, community outreach, and client relationship management.

The Career Map explores 14 careers in this category and their descriptions, salaries, advancement routes, and more.

BPI's credentials directly support many of the careers listed. Explore career paths and share it with friends who are looking to make a great living through meaningful work. Learn more [here](#).



BPI's Healthy Housing Principles provide knowledge of how the different components of a home interact to affect occupant health.

The Healthy Housing Principles Certificate of Knowledge gives a comprehensive background in how environmental problems in the home can damage health.

The Healthy Housing Principles Reference Guide was authored by Kevin Kennedy, director of the Environmental Health Program at Children's Mercy Hospital Kansas City. It is an amazing compendium of knowledge on how homes affect health.

Anyone who works with families in their homes should consider earning the [Healthy Housing Principles Certificate](#).



Building Performance Institute, Inc., 63 Putnam Street, Suite 202, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

BPI sets national standards for improving comfort and energy efficiency and for creating and maintaining safe and healthy home environments. From these standards, BPI develops professional certifications for home contractors to ensure quality service and workmanship. BPI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

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