

VILLAGE OF ROMEVILLE



## ENERGY-EFFICIENT NEW HOME INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Apply now for \$5,000 towards your energy-efficient dream home.



# ENERGY-EFFICIENT NEW HOME INCENTIVE PROGRAM

## THE PROGRAM

The Village of Romeoville is proud to announce a new incentive program that fosters the construction of energy-efficient homes.

The environmental benefits of building green and using less energy are widely understood. Lower levels of air pollution, healthier living environments, and reduced use of precious resources are desirable to all.

Romeoville homebuyers understand the long-term financial benefits of building greener but are often dissuaded by the larger up-front costs. This program is designed to help lower the upfront costs so that building green is attainable for more homebuyers.

Through a generous grant from U.S. Department of Energy, the Village is proud to offer a \$5,000 grant for the purchase of a qualifying new home in Romeoville. The grant will be payable at the time of closing for a master built home or at the time of certificate of occupancy for a custom built home. It will be payable to the new property owner(s).

The budget for the program is \$100,000. Applications will be processed for the duration of the program or until such time as the funding is used up. Applications will be reviewed on a first come first served basis.



**The \$5,000  
grant is payable  
to the buyer at  
the closing.**

## CRITERIA

The following paragraphs list the specific criteria that must be met in order to obtain the grant.

The program requires that the home bear the Energy Star Gold symbol as well as that the home meet the detailed requirements listed in this guide. Please note that the Village's requirements must be adhered to even in cases where they are more stringent than the Energy Star requirements.

### Energy Star Gold Certification

Energy Star is a joint program of the US Environmental Protection Agency and the US Department of Energy with the goal of helping citizens save money and protecting the environment through energy efficient products and practices. By meeting certain Energy Star criteria set by the US EPA and US Department of Energy, new homes can earn the Energy Star.

The program requires that homes include effective insulation, high performance windows, tight construction and ducts, efficient heating and cooling equipment, and efficient products. The homes must pass third party verification tests (which typically includes a blower door test, a duct blaster test, and completion of a thermal bypass checklist) in order to qualify for the blue Energy Star seal. Please consult [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) for more information on the specific program requirements and details.

In order to obtain the Village grant, the new home must bear the Energy Star seal and be Energy Star Gold Certified. In addition to the Energy Star requirements, the home must also meet the following Village requirements.

### Efficient Lighting:

An Advanced Lighting Package (ALP), where at least 60% of the light fixtures and 100% of the ceiling fans are Energy Star qualified must be used. At least 50% of the lighting in the home must use compact fluorescent lights or light emitting diodes.

### Energy Star Appliances:

All major appliances, including refrigerators, dishwashers, washing machines and dryers must be Energy Star certified.

### Windows & Skylights:

All windows and skylights in the home must be Low-E. (Manufacturers Sticker must be left on window until inspection is complete)

All windows must be Energy Star qualified and feature advanced technology such as invisible glass coatings, vacuum-sealed spaces filled with inert gas between the panes, improved framing material, better weather stripping, and warm edge spacers to reduce undesirable heat gain and loss. The Energy Star programs rates windows for energy-efficiency based on climate zones. The selected windows must be tailored for use in the 'Northern' climate zone.

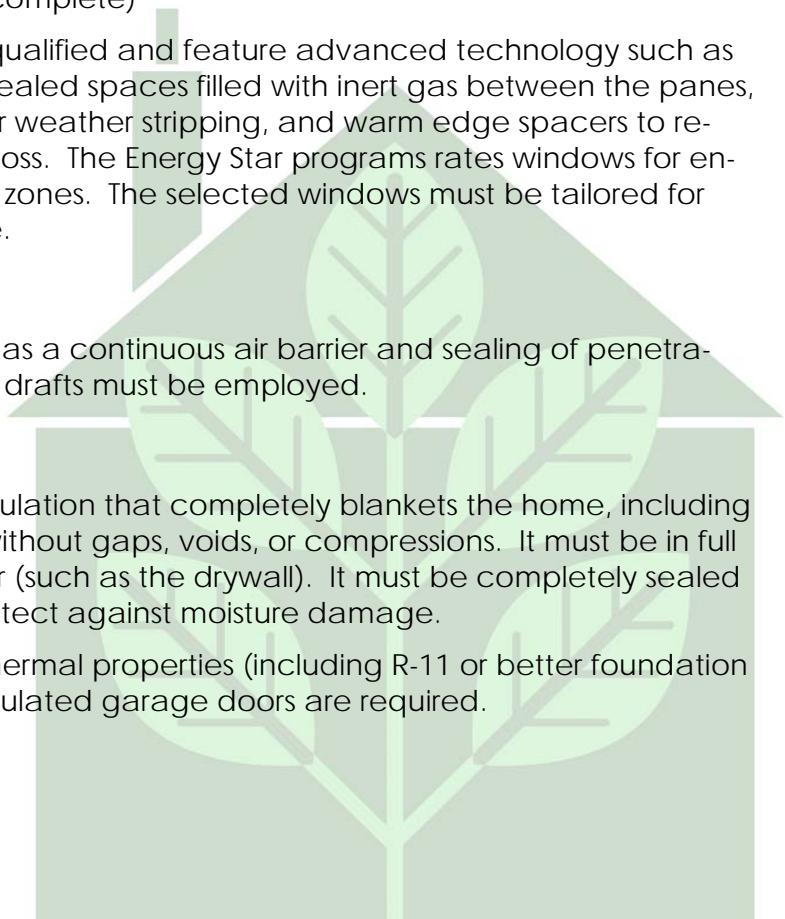
### Tight Construction:

