

# APPLICATION TRAINING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## Multifamily Residential Energy Pathways



The Multifamily Residential Energy Pathways (MREP) Contractor Network offers contractors the opportunity to support NYSERDA’s multifamily programs, including forthcoming Home Energy Rebate program funds through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The Home Energy Rebates Programs are split into two programs:

- Home Energy Rebates (HER) –
  - Total funding: \$159M
  - Per dwelling unit incentives based on energy savings, calculated through modeled or measured energy savings.
- Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR)
  - Total funding: \$158.4M

Prescriptive per dwelling unit incentives based on eligible measure categories.

**Table 1. Questions and Answers**

Question	Answers
We have a technology focusing on commercial refrigeration operating in foodservice, healthcare or laboratory locations in buildings. Does your term “multifamily” include such commercial/institutional locations or is your focus on residential?	This network is focused on serving existing Multifamily Residential buildings with 5+ Residential Dwelling Units. This network will not be used to service commercial or institutional locations.
Can you all list the NYSERDA multifamily network email?	Hello, the email address for the network is <a href="mailto:mrepnetwork@nyserd.ny.gov">mrepnetwork@nyserd.ny.gov</a> .
Is HEAR applicable to new construction or existing buildings only?	HEAR rebate is applicable to existing buildings only.
How do you become a contractor to do this work?	By completing the application and getting accepted to the network.
Do you mean by braided, customers can receive Con Ed incentive and NYSERDA in same building but not same measure?	By braided, yes, a project is eligible to receive both HEAR/HER rebates and state/utility incentives provided that the combination of incentives do not exceed total project costs. Federal and state/utility incentives could potentially be stacked for the same measure, but we are still working with utility partners to confirm what restrictions will be placed on stacking funding for the same measure. Those details will be provided in the program rules.

Table 1 continued

Question	Answers
For appliances (for example heat pump dryer) do they have to currently have a dryer that they are decommissioning? Or can they just purchase a new one if they do not have one, and have that installed?	Heat pump dryer is a good example and it's a similar process for other electrification measures. The purchase and installation of an electric heat pump clothes dryer is eligible for rebate only:  As a replacement for a non-electric clothes dryer; or  When the purchase is a first-time purchase of a heat pump clothes dryer for the dwelling unit, including upgrading an electric clothes dryer to a heat pump dryer.
Does 50% heating load mean that the boiler can stay and be used for colder months?	Yes, it may continue to be used as back-up heating source.
Is there a threshold that would qualify as an unacceptable risk to increase in utility bills?	NYSERDA is still developing that threshold and details about that threshold and what mitigation activities would be required for a project to participate in the program will be included in the program rules.
Are there min. qualifications for the service subcategories?	Yes, those will be detailed in the solicitation page once the application is live.
When will flex tech take new applicants?	For more information on FlexTech, please reach out to <a href="mailto:FlexTech@nyserda.ny.gov">FlexTech@nyserda.ny.gov</a> .
How will this be stacked with utility incentives? Is there any info on this yet?	NYSERDA is working hard to launch the IRA offer for the multifamily sector. These details are in the process of development and will be shared when they are ready. To keep up to date on IRA Developments please visit the following site <a href="#">Inflation Reduction Act - NYSEDA</a>
Would an independent service provider that participated in LCP be applicable for the shortened application option?	Contractors that have completed work in the last 3 years in one of those eligible programs (including LCP), will be eligible to submit a shortened application.
Will these slides be shared via email with registrants or posted online at a later time for review?	The slides will be shared and the recording will be on the website <a href="https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Become-a-NYSERDA-Qualified-Contractor/Multifamily-Residential-Energy-Pathways-Participating-Contractor-Network">https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Become-a-NYSERDA-Qualified-Contractor/Multifamily-Residential-Energy-Pathways-Participating-Contractor-Network</a> .
The application will be through Salesforce and not the new MYenergy portal?	This application is separate from the MYEnergy portal.
What is your passing score for the Shortened Application with only 20 points being available?	A passings score for the shortened application is 16 points out of 20.

**Table 1 continued**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answers</b>
Regarding the increase in utility cost limitations for electrification-focused incentives (HEAR), are you referring to an increase in utility costs for tenants, building owners, or both?	Tenants are the primary concern for this program. Some consideration is given for the owner, but low to moderate income tenants are main priority.
Please confirm that the \$200,000/building cap applies to both the HER and HEAR programs. For example, a portfolio of 10 affordable multifamily buildings would be eligible for a maximum of \$2 million under both programs, correct?	There is no per building cap for LMI programs. Cap is for market rate properties.
Are you offering any incentives for ductwork as that's often required when upgrading heating/cooling systems?	Currently there is no incentive for duct work in this program. You can stack incentives from other programs to make it more affordable.
Does NYSERDA offer the installation training?	Not currently.
Can you all have someone help us with case studies?	Depend on the category you are submitting in. Energy assessors are asked to provide case studies with 1-3 write up. For installers, write up is not required.
What's the difference between HEAR and HER programs?	<p>HEAR – electrification focused rebate with a specific set of measures for projects to install. Including heat pumps for heating and cooling, HP dryers, and other measures.</p> <p>HER – model energy savings with tiers</p> <p>Both programs have specific income requirements</p>
Just to confirm, the process for contractors that are already MFBSN contractors to become part of this new Multifamily contractor network is just completing the shortened application? Please correct me if I'm misunderstanding.	Yes, MFBSN members active and good standing are eligible for the shortened application.
Will incentive payments under both HEAR and HER programs be paid only to Multifamily Network Participating Contractors or will it also be possible for customers represented by Contractors to receive the payments directly?	In some cases, they allow for aggregators to be paid if approved by the program. This process will be detailed in the program materials.

Table 1 continued

Question	Answers
Are either assisted living communities, dormitories, or shelters eligible?	We can offer incentives for assisted living, but not for dorms or shelters. Reach out to the program for case-by-case questions.
Is there a threshold that would qualify as an unacceptable risk to increase in utility bills?	NYSERDA is working hard to launch the IRA offer for the multifamily sector. These details are in the process of development and will be shared when they are ready. To keep up to date on IRA Developments please visit the following site <a href="#">Inflation Reduction Act - NYSERDA</a>
Do projects recently completed the electrification retrofit are eligible?	Retroactive funds are only available for HER projects through affordable housing programs.
Are the dryers free?	The cost share differs - up to 80% of cost for market-rate homes and up to 100% for LMI homes
What types of Insurances are Required? (GL, Umbrella) or anything else?	The detailed insurance requirements will be in the solicitation. There are insurance requirements including type and level.
Are the audits done in NYHEP like singles or what other audit software?	Multifamily will have a separate list of approved software for energy audits.
Does this funding allow for building owners to do roof top solar to help lower the building utility usage?	A new solar installation is not an eligible measure to receive funding from either HEAR or HER.
Are the incentives available in locations not serviced by the large investor utilities like NYSEG or Con Ed? eg small municipal / coops.	Yes – incentives are available across NY State.
Will payment be before or after installation?	Currently payments are made after completion of the project.
Will each unit require an application like Empower, or just one that the landlord/ building owner complete?	There will only be one application needed per building owner.
Can people get both HEAR and HER funds?	Funds cannot be used for the same measure, but both programs are able to be used for different measures in the same project.
How long do you expect the funding for both programs to be available before being exhausted?	Anticipate committing funds within the next 3-4 years. Likely HEAR will be committed sooner.