

# 2017 ENERGY STAR® Awards Overview

The simple choice for energy efficiency.



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. Additional forms of recognition for partners and other organizations that work with ENERGY STAR are the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Contractor of the Year Award, the Excellence in Data Innovation Award, and the Excellence in ENERGY STAR Promotions Award. 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 - New Home Builder (includes Affordable Housing)	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, home energy raters can be nominated by home builders. Affordable housing partners can apply through this category as well. State and local governments, non-profit organizations, associations, and utilities that used public funding (e.g., federal/state grants, LIHTC funds, ratepayer funds) to build ENERGY STAR certified single-family or low-rise multifamily homes for the low-income housing sector during the last calendar year, or that developed and administered publicly-funded policies and/or programs that promoted the construction of ENERGY STAR certified homes (single-family, low- or high-rise multifamily) in the past year.  Note: Home Energy Raters are nominated by New Home Builder/Affordable Housing partners. If the builder is selected for an award, the corresponding nominated rater(s) will be awarded.	Utilities, state agencies, regional energy efficiency nonprofit organizations, associations, and other organizations that sponsor sustained energy efficiency and environmental programs that either do not include ENERGY STAR certified homes for the low-income sector OR where ENERGY STAR certified homes for the low-income sector is but a component of a larger ENERGY STAR-focused sponsorship program should instead apply for the Partner of the Year – Energy Efficiency Program Delivery award.
Partner of the Year - Multifamily High Rise Developer	Must be an active ENERGY STAR Multifamily High Rise Developer partner; and have had an approved Proposed Design Submittal or As-Built Submittal in 2015 or 2016, be actively benchmarking an ENERGY STAR certified multifamily building in 2016, or have a project achieve design approval or certification in 2015 or 2016 through the NYSERDA Multifamily Performance Program.	
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.	

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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.	
Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Contractor of the Year	All Home Performance with ENERGY STAR contractors	
Excellence – Data Innovation	ENERGY STAR energy efficiency program sponsors, service and product providers, state and local governments, and/or other partner organizations that have demonstrated innovation in increasing access to the data required by EPA’s ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool, and/or expanding the use of the data and building performance metrics available from it.	This award is focused on innovation, and therefore will not recognize a partner for the same activity more than once. Organizations with ongoing but notable business practices supporting general benchmarking and the use of energy performance data should not apply for this award, but should instead apply for the Service and Product Provider Program Delivery or Partner of the Year award.
Excellence - ENERGY STAR Promotion	All ENERGY STAR partner retailers, manufacturers, Energy Efficiency Program Sponsors, or other organizations, that planned and executed a successful promotion, marketing or consumer education campaign around an ENERGY STAR qualified product category, series of products, or ENERGY STAR at large.	

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](http://energystar.gov).