



Proposed Recognition Criteria for Ductless Split Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps

Scope

Included products. Residential mini-split and multiple-split non-ducted air conditioners and heat pumps, as defined below, are eligible for ENERGY STAR® Most Efficient recognition in 2013.

Mini-split Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps¹: Systems that have a single outdoor section and one or more indoor sections. The indoor sections cycle on and off in unison in response to a single indoor thermostat.

Multiple-split Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps¹: Systems that have two or more indoor sections. The indoor sections operate independently and can be used to condition multiple zones in response to multiple indoor thermostats.

Non-ducted Air Conditioner or Heat Pump¹: A system that is designed to be permanently installed equipment and directly heats or cools air within the conditioned space using one or more indoor coils that are mounted on room walls and/or ceilings. The unit may be of a modular design that allows for combining multiple outdoor coils and compressors to create one overall system. Non-ducted systems eligible for Most Efficient are all split systems.

Excluded products. The following products are not eligible for Most Efficient recognition in 2013:

- Units that run on three-phase power.
- Units rated for more than 65,000 Btu/hr of cooling.
- Ducted and packaged units are eligible for Most Efficient 2013 recognition, with different requirements.

Recognition Criteria

1) Product must be ENERGY STAR qualified consistent with applicable ENERGY STAR Partner Commitments and the requirements set forth in the latest version of the ENERGY STAR Program Requirements Product Specification for Central Air Conditioners/Air-Source Heat Pumps Version 4.1. Product performance must be certified by an EPA-recognized certification body.

2) Products must meet the following cooling and heating performance levels: 20 SEER, 12.5 EER and (for heat pumps) 9.6 HSPF

3) Non-ducted air conditioners and heat pumps must have an indicator that the filter needs checking and/or cleaning, and an indicator that the system is in need of service by a qualified technician. It is recommended that these indicators display in plain text on the consumer control.

¹ 10 CFR Part 430, Subpart B, Appendix M - Uniform Test Method for Measuring the Energy Consumption of Central Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps.

Recognition Period
Upon review and approval of applications received from ENERGY STAR Partners, EPA will add qualifying models to the 2013 Most Efficient product list for non-ducted air conditioners and heat pumps from January 1, 2013 through December 30, 2013. The 2013 Most Efficient designation may be used in association with models recognized during this period for as long as the model remains on the market.