

# Georgia Power's EarthCents® Home Energy Improvement Program



Looking for ways to save money and make your home more energy-efficient? Georgia Power can help with our EarthCents Home Energy Improvement Program.

Choose the approach that best fits your specific needs and budget. The program offers Georgia Power homeowners two ways to make energy efficiency upgrades: Whole-House or Individual Improvements.

***"The rebate was my main reason to try the Georgia Power EarthCents Home Energy Improvement Program. Knowing that I would get something back, along with the annual savings, and knowing that I was trying to make my house more energy efficient – and being more responsible as far as energy cost and usage goes."*** Kris - Atlanta, Georgia

## The Whole-House Approach

If you want a more comprehensive approach to reduce the total energy use in your home, consider the Whole-House approach. This approach provides the largest potential energy savings, but has more upfront costs. Depending on the total energy reduction level you want to reach, you can qualify for up to \$2,200 in rebates to offset the cost of making improvements.

Rather than focusing only on an inefficient heating or cooling system, inadequate insulation or drafty rooms, your house is viewed comprehensively to assess all systems and how they work together. By viewing your home as one system, specifically tailored recommendations for your home can be developed. Receiving a comprehensive assessment and integrated energy improvements can be beneficial for all homes. The assessment is particularly recommended for older homes.

***"I would say my home energy improvements turned out much better than I expected. I never thought I could have a 30-year-old home that would be more energy efficient than a brand new house. I was pretty impressed by the savings!"***  
Rocco - Dunwoody, Georgia

The Whole-House approach begins with the Building Performance Institute (BPI)-certified contractor you select using state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment and software to perform a comprehensive home energy assessment. The contractor identifies and recommends specific energy-saving home improvements that help you reach a total energy reduction goal of 20 percent to 30 percent.

Once the recommended improvements are successfully completed by a participating BPI-certified contractor, a follow-up assessment will then be performed to determine the resulting energy performance. Customers will then be able to receive a rebates of up to \$2,200 based on the energy savings percentage achieved.

Benefits of the Whole-House approach can include:

- Rebates up to \$2,200 to help cover a portion of the home assessment and improvement costs
- Potential energy use savings of up to 20 percent to 30 percent
- Work performed by participating BPI-certified contractors
- Third-party quality assurance to verify that the work is done properly
- More comfortable rooms with fewer drafts and hot/cold spots



## The Individual Improvements Approach

If you are interested in an approach that allows you the maximum flexibility to make specific qualified upgrades, you should consider the Individual Improvements approach. The Individual Improvements approach offers a list of qualifying individual improvements for homeowners to make specific energy-efficient improvements to their home.

Under the Individual Improvements approach, customers are eligible to receive total rebates up to \$700 annually. Individual improvement rebate amounts range from \$50 to \$400. Individual improvements include, but are not limited to, air and duct sealing, attic insulation, heat pump and solar water heaters, and programmable thermostats. For a complete list of individual improvement options and their individual rebate caps, please see the Individual Improvements & Rebates chart or visit [georgiapower.com/homeimprovements](http://georgiapower.com/homeimprovements).

For example, a customer decides to insulate their attic. The total cost is \$1,000. The attic insulation rebate is set at 50 percent of the cost of making the improvement subject to a \$300 cap. In this case, the customer is eligible to receive \$300. The customer then decides to seal their ductwork. The total cost is \$1,000. The duct sealing rebate is set at 50 percent of the cost of making the improvement subject to a \$400 cap. With this addition, the customer has reached the \$700 maximum annual rebate cap.

Benefits of the Individual Improvements approach can include:

- Flexible improvement options for your budget
- Rebates of 50 percent of total cost of improvements
- Annual total rebate of up to \$700
- Work performed by BPI-certified contractor, non-BPI contractor, or homeowner depending on improvement type
- More comfortable rooms with fewer drafts and hot/cold spots
- Annual energy use savings

## Get Started Today!

**First**, decide whether the Whole-House or the Individual Improvements approach is right for you.

**Second**, visit [georgiapower.com/homeimprovements](http://georgiapower.com/homeimprovements) and check out the Rebates page to learn about qualifying home energy improvements and available Georgia Power rebates.

