



Home Upgrade Program Pathway Measure Guidance

Q: If 15% or 30% reduction in building air leakage is achieved through attic plane air sealing alone, can we count both attic insulation with attic plane air sealing and whole building air sealing measures?

A: Yes. So long as both the attic insulation R-value and the percent building leakage reduction are achieved, both measures can be claimed.

Q: Is a blower door test required at Test-in for determining the reduction in building air leakage?

A: No. The calculator will use default values in a vintage table to determine the baseline for you after you enter the age of the home (year built). The calculator will also determine the target values to reach for 15% and 30% reductions.

Q: Should I use total duct leakage or leakage to outside when measuring duct leakage?

A: Use leakage to outside in SoCalGas, SCE and SDG&E territories, use either in PG&E territory. The calculator allows you to enter a value for either method you choose. Whichever measurement method you choose, the resulting duct leakage must be less than $\leq 6\%$ total duct leakage (per Title 24) when replacing ducts and $\leq 10\%$ duct leakage to outside (or $\leq 15\%$ total duct leakage in PG&E territory) when sealing existing ducts.

Q: If I seal an existing duct system to 6% (or better), can I get credit for the duct replacement (seal to 6%) measure points?

A: No, sealing ducts to 6% (or better) on any system where 100% of ducts are not replaced would not be able to claim credit for the duct replacement measure (65 points), but would instead only be eligible for duct sealing existing systems $\leq 10\%$ (25 points).

Q: If ducts are sufficiently buried in new attic insulation, do they count as R8 duct insulation?

A: Yes. Ducts must be fully buried.

Q: How much duct area must be sealed or insulated to qualify for the duct seal or duct insulation measures?

A: Contractor shall seal or insulate all accessible ducts, at least 50%.

Q: How much ceiling, wall or floor area must be insulated for those insulation measures to qualify?

A: Contractor shall insulate all accessible areas, at least 50% of the ceiling, exterior wall or floor surface area.

Q: If an electric heat pump is installed that meets the required SEER and EER levels, can it be counted as a new AC measure, just as a similarly efficient traditional AC unit would?

A: Yes, if the new heat pump replaces an existing heat pump. No, if it replaces a natural gas (or propane) heating. The IOUs are not allowed to pay incentives on systems where fuel switching occurs.

Q: How should I count measures in a home with multiple HVAC systems?

A: If the home has multiple HVAC systems, the contractor should upgrade all, if possible. If one system serves 90% or more of the conditioned floor area of the home, then it can count as the system measure for the whole house. If the two systems are more complicated, PG&E would prefer that you submit the job as an Advanced Home Upgrade job. For other IOUs, the home can be split into two separate job submittals, each of which accommodates a separate AC or furnace unit. We recommend that care be taken to group HVAC and non-mechanical measures to avoid claiming the same measures - "double dipping" – which is not allowed by the program.

Q: What is the minimum number, or square footage, of windows that need to be replaced to qualify for the window measure?

A: Either 100% of the homes' windows meet the minimum window technical specifications when the job is done (U-factor SHGC=0.25, U=0.32 in all climate zones) or the square footage of new compliant windows comprise a minimum of 14% of conditioned floor area or 17% of conditioned wall area for all homes.