Opportunities and Programs for Green and Solar PV Career Pathways

Industry Credentials & Designations

**Building Performance Institute (BPI)**
[www.bpi.org/certified-professionals](http://www.bpi.org/certified-professionals)
- **Description:** Multiple certifications offered by BPI for professionals to become certified contractors and work on home performance projects (energy efficiency, comfort, durability, health, and safety). See ‘New to BPI’ for additional info.
- **Audience:** Current/future building scientists, trainers, energy raters, consultants, home performance/weatherization contractors, & HVAC specialists.
- **Requirements & Cost Range:** Varies based on certification/program.

**PTCS & Prescriptive Duct Sealing Technician**
- **Description:** Performance Tested Comfort Systems (PTCS) and Prescriptive Duct Sealing certified contractors improve HVAC system comfort and increasing energy savings by properly sealing/testing ducts and installing high-efficiency heat pumps, with a focus on sizing, commissioning, and setting controls.
- **Audience:** Building professionals looking to become certified to test and seal duct systems.
- **Cost Range:** Typically $600.

**Energy Trust of Oregon Trade Ally**
[https://insider.energytrust.org/become-a-trade-ally/](https://insider.energytrust.org/become-a-trade-ally/)
- **Description:** Join Energy Trust’s Trade Ally Network and gain access to customer referrals, training, resources, cash incentives, and business development funds.
- **Audience:** Contractors, retailers, distributors, manufacturers and other building professionals.
- **Requirements:** [Learn more here](https://insider.energytrust.org/become-a-trade-ally/)
- **Cost Range:** Free

**RESNET HERS Rater**
[www.resnet.us/professional/become-an-auditor-or-rater](http://www.resnet.us/professional/become-an-auditor-or-rater)
- **Description:** RESNET (Residential Energy Services Network) offers the nationally recognized HERS (Home Energy Rating System) Rater certification. HERS Raters are trained and certified by an accredited Home Energy Rating Provider to inspect and evaluate a home’s energy features, prepare a home energy rating and make recommendations for improvements.
- **Audience:** Building professionals with an interest in becoming a HERS Rater (Energy Rater).
• Requirements & Cost Range: Learn more here

**Sustainable Homes Professional (SHP) accreditation**
www.earthadvantage.org/training/course/sustainable-homes-professional-shp.html

- **Description:** Join Earth Advantage to learn cutting edge building best practices along the entire spectrum of green and energy efficient building.
- **Audience:** Architects, Builders/Contractors, Developers, Home Inspectors, Energy Raters, Remodelers, Subcontractors, Energy Efficiency Program Staff
- **Requirements:** 2 days per month for 6 months - total of 84 hrs.
- **Cost range:** General Admission: $1,600. Full tuition scholarships available for underserved audiences (see more information in scholarship section below).

**Home Energy Score Assessor**
*Oregon Home Energy Score program*: www.earthadvantage.org/orhes.html
*Portland Home Energy Score program*: www.earthadvantage.org/pdxhes.html

- **Description:** Training and qualifications necessary in order to become qualified to perform Home Energy Score Assessments and deliver Home Energy Scores.
- **Audience:** Current/future home energy raters.
- **Requirements:** Varies depending on background and current credentials. Estimated to take min. of 4 weeks to complete all steps. See Oregon program roadmap &/or Portland program roadmap.
- **Cost range:** Varies depending on background and current credentials. Estimated at $625.

**LEED Green Associate**
https://new.usgbc.org/credentials#ga

- **Description:** The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Associate credential demonstrates general knowledge of green building practices and how to support others working on LEED certified projects.
- **Audience:** Those new to green building, plus product manufacturers, students, real estate professionals & contractors.
- **Requirements:** Exam is 2 hours long. 15 hours on continuing education every 2 years to maintain designation.
- **Cost Range:** Exam fee of $250 ($200 for USGBC members, $100 for students).

**LEED Green Rater**
www.usgbc.org/articles/leed-green-rater

- **Description:** LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Raters provide in -field verification services at each and every project that is LEED BD+C: Homes and LEED BD+C: Multifamily Midrise certified.
- **Audience:** Green Raters play a critical part in LEED for Homes certification that has tens of thousands of registered projects nationwide.
Scholarships

Sustainable Homes Professional (SHP) Scholarship
www.earthadvantage.org/training/course/sustainable-homes-professional-shp.html

- **Description:** Full tuition scholarship to take the Sustainable Homes Professional course and earn SHP accreditation. Available for individuals who have been historically disadvantaged in the building industry. Earth Advantage encourages women, people of color, veterans, and others who are underrepresented in the industry to apply.
- **Requirements:** Apply for scholarship. Check link above for upcoming courses and scholarship opportunities available starting in late-summer or contact education@earthadvantage.org.
- **Funding:** Three full-tuition scholarships ($1,600 each) will be awarded

Home Builders Foundation Scholarship Info
www.buildhopepdx.org/scholarships

- **Description:** Home Builders Foundation is committed to providing educational opportunities and training for tomorrow’s workforce in the construction industry. Each year the HBF awards tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships for high school students entering college and post-secondary students who are interested in pursuing a career in the home building industry.
- **Requirements:** Apply for a scholarship.
- **Funding:** Awards range from $1,000 to $10,000 or more.

Portland HBA - PRO (Professional Remodelers Organization) Scholarship
www.hbapdx.org/professional-remodelers-organization.html

- **Description:** Designed for a full or part time student in a post-secondary residential construction program or applicable trade program (trade school, community college or university) in the Portland Metro Area.
- **Requirements:** Apply for scholarship. Applications are open April - June with award announcement at the end of June for Fall distribution.
- **Funding:** The award is valid for one term of classes (tuition only), maximum of 12 credits at the current resident rate and a maximum $1,200 total.

