

Green Job Training Opportunities



Weatherization/Home Energy Auditor Training Building Performance Institute (BPI) Building Analyst 1 Certification

As more renewable energy sources are harnessed, the approach to implementing energy efficiency, solar, wind and/or geothermal technologies will be *incredibly* different than those of today's electricians and HVAC professionals. Homeowners *and* technicians will share a great need to understand exactly how all of the new technologies operate, and that equals jobs.

If you are at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma/or GED, and want to take advantage of "green jobs" opportunities, you can become a Home Energy Auditor with a BPI Building Analyst 1 Certificate.

You will need to take 3 courses – plus a 40-hour training session:

Course 1: Introduction to Weatherization Skills/EMTR 7891

This 2-credit hour course covers the basics of the building "envelope" or the structure and shell of a house. You'll learn about insulation, windows and doors, HVAC systems, lighting and appliances. The course covers weatherization terminology, like R and U factors, air leakage, heat flow and heat load. You will gain an understanding of all heat measurements—and how to read a utility bill.

Course 2: Energy Efficiency & Audits/EMTR 7792

During this 3-credit hour course, you will begin to put information learned during Course 1 into practical experience to reduce that utility bill! The class covers the fundamentals of energy efficiency and measurements. Topics include conducting energy audits for homes and small businesses, energy efficiency and conservation, reduction of energy consumption and the application of renewable energies.

Course 3: Introduction to Home Energy Systems/EMTR 7893

This 2-credit hour course teaches energy measurement meters and tools, like duct test air blowers, blower doors, thermal imaging, carbon monoxide meter, and portable indoor air quality meters.

Once you've passed these 3 courses, you'll continue on to the 40-hour training session. If you are an unemployed tradesman, housing inspector, HVAC contractor, insulator, builder or remodeler, you'll start here:

40-Hour Training Session: Building Analyst 1 Certification

This training gives individuals the knowledge they need to perform a whole house energy audit. Students will learn the relationship between all of the systems in the house and effects on health, safety, comfort and efficiency. Students will gain an appreciation of the whole house as a system, and how flaws in one area can compromise the performance throughout. You will learn building science fundamentals, and practical applications of energy conservation strategies, heat loss calculations, duct testing and sealing, blower door testing, etc. When you are finished, you will be able to find the root cause of a problem and provide homeowners with solutions that work.

Upon completion, students must submit an application to BPI and successfully pass both a written exam and a hands-on field exam. This class will assist in the certification application process.

| Course | Cost |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 3 Pre-Weatherization Courses | \$900 |
| 40-Hour Training Session | \$1,295 |
| BPI Certificate (Exam) | \$530 |

There are many new opportunities for those interested in the technologies and possibilities of alternative energies. Contact Krishna Chapatwala at SuperJobs Center, 458-6561 to learn more about this and other renewable energy and energy efficiency training programs.