

2016 ENERGY STAR® Awards Overview

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We encourage all ENERGY STAR partners to apply for the prestigious Partner of the Year Awards. There is no separate application for Sustained Excellence Awards; the evaluation team at EPA determines which partners (based on current and past efforts) receive Partner of the Year – Sustained Excellence Awards. Beginning in 2013, we launched a form of additional recognition: the ENERGY STAR Climate Communicator Award. The Excellence Awards are a third tier of recognition for partners and other organizations that work with ENERGY STAR. For an overview of each award, see the table below.

Award	Eligibility*	Notes
Partner of the Year – Energy Efficiency Program Delivery	Utilities, state agencies, regional energy efficiency nonprofit organizations, associations, and other organizations that sponsor energy efficiency and environmental programs.	For-profit energy service and Product Providers, apply instead to Partner of the Year – Service and Product Providers
Partner of the Year – Home Energy Rater	Home Energy Raters and providers -- nominated by home builders	Nominated by home builders in their applications
Partner of the Year – New Home Builder/Developer	Home builder partners who formally committed to building 100% of their homes to ENERGY STAR guidelines; maintained a partnership with ENERGY STAR for one full year; and built at least 25 ENERGY STAR certified homes. In addition, ENERGY STAR multifamily high rise developer partners who have maintained a partnership with ENERGY STAR for one full year; and built an ENERGY STAR certified multifamily high rise building in the past year are also eligible.	
Affordable Housing	Beginning this year, the Partner of the Year – New Homes Builder award will also be used to recognize partners demonstrating excellence and innovation in building and promoting ENERGY STAR certified homes for the affordable housing and low-income housing community. Because of this change, partners who have previously applied through the Sustained Excellence or Excellence in Affordable Housing awards should use this application.	
Partner of the Year – Multifamily High Rise Developer	Must be an active ENERGY STAR Multifamily High Rise Developer partner; and have had an approved Project Application, Proposed Design Submittal or As-Built Submittal in 2013, or be actively benchmarking an ENERGY STAR certified multifamily building in 2013.	
Partner of the Year – Energy Management	ENERGY STAR partners that can demonstrate improved energy performance of buildings and plants through a corporate-wide energy program.	
Partner of the Year - Product Brand Owner	Manufacturers of ENERGY STAR qualified products and service providers (e.g., cable, satellite, and telecommunications providers) who label and distribute ENERGY STAR certified products.	
Partner of the Year – Retailer	Retailers of ENERGY STAR certified products. To be eligible for an award, applicant must be a partner in good standing, having complied with applicable partner commitments.	
Partner of the Year – Service and Product Provider	ENERGY STAR Partners that provide energy efficiency related products and/or services to the commercial, institutional, and industrial markets including energy services companies (ESCOs), unregulated energy retailers and marketers, engineers, architects, energy consultants, contractors, distributors, manufacturers, commercial lenders, energy information providers, and any other provider of energy efficiency-related products and/or services.	
Climate Communicator	All ENERGY STAR Partners. To be considered, please submit the application with narrative and quantifiable achievements that demonstrate how your ENERGY STAR efforts have helped consumers understand how their actions can individually and/or collectively protect the climate.	
Contractor of the Year – Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program	All Home Performance with ENERGY STAR contractors.	
Excellence – ENERGY STAR Promotion	All ENERGY STAR partner retailers, manufacturers, Energy Efficiency Program Sponsors, or other organizations, that planned and executed a successful	

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	promotion, marketing or consumer education campaign around an ENERGY STAR qualified product category, series of products, or ENERGY STAR at large.	
Excellence – Lighting Retailer or Showroom	Lighting retailers or showrooms stocking and promoting ENERGY STAR qualified light fixtures, and qualified lamps, of all technologies.	

ENERGY STAR® is the simple choice for energy efficiency. For more than 20 years, EPA's ENERGY STAR program has been America's resource for saving energy and protecting the environment. Join the millions making a difference at energystar.gov.