Trainings, Conferences & Networking Events

Earth Advantage
www.earthadvantage.org/creating-change/professional-training.html

- **Description:** Earth Advantage offers training (in-person, online & webinar) and accreditation programs for building industry and real estate professionals on green building and high performance home topics.
Energy Trust of Oregon
www.energytrust.org/events/
- **Description:** Energy Trust is a resource for trainings, workshops and events related to energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability topics.

BetterBuiltNW
www.betterbuiltnw.com/events
- **Description:** Stay up to date with the latest events in your region dealing with energy-efficient building practices.

Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Portland
www.hbapdx.org/
- **Description:** Provides benefits, networking opportunities, education and gov’t representation to builders, developers, remodelers, sub-contractors, suppliers and other industry service professionals in Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Columbia and Yamhill counties.

Build Oregon
www.build-oregon.com/events
- **Description:** Resources for building industry careers, job fairs, training and industry-related events.

Oregon Training Institute
www.warmandsafenow.com/
- **Description:** OTI provides various trainings (including BPI) in the Portland metro area on home energy efficiency, weatherization, energy analysis, building science & healthy homes. Intended for Diagnostic Technicians, Weatherization Installers, Energy Raters, Building Analyst Professionals, Envelope Professionals, Heating Professionals, Energy Educators. Trainings vary based on certification/program.

Energy Conservation Training Company
www.econtc.com/
- **Description:** Offers BPI, RESNET, and PTCS classes in the PDX area. Intended for building professionals looking to become BPI or RESNET HERS Rater (Energy Raters). Trainings vary based on certification/program.

Portland Business Development Group
http://pbdgweb.com/
- **Description:** PBDG’s primary purpose is to improve the business conditions in the construction industry by increasing the capacity and utilization of DMWESB (Disadvantaged, Minority, Women, Emerging Small Business) construction and professional services contractors. Learn more and become a member here.
Portland Community College’s Building Construction Technology Program
www.pcc.edu/programs/bldg-construction/
  • **Description:** PCC offers 3 different A.A.S. degrees in Building Construction Technology, Construction Management, and Design/Build Remodeling. Complete these steps for new students: https://www.pcc.edu/enroll/. Tuition for residents is $111 per credit. Most classes are 1 to 4 credits each.

Portland Community College Building Inspection Technology Program
www.pcc.edu/programs/building-inspection/
  • **Description:** PCC offers classes on becoming a building inspector and plans examiner. Complete the steps for new students: https://www.pcc.edu/enroll/. Can also contact and meet with the program advisor: Denise Roy - https://www.pcc.edu/staff/directory/?all=denise+roy. Tuition for residents is $111 per credit. Most classes are 1 to 4 credits each.

The Northwest EcoBuilding Guild – Portland Chapter
www.ecobuilding.org/portland
  • **Description:** Offers a list of resources for those interested in green building and getting involved in the local green building community by attending educational events and workshops.

JLC Live Northwest Residential Construction Show
  • **Description:** Annual conference that showcases over 70 building product manufacturers, including 3 manufacturer-led building clinics, 5 live building clinics and over 40 conference sessions, all led by nationally recognized experts who are available to sharpen both your business and your jobsite skills.

Home Performance Guild of Oregon
www.hpguild.org/
  • **Description:** A group of experienced home performance/retrofit contractors committed to working together to educate and serve homeowners, companies, and policy makers. They have monthly meetings and provide good networking opportunities.

Oregon Solar Energy Conference
www.oregonsolarenergyconference.com/
  • **Description:** Hosted by Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) and offers a wide range of technical training as well as manufacturer workshops/business courses. Opportunities to volunteer in exchange for attending conference sessions – see ‘Volunteering’ below.

Career Fairs

Oregon Tradeswomen Career Fair
www.tradeswomen.net/fair/
   • **Description:** A hands-on career fair introducing high-wage, high-skill careers in the trades.

NW Youth Expo
www.portlandworkforcealliance.org/our-work/expo/
   • **Description:** The Expo shows students the region's amazing diversity of career opportunities, along with the skills and education needed for those jobs.

Oregon’s Solar First Career Fair
www.eventbrite.com/e/oregons-first-solar-career-fair-tickets-60373736471#
   • **Description:** Non-traditional career fair hosted by Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) and organized by job function rather than by business so you can hear from industry professionals about their roles in solar.

Volunteering

**Construction Related Volunteer Opportunities**
www.nietc.org/construction-related-volunteer-opportunities.html
   • **Description:** List of organizations that have indicated that they would welcome pre-apprentice involvement in some of their construction-related volunteer opportunities.

**Community Energy Project**
www.communityenergyproject.org/volunteer/
   • **Description:** CEP believes that everyone deserves a safe, healthy, efficient home regardless of income and offers education, hands-on training, and distribution of weatherization, and lead poisoning prevention materials. CEP also provides direct weatherization and safety repairs to seniors and people with disabilities. They deliver these services in partnership with community members and service organizations, utilities, corporations, foundations, and gov’t agencies.

**Habitat for Humanity**
www.habitat.org/volunteer
   • **Description:** Families who partner with Habitat build their own homes alongside volunteers in order to achieve homeownership, financial stability and independence they need to build a better life. Volunteer for a Habitat near you, travel and build volunteer opportunities, long term volunteer opportunities, group volunteers, and building events.

**Oregon Solar Energy Conference**
http://oregonsolarenergyconference.com/
Description: Conference offers a wide range of technical training as well as manufacturer workshops and business courses. Opportunities to volunteer in exchange for attending conference sessions. Contact OSEIA: https://www.oseia.org/contact