

# ENERGY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Office of Energy and Sustainable Development

## High Performance Building Qualifications:

The goal of BESO is to make all Berkeley buildings highly efficient and renewably fueled, reducing their energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, high performance buildings are exempt from completing an energy assessment. To qualify for a high performance building exemption, you must provide proof of certification in one of the following programs or participation in a qualified [energy efficiency program](#):

### Green Building Certifications

- [ENERGY STAR Whole Home Certification](#)
- [GreenPoint Rated Existing Whole Building](#)
- [LEED Existing Building Operations and Maintenance](#)
- [Verified Passive House](#)
- [Living Building or Zero Energy Certification](#)

### Alternative Paths to be Considered High Performance

- Completion of a verified multi-measure comprehensive energy improvement project with minimum 10% energy improvement (such as participation in a verified [energy efficiency programs](#))
- A California Home Energy Rating phase II (HERS II) score of 90 or below
- Home Energy Score of 9 or above
- A DOE Commercial Asset Rating score of 9 or above

**Note: High Performance Buildings over 25,000 square feet are still required to benchmark their energy use using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager.**

If you are enrolled in one of these programs and would like to apply for a High Performance exemption please provide proof of enrollment or certification and submit a [BESO Application Form](#).