

What state must the home be in to have an energy evaluation?

In order to have an energy evaluation, the energy advisor needs to perform a blower door test which depressurizes the house and measures air leakage. At a minimum, the house must have a space heating system in place at the time of the evaluation and it must be (or have been in the case of heating system failure) capable of keeping the interior living space at 21 degrees C. The house must also have all windows and doors in place. However, a maximum of one window or door unit can be missing as long as it is temporarily air sealed (e.g., covered with plywood and seams and edges sealed with caulking). Any broken window panes must also be air sealed (e.g., taped polyethylene) for the duration of the blower door test. If the temporary air sealing fails during the blower door test, the house will be considered ineligible. The building envelope, which includes the upper level ceilings, exterior walls, exposed floors, windows and doors, must be intact, including the interior and exterior surfaces (i.e., the interior finish and exterior siding must be in place). Any renovations underway in rooms or sections of the house can only affect interior partitions and not perforate the building envelope. The house must also be resting on its permanent foundation(s). There must be a supply of standard AC electrical power available by which to operate the blower door test equipment. If power is not available from a utility, the homeowner must come to an agreement with the service organization about arranging for a suitable power supply.

In addition to the above, there must also be a functional supply of domestic water supplied by the municipality or from a private source such as a well or a cistern system. Sewer service must be provided by the municipality, a private septic system or a holding tank (outhouses and bio-toilets are permissible as toilets). The kitchen space must include: an operable sink (or appropriate rough-ins); an operating stove (no portable devices) or hook-ups (i.e., rough-in for electrical connection with dedicated breaker, gas appliance rough-in, or solid-fuel fired cook stove chimney); and a minimum of six square feet (0.5 square metres) of counter space or evidence of future intent to install a permanent counter (not just a kitchen table).

Homeowners who have concerns should discuss their specific house issues with a [service organization](#). NRCan reserves the right to make the final decision based on program intent.

Source: NRCan - FAQ July 28, 2011

<http://oe.nrcan.gc.ca/residential/personal/retrofit-homes/questions-answers.cfm?attr=4#eh3>