



How to Become a Certified Home Energy Rater

A **Certified Home Energy Rater** or **Rater** is a person trained and certified by an accredited Home Energy Rating Provider to inspect and evaluate a home's energy features, prepare a home energy rating and make recommendations for improvements that will save the homeowner energy and money.

The path to becoming a Home Energy Rater begins with attending Rater Training classes.

- First, locate an accredited Energy Rater Training organization. The organizations are listed on the Residential Energy Services Network's (RESNET) website at http://www.resnet.us/professional/programs/training_providers
- Training is required to become a certified Home Energy Rater and some training providers offer a portion of their training online.
- It is wise to begin preparing prior to attending rater training by studying the materials recommended by the training organization you have selected. Additional study materials are also listed here http://www.resnet.us/professional/rater/national_rater_test
- All candidates must pass the national core competency tests including National Rater Exam, Work Scope and Combustion Safety Test, the RESNET Combustion Appliance Simulation Test and the RESNET Rater Simulation Practical Test
- If the rater candidate does not pass the Rater test the first time, there are proctoring guidelines from RESNET that describe how retake the test closer the location of the rater candidate.

The final aspect of the Rater certification process is to sign a rater agreement with a RESNET accredited Rating Provider and complete probationary ratings.

- The Home Energy Rating industry is overseen by RESNET and is structured to ensure a high level of quality assurance. With that in mind, energy raters must work through a Rating Provider, who is responsible for their certification and quality assurance.
- The accredited Rating Providers are also listed on the RESNET website at http://www.resnet.us/professional/programs/search_directory
- An accredited Rating Provider will assist new Raters in overseeing their required five probationary ratings. Rating Providers may require more than the minimum required five probationary ratings.
- After completing a minimum of five probationary ratings and passing all required Rater exams successfully, the Rating Provider will issue a document stating that the candidate has passed the course work necessary to become a HERS Certified Rater and may apply for a Rating Test Identification Number or RTIN.
- All of the required exams and the probationary ratings must be completed within 15 months.
- Candidates will need to sign a Rater Agreement outlining the responsibilities and obligations for both the Rater and the Rating Provider; this is detailed in the RESNET Standards.
- RESNET Standards require the Rating Provider to perform file quality assurance reviews on a minimum of 10% of all energy ratings and field quality assurance reviews on a minimum of 1% of the ratings for each rater.

Want to find more information? Please visit the RESNET website at <http://www.resnet.us/professional/rater/what-is-a-hers>