

RESIDENTIAL HEAT PUMP PERFORMANCE RATING CHANGES



In **January 2023**, the U.S. Department of Energy is changing their minimum efficiency requirements for single-phase central air conditioners and heat pumps under 65,000 btu/h. These updated performance ratings are referred to as **SEER2** and **HSPF2** and will begin replacing the older SEER and HSPF rating metrics for equipment manufactured after January 1, 2023.

During this transition, contractors may find products labeled with either rating.

This notice is to ensure Comfort Ready Home contractors understand the upcoming changes and what products will continue to qualify for rebates for Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) utilities. Under the new specifications, ratings will vary between split packaged and ductless systems. The tables below highlight the equivalent requirements between the current and new ratings for residential equipment affected by this change.¹

EQUIPMENT	CURRENT MINIMUM EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT*	NEW EQUIVALENT MINIMUM EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT
PTCS Air-Source Heat Pumps		
PTCS Variable Speed Heat Pumps		
ASHP Conversion from Electric Forced-Air Furnace (without PTCS)		
Variable-Speed Air-Source Heat Pump Conversion from Electric Forced-Air Furnace (without PTCS)	9.0 HSPF 14.0 SEER	7.6 HSPF2 13.4 SEER2
Air-Source Heat Pump Upgrade (without PTCS)		
Variable-Speed Air-Source Heat Pump Upgrade (without PTCS)		
PTCS Commissioning, Controls, and Sizing for Heat Pumps with an HSPF below 9.0	9.0 HSPF (Max)	7.6 HSPF2 (Max)
Centrally Ducted Air Conditioners	16.0 SEER	15.2 SEER2
Ductless and Ducted Mini-Split Heat Pumps	9.0 HSPF	7.6 HSPF2
Ductless Heat Pump Upgrade	11.0 HSPF	10.4 HSPF2

Note: These changes do not affect PTHPs, VRFs or ground-source heat pumps. Those values will remain the same in the Implementation Manual.

*Requirements are provided by BPA and will be published in the **October 2022** Implementation Manual. As more units are rated under these new test standards, results will be compared against existing program thresholds to determine future heat pump specification changes.

Always check with your **local utility** or **Field Specialist** for current requirements.

¹For air-source heat pumps, the SEER2 rating is expected to be 4-5% lower than its SEER rating and the HSPF2 rating is expected to be 15-16% lower than its HSPF rating. For ductless heat pumps, the HSPF2 rating is expected to be 4-5% lower than its HSPF rating with no change to the SEER rating.

COMMERCIAL HEAT PUMP PERFORMANCE RATING CHANGES

In **January 2023**, the U.S. Department of Energy is changing their minimum efficiency requirements for single-phase central air conditioners and heat pumps under 65,000 btu/h. These updated performance ratings are referred to as **SEER2** and **HSPF2** and will begin replacing the older SEER and HSPF rating metrics for equipment **manufactured after January 1, 2023**.

Under the new specifications, ratings will vary between split and packaged systems as well

as ducted and ductless systems. The tables below highlight the equivalent requirements between the current and new ratings for commercial equipment affected by this change.¹

During this transition, Trade Allies may find qualified products labeled with either rating. Equipment that meets either the current or new equivalent requirements listed below can qualify for utility incentives.

AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMPS (CONVERSIONS AND UPGRADES)

EQUIPMENT SIZE (COOLING CAPACITY; BTU/H)	MODE	SUB-CATEGORY OR RATING CONDITION	CURRENT EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT	NEW EQUIVALENT EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT
< 65,000	COOLING	SPLIT SYSTEM & SINGLE PACKAGE	15.0 SEER	14.3 SEER2
	HEATING	SPLIT SYSTEM & SINGLE PACKAGE	8.5 HSPF	7.2 HSPF2

DUCTLESS HEAT PUMPS (CONVERSIONS AND UPGRADES)

INDOOR UNIT TYPE	CURRENT EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT	NEW EQUIVALENT EFFICIENCY REQUIREMENT
NON-DUCTED	11.0 HSPF	10.4 HSPF2
DUCTED OR MIXED	10.0 HSPF	9.4 HSPF2

Note: These changes do not affect PTHPs or VRFs. Those values will remain the same in the Implementation Manual.

This notice is to ensure Trade Ally Network NW trade allies understand the upcoming HSPF and SEER rating changes.

As more units are rated under these new test standards, public utilities supported by Trade Ally Network NW will compare results against existing program thresholds to determine potential heat pump specification changes for the **October 2023** Implementation Manual. For questions about these changes, contact your local field specialist or tradeallynetworknw@evergreen-efficiency.com.

¹For air-source heat pumps, the SEER2 rating is expected to be 4-5% lower than its SEER rating and the HSPF2 rating is expected to be 15-16% lower than its HSPF rating. For ductless heat pumps, the HSPF2 rating is expected to be 4-5% lower than its HSPF rating with no change to the SEER rating.