



GETS PROGRAM COMPONENTS AND PARTNERSHIP GUIDELINES

Green Energy Training Services (GETS) trains adults in Energy Efficiency. The program provides individuals with green career pathways and supports the broader community's interest in a workforce that can provide energy efficiency and water conservation services that will promote energy and climate change policy goals.



GETS Program Goals and Objectives

The goal of the GETS program is to impart the skills and knowledge trainees need to evaluate the potential for energy and water savings in residential and small commercial buildings and to take steps to realize that potential with repairs and equipment installations. The program develops analytical skills required to calculate, assess, and determine conservation measures that will reduce utility bills. Participants learn to conduct a residential energy assessment and communicate with customers. GETS participants are individuals with barriers to employment and the course is designed to assist participants in developing skills that provide a foundation for meaningful employment.

By the end of this 80-hour course participants will be able to:

- Use and understand energy-related words and concepts
- Identify and record opportunities to improve building energy efficiency and conservation
- Use energy efficiency assessment tools
- Assist in weatherizing homes and small buildings
- Conduct a walk-through home performance assessment
- Complete an assessment report
- Install certain energy efficiency measures and make minor repairs to improve energy use
- Communicate effectively with team members, supervisors, and customers

Graduates of the GETS Program are prepared to enter the following green jobs:

- Entry-level Air Sealer and Insulation Installer
- Entry-level Energy Auditor
- Weatherization Specialist
- Entry-level HVAC repair and installer
- Entry-level Construction worker
- Energy Specialist

GETS Curriculum Outline

The GETS curriculum is an 80 hour training module consisting of classroom, lab and field training designed to prepare participants for employment in entry-level jobs related to energy conservation and energy efficiency. The GETS curriculum focuses primarily on residential home performance testing and retrofitting practices.

- Remediation Methods and Techniques
 - Envelope
 - Crawl spaces
 - Walls
 - Attics
 - Duct Systems
 - Lighting
 - Water Conservation
 - Weatherizing
 - Baseload Reduction
- Building Science Fundamentals
 - History of Building Science
 - Eco-literacy
 - Thermodynamics Introduction
 - Residential Construction Review
 - Locating opportunities for Energy Improvements
 - Identifying Performance Issues
- Contractor/Client Interface
 - The Client
 - Testing someone's home
 - The data collection report
 - Analyzing the data
 - Presenting the information
- Performance Testing Introduction
 - Infiltration
 - Duct leakage
 - Combustion safety



Program Requirements

Rising Sun Energy Center will license organizations to use the GETS program that meet the following criteria:

- *Construction Expertise:* The organization should have either an existing construction trades training program or be prepared to screen for candidates with a construction background.
- *Equipment & Costs:* The organization should be able to purchase diagnostic equipment and other training materials that will cost about \$15,000-\$20,000. The curriculum also requires access to operable natural gas appliances (forced air furnace, water heater, wall heater, range).
- *Support Services:* The organization should have case management and support systems in place, including drug testing equipment, disciplinary systems, job placement assistance, etc.
- *Instructor Qualifications:* The curriculum requires an instructor with certification as a Building Performance Institute (BPI) Building Analyst (BA) or equivalent. At least one instructor should have experience with the target population.
- *Space Requirements:* The curriculum requires an instructional facility with space for labs and classrooms.

Rising Sun Energy Center

Rising Sun Energy Center is a 501(c)(3) community-based organization that promotes resource conservation and simultaneously empowers youth and adults through workforce development programs. Rising Sun Energy Center's mission is to create a society that uses water and energy responsibly and equitably. We do this by:

- Educating the public about sustainable behaviors and technologies
- Offering free residential audits and services that lower energy and water usage
- Providing workforce development training that creates green career pathways for youth and adults with barriers to employment

Rising Sun Energy Center Qualifications

- 14 years of energy efficiency and water conservation training, education and direct services in the Bay Area
- 10 years running a nationally recognized green job training and employment program in the Bay Area
 - Trained over 575 young adults between the ages of 15-22
 - Provided over 12,000 homes with mini-energy audits and retrofits
 - Operated in 10 Bay Area Cities
- 4 years experience as an Energy Partners Program sub-contractor
- Developed an Energy Efficiency and Building Science Curriculum for Entry Level Employees
- Trained, professional and experienced staff
- Grassroots organization with an excellent track record of tried and tested programs
- Experience with low income program outreach and client relations
- Strong relationships with government, community based and advocacy organizations (Cities of Berkeley, Oakland, Richmond, Emeryville, El Cerrito, San Pablo, Pittsburg, Fremont, San Leandro, Livermore and Marin County, Green For All, Ella Baker Center, RichmondBUILD, Solar Richmond, PG&E, EBMUD, Contra Costa Water District, etc..)

If you are interested in learning more, please contact George Kopf, GETS Program Director at:

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