

Home Energy Loan Program

ENERGY EFFICIENCY HOME EVALUATION (ENERGY AUDIT)

What is an *EnerGuide Energy Efficiency Home Evaluation* or an “energy audit”?

- An *EnerGuide Energy Efficiency Home Evaluation*, or energy audit, is an in-person assessment of your home to understand its energy performance. The home is given an EnerGuide rating that indicates how much energy your home uses compared to other homes.
- The energy audit is completed by a professional energy advisor who will inspect your home for air tightness, insulation levels, evaluate the size and efficiency of your heating and cooling equipment, and review any other information related to your home’s energy performance.
- The energy advisor will take photos of the outside of your house, mechanical systems (furnace, air conditioning, etc.), attic space, and any wood-burning appliances for quality assurance and record keeping.
- After your audit is complete you will receive the following:
 - ▶ An EnerGuide rating and label
 - ▶ A homeowner information sheet
 - ▶ A Renovation Upgrade Report
- For more information on energy audits, you can visit [Natural Resources Canada Website](#).

Are energy audits required to participate in the Home Energy Loan Program (HELP)?

- Yes, to participate in HELP, you are required to schedule an EnerGuide energy audit both before your home upgrade project, and after the project is done.
- The first audit is conducted before your renovation or home upgrades occur, and then a second audit is conducted after the work is complete. The goal is that the second evaluation shows an improvement over the first.
- If you have completed an energy audit on your home within the past two years, the pre-project energy audit can be skipped.

If this applies to you, you must provide documentation that the previous energy audit was EnerGuide standard and completed on the same home that you are applying for a HELP loan on.

What do they cost?

- Energy audits done by a certified EnerGuide advisor typically cost \$500–600 for the pre-project energy audit and \$300–400 for the post-project energy audit. The cost may be higher for large homes.
- Up to \$600 for the cost of the audits can be reimbursed if you register for [Canada Greener Homes Grant Program](#), but you must register for this grant before you complete the audits.

Who can do energy audits?

- Only an EnerGuide Advisor certified by Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) can complete energy audits, you cannot perform an EnerGuide audit on your own home.
- In Saskatchewan, there are many organizations that can complete energy audits for HELP. NRCan's website has a [complete list](#) of the companies that can do this work.
 - ▶ [Visit the website](#) and type "SK" in the filter items box to see all the companies that can do audits in Saskatchewan.

What are the benefits of an energy audit?

- After a pre-project audit, a certified EnerGuide advisor will give you unbiased, customized advice on upgrades for your home that will have the greatest impact on energy use, home comfort, utility bills, and reduction in pollution (greenhouse gases).
 - ▶ The results of an energy audit can help you set priorities for renovations based on your customized needs and budget.
- Post-project audits protect HELP participants by checking your list of planned upgrades against the work that was completed, before contractors are paid.
- Audits will also provide crucial data to the City which will allow City staff to create new programs for residents and monitor program success for reduced greenhouse gases and pollution.
- Auditing data can also help the City map out which areas have received an audit, so they can incentivize energy audits in areas of the city which lack this information.

New Energy Coaching Service Now Available with Summerhill

Having a hard time understanding your Energy Audit? Do you need assistance identifying which home upgrades would benefit your home the most?

If so, reach out to our team of Summerhill Energy Coaches by email or telephone who can help with all your renovation needs!

Energy Coaches

☎ [1-888-834-1889](tel:1-888-834-1889)

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