

RISING SUN ENERGY CENTER

Building Healthy **Communities** through **Climate** Solutions and Green **Career** Pathways



GREEN ENERGY TRAINING SERVICES (GETS)

Rising Sun Energy Center is a BPI training affiliate and a non-profit leader in energy efficiency and workforce development. Our Green Energy Training Services (GETS) curriculum was developed by a BPI-Certified Building Analyst, in collaboration with employers, industry experts, and curriculum design professionals, to prepare adults for entry into careers in energy efficiency and the Building Performance industry. GETS is filling the need for a trained and experienced workforce, to help Building Performance contractors meet the growing demand for their services while helping communities reach their energy use reduction goals. For many unemployed, under-employed and displaced workers, GETS provides the crucial first step in a pathway towards a green career.

THE GETS CURRICULUM

The GETS curriculum is comprised of flexible modules that include classroom, lab and fieldwork components, providing students with the theoretical understanding, technical skills and industry-specific vocabulary to assess, evaluate, record and fix energy related problems in residential buildings. The curriculum also includes modules that focus on improving applied math and employability skills. By the end of the GETS course, participants will:

- Understand the importance of a career in reducing carbon emissions
- Understand the four goals of Whole Home Performance: comfort, efficiency, durability, and safety
- Have a firm understanding of how energy moves into, out of, and through a building
- Understand and have hands-on experience with common Building Performance assessment tools and practices including the home depressurization and duct pressurization tests
- Have been introduced to the basic components of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration systems
- Be familiar with the basics of natural gas appliance testing
- Understand how to read and interpret utility bill information
- Have had experience collecting, compiling and organizing data from an actual in-field Building Performance assessment of a real home
- Understand basic job-site safety, have hands-on experience with the most common retrofitting and remediation techniques

The GETS curriculum has been reviewed and approved by the Building Performance Institute (BPI) for four levels of certification:

- Building Analyst
- Envelope Professional
- Residential Building Envelope Whole House Air Leakage Control Installer (RBE-WH-ALC)
- Residential Building Envelope Whole House Air Leakage Control Crew Chief (RBE-WH-ALC-CC)

GETS CURRICULUM OUTLINE

- Eco-literacy:
 - What is Global Warming?
 - Why is a Green job important?
- Job-site Safety
 - What are the most common risks?
 - How can I protect myself?
- Building Science Basics
 - What is Whole Home Performance?
 - How do I look at the home as a system?
- Thermodynamics Introduction
 - How does energy move into, out of, and through a home?
- Field Assessment
 - How do you collect, organize, interpret and use data?
- HVAC Basics
 - How and why do you test, identify and prevent duct leakage?
- Locating opportunities for Improvement
 - Basic air sealing: how do you stop unwanted air-flow?
 - How can you reduce appliance energy consumption?
 - How and why do you insulate attics and walls?
- Combustion Safety
 - How and why do you test combustion appliances?
- Utility Bill Analysis and Interpretation
 - What is the difference between seasonal and baseload usage?

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 or field technician
- Entry-level HVAC repair and installer

PARTNER REQUIREMENTS

Organizations interested in the GETS curriculum may apply to license Rising Sun Energy Center's GETS program materials. Applicant organizations must meet the following criteria:

- **Equipment & Costs:** the organization should have the capacity to purchase diagnostic equipment and other training materials and have access to operable natural gas appliances (forced air furnace, water heaters, wall heaters, gas stoves, etc.).
- **Instructor Qualifications:** the curriculum requires an instructor with a Building Performance Institute (BPI) Building Analyst (BA) certification or a HERS Rater.

CURRICULUM LICENSING AND PRICING

Rising Sun Energy Center licenses the GETS program materials to other training organizations. The GETS Licensing Package Includes:

- GETS Instructor's Manual
- GETS Participant Handbook
- Equipment & materials purchase list
- CD-ROM of collateral and training materials
- 1-day "Train-the-trainer" workshop
- Test grading & graduation certificates
- Annual updates to curriculum and teaching materials

GETS Curriculum	
Initial Licensing Fee	\$4135
Annual Licensing Fee	\$600
Training Workshop	
Train the Trainer (one day included in licensing Fee)	\$125 per hour (min 4 hours)



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MISSION

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 no-cost and low-cost 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

QUALIFICATIONS

- 16 years of energy efficiency and water conservation training, education, and direct services
- 11 years running California Youth Energy Services (CYES) program, a nationally recognized green job training and employment program, in the San Francisco Bay area
- Over 150 GETS graduates trained
- Experience running utility sponsored Weatherization Program and providing case management and job placement experience
- Strong relationships with employers, cities and community based organizations

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Elena Foshay, GETS Program Manager of Rising Sun Energy Center, at Foshay@risingsunenergy.org or 510-665-1501 ext 18.