

Choosing a quality contractor to properly size and install your system will help ensure you receive good service and maximum comfort.

Selecting a Contractor

1. Credentials

Consider choosing a North American Technician Excellence (NATE) certified contractor or a Building Performance Institute (BPI) certified contractor. Visit the Eastern Heating and Cooling Council's website at eh-cc.org for a current list of NATE certified contractors or NJCleanEnergy.com/hp for a list of BPI certified contractors.

2. Price Quotes

Obtain at least three price quotes based on an on-site inspection of your home and current heating system.

Bids should include costs for labor, materials, permits/fees, and disposal. Remember that the lowest bid isn't always the best choice. Paying slightly more may get you better equipment and better service. Be sure that all work to be done is stated in the written contract.

3. Permits

Make sure your contractor obtains all permits required by your municipality.

4. Insurance

Verify that your contractor has liability insurance to safeguard against any accidents that may occur.

5. Warranties

Buy a system with a good warranty. Find out how long the warranty lasts and exactly what is covered. Any warranties provided should be clearly stated on the contract for the equipment, materials, and labor. It should also state who is responsible for honoring the warranty.

WARM Advantage Program

This program is offered through *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program* and provides incentives toward the purchase of qualifying high efficiency furnaces or boilers. Make sure that your gas heating equipment meets the minimum requirements listed in the chart below. Check with your gas company about additional incentives.

	Minimum Efficiency Rating	Incentive
Furnace	AFUE* 92% or greater ENERGY STAR® Qualified	\$300
Furnace with Electronic Commutated Motor (ECM) or Equivalent	AFUE 92% or greater ENERGY STAR Qualified	\$400
Boiler	AFUE 85% or greater ENERGY STAR Qualified	\$300

*AFUE = Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency
Information about ENERGY STAR qualified products may be found at energystar.gov.

Please visit NJCleanEnergy.com/warm for full program details and to download an application form. To learn more about increasing your home's energy efficiency, as well as programs that are sponsored by *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*, visit NJCleanEnergy.com or call **866-NJSMART**.



WARM Advantage is brought to you by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*.

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New Jersey's Clean Energy Program does not endorse any one particular contractor.

Home Heating Equipment

Your guide to buying high efficiency heating equipment



Shop smart, stay warm with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities and *New Jersey's Clean Energy Program™*



New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

You don't need to be an energy expert to make the right home heating decision. / Choosing high efficiency heating equipment can **save you money** on your heating bills, while reducing pollution associated with energy use.

Make the Right Choice

1. Energy Efficiency

All furnaces and boilers have an Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency (AFUE) rating, a standard set by the United States Department of Energy. Simply put, it measures how much of your dollar actually goes toward heating your home. The higher the rating, the higher the efficiency of the equipment. Look for the ENERGY STAR® to ensure you are getting heating equipment that has a high rating for energy efficiency.



2. Properly Sized Equipment

A recent New Jersey study shows that most furnaces are significantly oversized. Buying a system sized properly for your home provides more comfort and efficiency, while maximizing your heating investment. When replacing your system, simply updating your system with the same size equipment may not give you the best results. Ask

your contractor to perform a heat-loss calculation to determine the proper size furnace or boiler for your home.

3. Ductwork

Make sure that the existing ductwork in your home will be compatible with your new heating system. Sometimes duct systems are too small to allow proper airflow. A contractor will be able to detect this potential problem and test how well your current ductwork is sealed. If leaks are discovered, your contractor should fix them using quality sealants. A well-designed, tightly sealed, and insulated duct system will increase your comfort by getting the right amount of heat to each room in your home. You can find a qualified contractor on NJCleanEnergy.com/hp.

4. Programmable Thermostats

Installing a programmable thermostat is an easy way to conserve energy and save money in your home. A programmable thermostat gives you increased control over the way you heat your home by allowing you to adjust your heating system. Lowering your thermostat by as little as 3 degrees at night will help you save on your heating bill. Look for an ENERGY STAR qualified model.

5. Cash Incentives

By shopping smart and buying an ENERGY STAR qualified furnace or boiler, you could be eligible for a cash incentive through the *WARMA* Advantage Program. See the back panel for more information on this program.

Installation

1. Best Practices

Equipment installation procedures may vary, so it is very important that your contractor install your new heating equipment according to the manufacturer's installation manual.

2. Access

Maintenance is very important when it comes to maximizing the efficiency of your new heating unit. The unit should be easily accessible so that tasks like cleaning or replacing the filters are easy to perform.

Caring for Your New Heating System

Once you have purchased and installed your new high efficiency heating system, routine maintenance will maximize the system's energy efficiency, economic benefits, and life span. Your new furnace or boiler should be serviced as recommended by the manufacturer.

- Energy Savings
- Reduced Monthly Bills
- A More Comfortable Home
- A Cleaner Environment