Special framing techniques, such as a continuous air barrier and sealing of penetrations to reduce internal leaks and drafts must be employed.

### Improved Thermal Systems:

The home must have effective insulation that completely blankets the home, including exterior walls, ceiling, and floors without gaps, voids, or compressions. It must be in full contact with the interior air barrier (such as the drywall). It must be completely sealed along the interior air barrier to protect against moisture damage.

The insulation must have higher thermal properties (including R-11 or better foundation insulation on basement walls). Insulated garage doors are required.



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## CRITERIA

### Efficient Duct Systems:

All ductwork must be properly sealed and insulated.

- Ducts should be installed in conditioned spaces where possible.
- Ducts should be sealed with mastic or Underwriters Laboratory (UL) 181 approved tapes as opposed to standard 'duct tape'.

Ducts not installed in conditioned spaces should be insulated as recommended by the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

The ducts must have no more than 3% leakage.

### Efficient Heating:

Energy Star qualified heating systems, which are designed to use less energy than standard systems, are required. Furnaces must have an annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE) rating of 93 percent or higher.

The system must be 'right sized' in that load calculations (from Manual J and Manual S of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America [ACCA]) should be used to determine heating requirements and ACCA Manual D should be used to properly size the duct system.

Programmable thermostats must be utilized.

The airflow and duct leakage must be tested and adjusted to optimize efficiency, comfort and air quality.

### Efficient Cooling:

Energy Star qualified cooling systems, which are designed for lower energy use, increased comfort, and improved durability, must be used.

The system must be 'right sized' in that load calculations (from Manual J and Manual S of the Air Conditioning Contractors of America [ACCA]) should be used to determine air conditioning requirement and ACCA Manual D should be used to properly size the duct system.

Air handling equipment and ducts should be placed in the conditioned space of the home and outdoor compressors should be positioned to avoid direct sun exposure while allowing room for airflow.

The airflow and duct leakage must be tested and airflow adjusted as necessary to improve operating efficiency, comfort, and indoor air quality.

### Fresh Air Ventilation:

Fresh air ventilation systems must be employed to help reduce dust, odors, and indoor contaminants. A mechanical ventilation system which circulates fresh air using ducts and fans must be installed in the home. Spot ventilation systems should also be provided for kitchens and bathrooms.

## Internal Moisture Management:

Vents, pressure balancing, fresh air ventilation, and "right-sized" HVAC equipment must be utilized to reduce moisture.

## Air Pressure Balancing:

Air pressure balancing must be used throughout the home for more-even temperatures and less potential for condensation build-up.

## Combustion Safety:

Combustion appliances in conditioned spaces must be sealed or power-vented to help avoid build-up of carbon monoxide. Vent-free fireplaces may not be used.

## Water:

Low-flow faucets and showerheads and high-efficiency toilets must be used exclusively. (Manufacturers specifications must be available at time of inspection)

- Kitchen faucets may deliver no more than 2.2 gallons per minute at a pressure of 60 psi.
- Bathroom faucets may deliver no more than 1.5 gallons per minute at a pressure of 60 psi.
- Showerheads may deliver no more than 2.0 gallons per minute at a pressure of 80 psi.
- High-efficiency toilets that flush with no more than 1.6 gallons of water are required.

## HOW TO APPLY

\$100,000 has been budgeted for this program. If the home that you are planning to build meets the eligibility requirements, the Village strongly encourages you to apply.

In addition to the Village of Romeoville new home permit application, fees, and supporting documents, the following documents must be submitted.

- A letter requesting the grant that addresses how the new home meets each of the eligibility requirements listed in this document.
- Four (4) sets of construction plans. The construction plans must include full sets of mechanical plans and details on all appliances and fixtures needed to meet the eligibility requirements.
- Four (4) sets of supporting calculations
- Require a RESCHECK showing that the proposed home meets or exceeds 2003 IECC

Please do not hesitate to contact the Building Commissioner should you have further questions regarding the program.