**Third**, if you decide on the Whole-House approach, go to the Find a Contractor page at [georgiapower.com/homeimprovements](http://georgiapower.com/homeimprovements) and select a participating BPI-certified contractor to schedule a home energy assessment. It is recommended that you speak to a few contractors in your area before deciding on one or more contractors.

If the Individual Improvements approach is the best choice for you, you may choose to hire any state-licensed contractor to install certain improvements. Depending on which qualifying improvement you choose to make, installation may be performed by a BPI-certified contractor, a non-BPI certified contractor, or the homeowner. It is recommended that you speak to a few contractors in your area before deciding on one or more contractors.

So whether it's the flexibility of the Individual Improvements approach or the more comprehensive total energy reduction of the Whole-House approach, the EarthCents Home Energy Improvement Program gives you the information and available rebates to help you make your home more energy-efficient.

Customers should discuss the EarthCents Home Energy Improvement Program and specific concerns about their home with their contractor(s) to confirm which approach and improvements are best.

To learn more about qualifying home energy improvements, visit [georgiapower.com/homeimprovements](http://georgiapower.com/homeimprovements) or call 1.877.310.5607.



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Must be a Georgia Power customer. Rebates good from January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2012. All rebates are subject to limitations, and are subject to change at any time. Customer acknowledges and agrees that Georgia Power's liability and responsibility in connection with any rebate program shall be strictly limited to the making of certain rebate payments to eligible applicants, and that Georgia Power is not making, will not be providing, and specifically disclaims any representations, warranties, covenants, or guaranties whatsoever, expressed or implied, in connection with the equipment or the program itself, including, without limitation, those regarding merchantability or fitness. Warranties with respect to the equipment are strictly manufacturer's warranties, and applicant shall not make, nor have the right to make, any claims against Georgia Power relating to any such warranty. Georgia Power shall in no way be liable or responsible for any equipment installed or any act or omission of any other entity or individual, including, without limitation, any contractor, technician, or other service provider. Georgia Power reserves the right to cancel or modify the rebate program at any time in its sole discretion.

# Georgia Power's EarthCents<sup>®</sup> Home Energy Improvement Program

The EarthCents Home Energy Improvement Program provides two approaches for making your home more energy efficient. Choose the approach that best fits your specific needs and budget. The Whole-House approach can provide the largest potential energy savings, but has more upfront costs. A participating contractor conducts a comprehensive analysis of your home to identify the improvements you must make to reach a total energy reduction goal of at least 20 percent. The Individual Improvements approach allows you to make specific qualified upgrades. Please visit [georgiapower.com/homeimprovements](http://georgiapower.com/homeimprovements) or call 1.877.310.5607 to learn more.

## Whole-House Reduction Levels & Rebates for Homes Served by Georgia Power

Energy Reduction Levels	Rebate Cap (% Cost)	Installers Permitted Program Participating Contractor <sup>1</sup>
Building Performance Institute (BPI) Assessment	50% up to \$200	x
20% Home Energy Reduction, or	50% up to \$1,250	x
25% Home Energy Reduction, or	50% up to \$1,450	x
30% Home Energy Reduction	50% up to \$1,850	x
Programmable Thermostat	50% up to \$100	x
Electric Water Heater Tank Wrap	50% up to \$50	x
<b>Maximum Potential Rebate</b>	<b>\$2,200</b>	

