

# NET ZERO Program Bulletin

CANADIAN  
HOME BUILDERS'  
ASSOCIATION



## Eligibility and Designation Maintenance Criteria Changes for Energy Advisors and Service Organizations

NET ZERO BULLETIN 11

The eligibility and designation maintenance criteria for the CHBA Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisor and CHBA Qualified Net Zero Service Organizations designations have been amended. To better ensure that those who achieve these designations are highly experienced, and that they continue to meet the designation maintenance criteria, CHBA staff have been working with the key stakeholders including program participants to make these changes, which take effect June 30, 2025 for any new applicants. Existing CHBA Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisor and CHBA Qualified Net Zero Service Organizations who do not meet the new criteria are being grandfathered per the timelines detailed below.:

### Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisor

#### Eligibility Requirements:

1. **CHBA Membership.** Be a CHBA member in good standing.
2. **CACEA Membership.** Be a full CACEA member in good standing.
3. **EnerGuide.** Be registered through NRCAN to deliver the EnerGuide Rating System.
4. **Letter of Recommendation:** EAs must provide a letter of recommendation from the Qualified Net Zero Service Organization that they will be labelling through, prior to taking the Net Zero Energy Advisor Training. The letter shall indicate that the EA meets the experience requirements for at least one EA Credential.
  - I. **New Home Credential:** Have a minimum of 4 years as a continuous practicing NRCAN REA or, at least **100 ERS** files on new homes (Only N files can be counted. A combination of modelled and on-site).
  - II. **Renovation Credential:** Have a minimum of 4 years as a continuous practicing NRCAN REA or, at least **20 ERS** files on renovated homes. A minimum of 10 completed pairs. (D/E files can be counted. A combination of modelled and on-site).
5. **Training Required:**
  - I. Complete and pass the CHBA Net Zero Builder Training and an eligible Building Science pre-requisite course. For the Renovation Credential complete and pass the CHBA Net Zero Renovator Training.
  - II. Pass the EA course Prior Learning Assessment(s) for the EA Credential that the EA is working towards.
  - III. Complete and pass the CHBA Net Zero Energy Advisor Training.

#### Key Highlights:

- Being licensed to deliver ENERGY STAR for New Homes or R-2000 is no longer required.
- CACEA full membership is now required.
- New EAs must provide an SO letter of recommendation before taking the Net Zero Energy Advisor Training.
- EA Credentials have been developed. EAs must now meet the criteria for New Homes, Renovations, or both, before labelling those housing types. The EA Credentials indicates which housing type the Energy Advisor is eligible to label. EA Credentials will be indicated via the EA's annual registration and reflected publicly on the CHBA website.

#### Designation Maintenance:

Maintain items 1-3 in the eligibility criteria and complete the Annual Participant Agreement & Attestation, including payment of the Annual Participant Registration Fee on an ongoing basis plus:

- Submit a minimum of 3 labelled homes every 3 years **or** retake the Net Zero Energy Advisor course every 3 years.
- For those with the Renovations Credential, submit only 1 labelled home over 3 years **or** retake the Net Zero Energy Advisor course every 3 years.
- For those with both Credentials, submit 3 of either label type over 3 years **or** retake the Net Zero Energy Advisor course every 3 years.

#### Adherence Period:

- **As of June 30, 2025** - All existing Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisors will be grandfathered in the Net Zero Home Labelling Program.
- **As of January 1, 2026** – Existing Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisors will need to demonstrate adherence to 1-3 of the eligibility criteria.
- **Effective January 1, 2027** - Existing Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisor's must demonstrate adherence to all designation maintenance criteria. This extended timeframe will allow time to label the required number of homes or re-take the Net Zero Energy Advisor course.

### **Qualified Net Zero Service Organization**

#### **Eligibility Criteria:**

1. **CHBA Membership.** Be a CHBA member in good standing.
2. **EnerGuide.** Be a licensed Service Organization through NRCAN to deliver the EnerGuide Rating System.
3. **Experience.** Have a minimum of 4 years of experience as an NRCAN licensed SO and have experience delivering other voluntary residential construction and renovation energy efficiency labelling programs.
4. **Energy Advisor.** Must employ/contract at least one CHBA Qualified Net Zero Energy Advisor (EA) and ensure they meet all Program requirements.
5. **References.** Three references shall be provided as outlined in the Administrative Requirements.
6. **Application.** Submit the CHBA Qualified Net Zero Service Organization application form. Applications are vetted through a Service Organization peer review process. Once approved, the SO must sign the Annual Participant Agreement & Attestation and pay the Annual Participant Registration Fee.

#### **Key Highlights:**

- Being licensed to deliver ENERGY STAR for New Homes or R-2000 is no longer required.
- New minimum experience requirements have been added.
- New application process, including reference checks and peer review vetting.

#### **Designation Maintenance:**

Maintain 1-4 in the eligibility criteria and complete the Annual Participant Agreement & Attestation including payment of the Annual Participant Registration Fee on an ongoing basis plus:

- A representative from each SO must be in attendance at each of the SO Meetings (4-5 times per year). Proxies can be substituted.

#### **Adherence Period:**

- **As of June 30, 2025** - All existing Qualified Net Zero Service Organizations will be grandfathered in the Net Zero Home Labelling Program.

Learn more:

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**CONTACT THE NET ZERO TEAM**

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