

2023 online applications are live!

Our new **2023 residential and commercial online applications** are live and can be found here: nicorgas.com/apply

Here are some online application tips:

- Remove old application links
- Use Google Chrome (recommended)
- Clear cache/browser history (Google Chrome shortcut: Control-Shift-Delete)
- Do not include punctuation or special characters, including but not limited to, commas, periods, ampersands (&), percentage signs (%) or forward slashes (/)
- Limit each field to 49 characters or less

You can also find our paper applications and other program information on our Trade Ally page found here: nicorgas.com/tradeally

Thank you for your patience and continued support of the Nicor Gas Energy Efficiency Program!



Submit residential furnace and smart thermostat together for a bundled rebate!

The **NEW residential smart thermostat and furnace bundle** was introduced in 2023! Now,

when you install a rebate-qualifying smart thermostat and furnace at the same time, the total rebate increases by \$25. To qualify, apply for the smart thermostat and furnace on the same application and include them on the same invoice.

For Contractor Circle installing members offering the rebate as an instant discount, here are some examples of how to list the bundle on the customer's invoice to show the rebate was deducted from their bill:

- Nicor Gas EEP rebate - 95% AFUE Furnace and Smart thermostat BUNDLE - \$200
- Nicor Gas EEP rebate - 97% AFUE Furnace and Smart thermostat BUNDLE - \$275

Please reach out to our team with any questions!

Trade Ally resources and updates



Our trade ally page is a one-stop shop!

We're continually improving our [Trade Ally page](#) to include all resources you may need for our programs. Find all program brochures, qualifying product lists (QPL), webinars, case studies, white papers, applications and more. You can also watch recorded trainings and workshops, including a new webinar about Gas Heat Pumps that are 138% efficient!

Updates to BPI certification

This update will affect weatherization contractors. Effective January 1, 2023, there are a few major changes to Building Performance Institute (BPI) certifications:

1. **The Building Science Principles (BSP) certificate** is now a prerequisite for the new Building Analyst Technician certification. With a 1-2 day prep class (or self study), one must pass a 100 question online exam to earn the certificate. **We are hosting a training on March 10!** See below in our Training section for more information.
2. The Building Analyst certification has absorbed the Envelope Professional and been divided into two work-ready credentials: **Building Analyst Technician (BA-T)** and **Building Analyst Professional (BA-P)**.
3. The BA-T covers data collection and diagnostic testing. It is awarded by passing a field exam that includes oral questions.
4. The BA-P covers the principles of using computer software to model the energy upgrade potential of a home and developing a scope of work. The BA-P is awarded by passing a written exam. The BA-T is a prerequisite for the BA-P.

The exams for the updated certifications are now available at BPI Test Centers. For more information on these changes, please visit: <https://www.bpi.org/content/test-centers-updates-building-analyst-and-envelope-professional>

Customer care opportunities

Offer more ways to help income-eligible customers with a new online tool

After nearly a year of helping customers find available energy resources, the Nicor Gas **Community Connection Center (C3)** is expanding its capabilities. The team recently released the **Community Assistance Navigator (CAN)**, a self-service anonymous online tool that allows customers to see what assistance they are eligible for by answering a few questions. CAN and C3 are free services to help them learn about financial assistance programs, energy efficiency offerings and other resources. To use the CAN self-service tool or to contact the C3 team, visit nicorgas.com/ccc



Training opportunities

Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) training – March 1

Date: Wednesday, March 1

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Temperature Equipment Corporation
1313 Timber Drive
Elgin, IL 60123

This 1-day course is designed by the Midwest Home Performance Association (Formerly the IL Association of Energy Raters - IAER) to introduce the skills necessary to become a Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) Verifier. If you've been thinking about getting BPI or HERS Certified but can't yet make the investment, this DET Verifier certification can be your bridge into offering home performance testing services. After successful completion of this course, you will be able to test the leakage of a building envelope and duct system, and evaluate the results as measured against Illinois code requirements.

Click here to register for the training, or the training and exam for the listed fee.

[Register now!](#)

Building Science Principles – March 10

Date: Friday, March 10

Time: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Location: Nicor Gas
1844 Ferry Road
Naperville, IL 60563

Earning the **Building Science Principles** (BPI) certificate is your first step into the world of energy efficient home performance. The course is a broad overview of building science, residential construction, and home performance. This class will introduce and explore systems and interactions that should be considered when modifying or improving homes. Refreshments and lunch are included!

There is a fee to attend and space is limited, so register now to save your spot.

[Register for the class here](#)