



Energy
Efficiency
Program

Smart Neighborhood Builder Program



New construction home builders in northern Illinois can benefit from taking advantage of the **Smart Neighborhood Builder** program. Based on Nicor Gas' philosophy that smart buildings can help people save money and lower their carbon footprint, the program offers incentives to builders that leverage energy-efficient building practices and smart energy products.

Builders can choose from four levels of participation, with the goal of ultimately reaching our highest tier **Nicor Gas Certified Smart Builder**. Each level has its own financial incentives, and builders can aim for higher and more efficient requirements to reach the Nicor Gas Certified Smart Builder level.

Nicor Gas values its relationships with builders of all levels and supports them on their path to sustainable building.

The levels are as follows (listed in descending order):

NICOR GAS CERTIFIED SMART BUILDER

The Certified Smart Builder identifies outstanding commitment to sustainable building practices that spotlight energy efficiency and net zero building. These builders leverage the latest in cutting edge smart energy technologies to allow their residents to live more carbon conscious lifestyles and can receive more than \$800 in incentives from Nicor Gas.

Requirements

- Homes must reach net zero emissions and include the integration of back up battery systems and solar panels
- Air sealing: 3.0 ACH50 for single-family homes, 3.5 ACH50 for townhomes
- Duct sealing: 2 CFM per 100 sq. ft. for single-family homes, 3 CFM per 100 sq. ft. for townhomes
- Hybrid space heating system (8.8 or greater HSPF2 electric heat pump combined with 95% or greater AFUE furnace)
- Natural gas water heater (0.86 UEF or greater storage water heater or 0.95 UEF or greater tankless water heater)
- Advanced thermostat

Incentives

- \$800 per home
- Use of the Nicor Gas Smart Builder logo on all promotional materials
- Eligible for additional bonus incentives*
- May be eligible for federal and state rebates

SMART
NEIGHBORHOOD™

NICOR GAS GOLD BUILDER

Builders achieving **Gold Builder** status demonstrate a strong commitment to energy efficient building practices and can receive more than \$800 in incentives from Nicor Gas.

Requirements

- Air sealing: 3.0 ACH50 for single-family homes, 3.5 ACH50 for townhomes
- Duct sealing: 2 CFM per 100 sq. ft. for single-family homes, 3 CFM per 100 sq. ft. for townhomes
- Hybrid space heating system (8.8 or greater HSPF2 electric heat pump combined with 95% or greater AFUE furnace)

- Natural gas water heater (0.86 UEF or greater storage water heater or 0.95 UEF or greater tankless water heater)
- Advanced thermostat

Incentives

- \$800 per home
- Eligible for additional bonus incentives*

NICOR GAS SILVER BUILDER

Silver Builders demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and are eligible for more than \$500 in incentives from Nicor Gas.

Requirements

- Air sealing: 3.0 ACH50 for single-family homes, 3.5 ACH50 for townhomes
- Duct sealing: 2 CFM per 100 sq. ft. for single-family homes, 3 CFM per 100 sq. ft. for townhomes
- High-efficiency, sealed combustion furnace or boiler (97% or greater AFUE)

- Natural gas water heater (0.86 UEF or greater storage water heater or 0.95 UEF or greater tankless water heater)
- Advanced thermostat

Incentives

- \$500 per home
- Eligible for additional bonus incentives*

NICOR GAS BRONZE BUILDER

Bronze Builders demonstrate a commitment to sustainability and are eligible for more than \$250 in rebates from Nicor Gas.

Requirements

- Air sealing: 3.5 ACH50
- Duct sealing: 3 CFM per 100 sq. ft.
- High-efficiency, sealed combustion furnace or boiler (95% or greater AFUE)
- Natural gas water heater (0.68 UEF or greater storage water heater or 0.95 UEF or greater tankless water heater)**
- Advanced thermostat

Incentives

- \$250 per home**
- Eligible for additional bonus incentives*

**Builders will receive \$125 if they choose not to install a natural gas water heater

*Additional incentives include:

- Third party verification via Builder or HERS rater: \$75 per qualified completed home
- High-performance windows (thermal transmittance rating [U-value] ≤ 0.22 and Solar heat gain co-efficient rating [SHGC] ≥ 0.17): \$50 per window (\$1,500 maximum per home)
- Watersense™ showerheads and faucets: \$25 per home
- Insulated Concrete Form walls: Custom rebate. Contact us to learn more.

To learn more about how you can join the Nicor Gas Smart Builder Program and bring advanced energy efficiency to your new home construction, contact G2BUILDERFIRSTPROGRAM@southernco.com or visit ngsmartneighborhoods.com/smartbuilder.