

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460



**OFFICE OF  
AIR AND RADIATION**

February 28, 2023

Dear ENERGY STAR® Room Air Conditioner Partners or Other Interested Stakeholders,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is pleased to share the Final [ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 Room Air Conditioner specification](#). EPA would like to thank the many stakeholders who have invested time and effort to contribute feedback that has informed this product specification process. The effective date for this ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioner specification will be October 30, 2023.

The ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 specification will recognize the best in energy efficiency and will continue to arm consumers with features and materials that further their energy savings including; consumer overridable energy saver mode, installation materials and instructions, and filter change reminders, as well as refrigerant information. Further, products seeking connected recognition will do so without required demand response testing under Version 5.0. If all room air conditioners sold in the United States were certified to ENERGY STAR Version 5.0, the energy cost savings would grow to more than \$1 billion each year and 5.7 MMT of greenhouse gas emissions would be avoided annually.

Since initiating the Version 5.0 ENERGY STAR specification revision for room air conditioners in July 2022, EPA has released three drafts and held numerous webinars and meetings to collect feedback from stakeholders, as well as coordinated with DOE to ensure the ENERGY STAR specification harmonizes with DOE's definitions and test methods used in minimum efficiency standards. EPA received comments from numerous stakeholders, including manufacturers, utilities, and energy efficiency organizations.

EPA received one set of comments in response to the final draft specification that focused on topics shared and responded to previously, including the timing of the finalization of this specification and the provision of a credit for connected room air conditioners. EPA weighed these comments previously as the Agency did those of other stakeholders who supported the timing and the simplification of the connected testing. One new concern was shared specific to Energy Saver Mode. EPA has maintained the Energy Saver Mode requirements and notes that Energy Saver Mode is overridable by the consumer if they are dissatisfied.

The Version 5.0 ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioner final specification is unchanged from the final draft. Stakeholder comments, the final draft, previous drafts of the specification, and all related supporting materials are available on the [ENERGY STAR Room Air Conditioner Version 5.0 Specification Development webpage](#).

### **Timeline and Next Steps**

EPA shares partners' desire for a smooth transition from one ENERGY STAR specification to the next so that consumers can expect ENERGY STAR labeled products to fully meet the latest requirements upon their effective date. Considering this, EPA has established the following timeline:

- Effective immediately, manufacturers may elect to have their Certification Body (CB) certify their eligible products to the Version 5.0 requirements.
- On June 12, 2023, CBs will be instructed to stop certifying new product submittals to Version 4.2. Note, however, that existing certifications will remain valid until October 30, 2023.
- Any room air conditioners manufactured as of October 30, 2023, must meet Version 5.0 requirements to bear the ENERGY STAR mark. All certifications of products to the Version 4.2 specification will be invalid for purposes of ENERGY STAR certification, and CBs will only submit product models certification to Version 5.0 to EPA.

ENERGY STAR partnership as a manufacturer is limited to organizations that own and/or license a brand name under which they sell eligible products in the United States and/or Canada. Partnership is not available to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) that do not sell directly to consumers or end users. OEMs may certify products on behalf of the ENERGY STAR brand owners/licensees; however, the brand owner must be the ENERGY STAR partner associated directly with the certified product models because only partners are authorized to use the ENERGY STAR certification mark.

EPA thanks stakeholders who provided feedback during the specification revision process and looks forward to working with you as you certify and market your ENERGY STAR certified room air conditioners. If you have any questions or concerns about the specification or partnership process, please contact me at [kaplan.katharine@epa.gov](mailto:kaplan.katharine@epa.gov) or (202) 343-9120, or Steve Leybourn, ICF, at [Steve.Leybourn@icf.com](mailto:Steve.Leybourn@icf.com) or (202) 862-1566.

Thank you for your continued support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katharine Kaplan".

Katharine Kaplan, Manager, Product Development and Product Administration  
ENERGY STAR Labeled Products

Enclosures:

[ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 Room Air Conditioner Specification](#)

[ENERGY STAR Version 5.0 Room Air Conditioner Final Data & Analysis Package](#)