## Individual Improvements & Rebates for Homes Served by Georgia Power

Improvements	Rebate Cap (% Cost)	Installers Permitted		
		Program Participating Contractor <sup>1</sup>	Industry-Specific State Licensed Contractor <sup>2</sup>	Homeowner
BPI Assessment	50% up to \$200	x		
Air Sealing	50% up to \$400	x		
Attic Insulation <sup>3</sup>	50% up to \$300	x	x	x
Knee Wall Insulation <sup>3</sup>	50% up to \$150	x	x	x
Floor / Foundation Wall / Unvented Crawl space Insulation <sup>3</sup>	50% up to \$200	x	x	x
Rim Joist Insulation <sup>3</sup>	50% up to \$100	x	x	x
Duct Sealing <sup>4</sup>	50% up to \$400	x	x	
Replace Central AC with ≥ 16 SEER	\$50	x	x	
Replace Heat Pump with ≥ 15 SEER <sup>5</sup>	\$100	x	x	
Solar Water Heater	\$250	x	x	
Heat Pump Water Heater	\$250	x	x	
Programmable Thermostat	50% up to \$100	x	x	x
Electric Water Heater Tank Wrap	50% up to \$50	x	x	x
<b>Maximum Potential Annual Rebate</b>	<b>\$700</b>			

1. Program Participating Contractors are required to be certified BPI Building Analysts.
2. Contractor license must be specific to the improvements being made (i.e., conditioned air, plumbing, etc.).
3. Installation of dense pack or wet cellulose and spray foam insulation is also considered an air sealing improvement. Therefore, for homes with gas heat or gas water heaters, dense pack or wet cellulose and spray foam insulation must be installed by a Program Participating Contractor who is BPI-certified. A test-in and test-out assessment must be performed. As a result, these improvements are also eligible for the air sealing and assessment rebates. These additional requirements do not apply for an all-electric home.
4. A Program Participating Contractor or a licensed air conditioning contractor with Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) Verifier certification can seal and test ducts.
5. Heat pump installations may also qualify for a higher rebate during active heat pump rebate campaigns. Visit [georgiapower.com](http://georgiapower.com) to learn more and see if you qualify.



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# EarthCents Home Energy Improvement Program

Individual Improvements & Rebates (Conditions)		
Measures	Precondition	Measure Requirements
BPI Assessment	Georgia Power Customer	N/A
Air Sealing	N/A	≥20% reduction in CFM50; pass combustion safety test per BPI standards
Attic Insulation	≤ R-11, strongly recommend with air sealing	Add ≥ R-19 and/or improve to comply with current state code as structure allows
Knee Wall Insulation	Uninsulated; strongly recommend with air sealing	Add ≥ R-18 with six-sided air barrier as structure allows
Floor / Foundation Wall / Unvented Crawl space Insulation	Uninsulated; strongly recommend with air sealing crawl space	1. Add ≥R-11 spray foam or R-13 in cavity with six-sided air barrier for foundation walls or unvented 2. Floor insulation shall comply with current state code as structure allows and shall be installed to maintain continuous permanent contact with the underside of the subfloor decking
Rim Joist Insulation	Uninsulated; strongly recommend with air sealing	Add ≥R 11 spray foam or R-13 in cavity with six-sided air barrier and/or improve to comply with current state code as structure allows
Duct Sealing	Majority of ducts in unconditioned space	≥30% reduction in CFM25 (or equivalent) through duct system testing
High Efficiency Central Air Conditioning	Unit ≥ 10 years old	Replace AC with a new unit ≥ 16 SEER
High Efficiency Heat Pump	Unit ≥ 10 years old	Replace heat pump with a new unit ≥ 15 SEER
Solar Water Heater	N/A	EF ≥ 2.0 FHR (first hour rating) ≥ 50 gallons
Heat Pump Water Heater	N/A	EF ≥ 2.0 FHR (first hour rating) ≥ 50 gallons
Programmable Thermostat with Education	Standard thermostat or programmable thermostat that is ≥ 10 years old	Must have Intelligent Recovery technology; seven days, or 5-1-1, or 5-2 day programming per NEMA Standards for Energy Efficiency Requirements for Programmable Thermostats
Electric Water Heater Tank Wrap	≥ 5 years old	Installation of ≥ R-6 insulation blanket on electric water heater only, located in unconditioned space

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