APPLY NOW FOR \$5,000 TOWARDS  
YOUR ENERGY-EFFICIENT DREAM HOME.



*Acknowledgment:* This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy under Award Number DE-EE 000 2165.

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Village of Romeoville

Community Development Department

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Romeoville, Illinois 60446

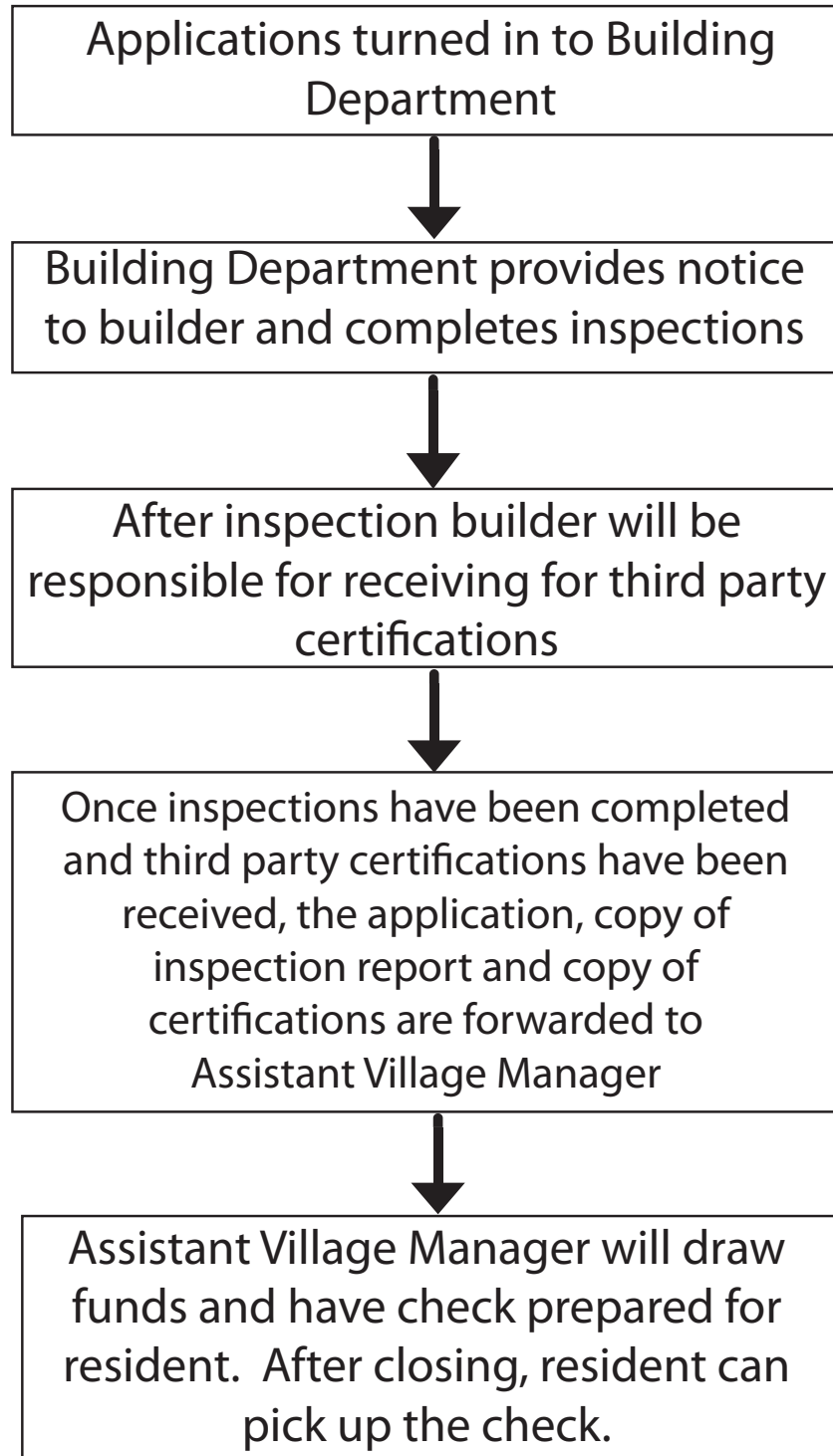
Phone: 815-886-7213

Fax: 815-886-2724

E-mail: [buildinginspections@romeoville.org](mailto:buildinginspections@romeoville.org)



## Process of Energy Efficient New Home Incentive Grant Program





**Energy Efficient New Home Incentive Grant  
Program Application**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Subdivision: \_\_\_\_\_

I acknowledge the requirements for the Village of Romeoville Energy Efficiently Program as outlined in the Incentive Program. I further acknowledge that if all requirements are not met the incentive will not be given. If approved and after the certificate of occupancy and all requirements have been met, the homeowner will be given a \$5000.00 check after closing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date