

Understanding Your Home's Energy Certificate

The Alabama Energy Certificate shows the materials, equipment values and ratings used in meeting your home's energy code requirements. You'll find a copy of your home's certificate near your electrical panel or other place designated by your builder.

There are three methods for complying with the energy code: Prescriptive, UA or Home Energy Score. Some allow more flexibility in design than others, but each lowers energy consumption to code standards.

There are federal minimum standards for equipment efficiencies.

Federal minimums apply to water heating equipment as well.

2015 Alabama Energy Certificate		
Compliance Method		Date
PRESCRIPTIVE		6-30-16
Insulation		R-value
Ceiling/Roof		30
Walls		13
Floors		19
Ducts		8
Basement Walls		5/13
Window and Door Ratings	SHGC	U-factor
Windows	0.30	0.50
Doors	0.30	0.50
HVAC Equipment	Type	Rating
Heating	Gas Boiler	75% AFUE
Air Conditioning	Forced Air	SEER-13
Leakage Rate		<4%
Water Heating	Type	EF Value
Water Heater	50 Gal, Gas	0.60
Blower Door Test		ACH ₅₀
Leakage to Outside		<5%
General Contractor:		R&S Contractors
Insulation Contractor:		Smith & Son
Form Completed By:		John Smith

The minimum prescribed insulation levels by building component (the higher the number, the more insulation installed).

U-factors indicate the insulative quality of the windows and doors. SHGC is the reflective quality of each. In both cases, the lower the number, the better.

Ducts are required to have a leakage rate of 4% or less, unless the ducts are located inside a conditioned area.

Blower door tests reveal how much outside air can penetrate the building. The ACH₅₀ number should be 5 or less.