



Program Pre-Requisites Photo Guide

Updated August 13, 2025



California Energy-Smart Homes Incentive Program

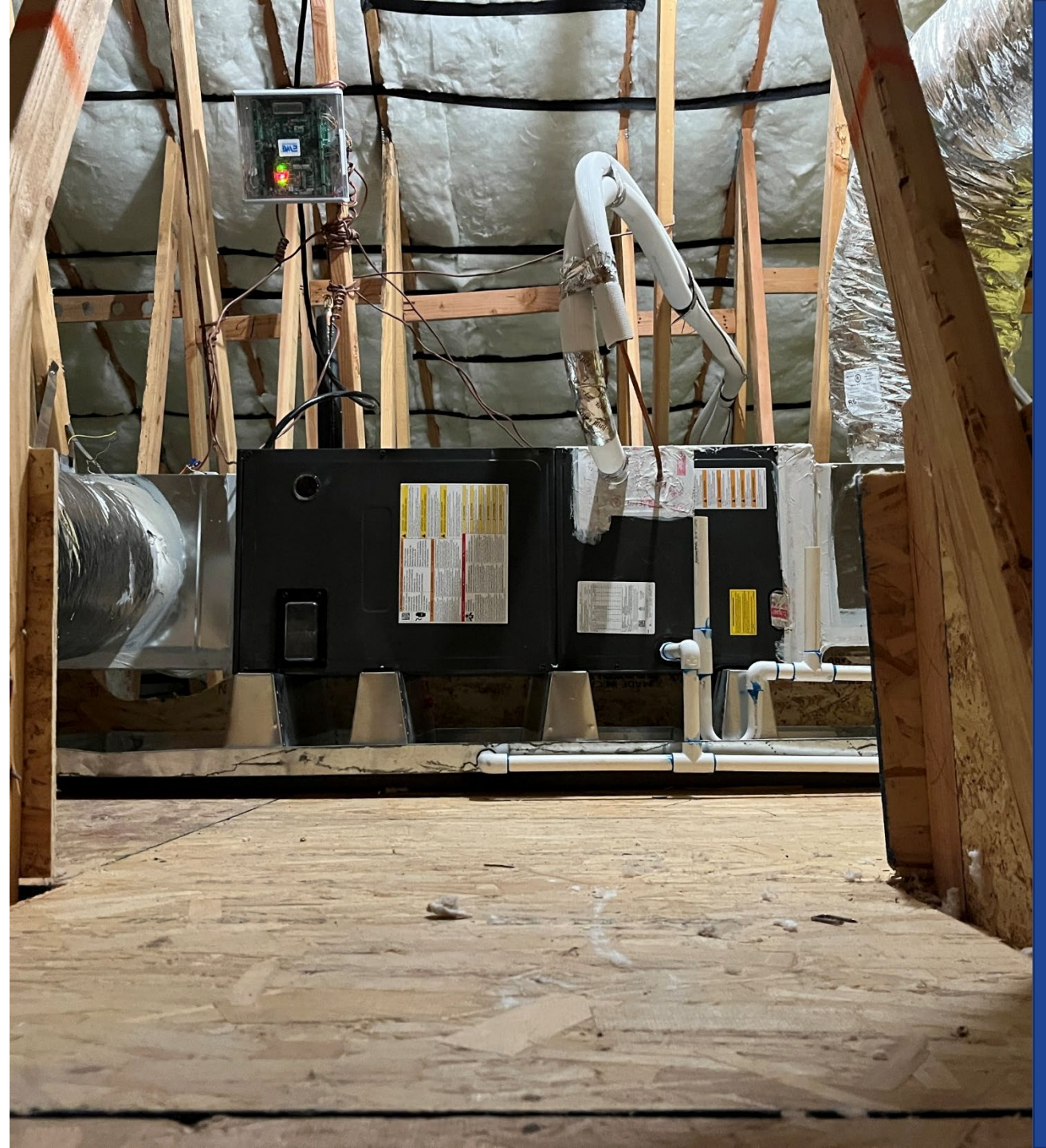
PHOTO GUIDE FOR REQUIRED PRE-REQUISITES

- Each of items shown in this guide is a mandatory requirement for participation in the Energy-Smart Homes incentive program and **must be installed as specified. No exceptions.**
- **Omission or improper installation** of any of the required items will result in the project being disqualified from the Energy-Smart Homes incentive program.
- **Disqualified projects will forfeit all program incentives. No exceptions.**

Space Conditioning Requirements for HVAC Installers

Heat Pump HVAC

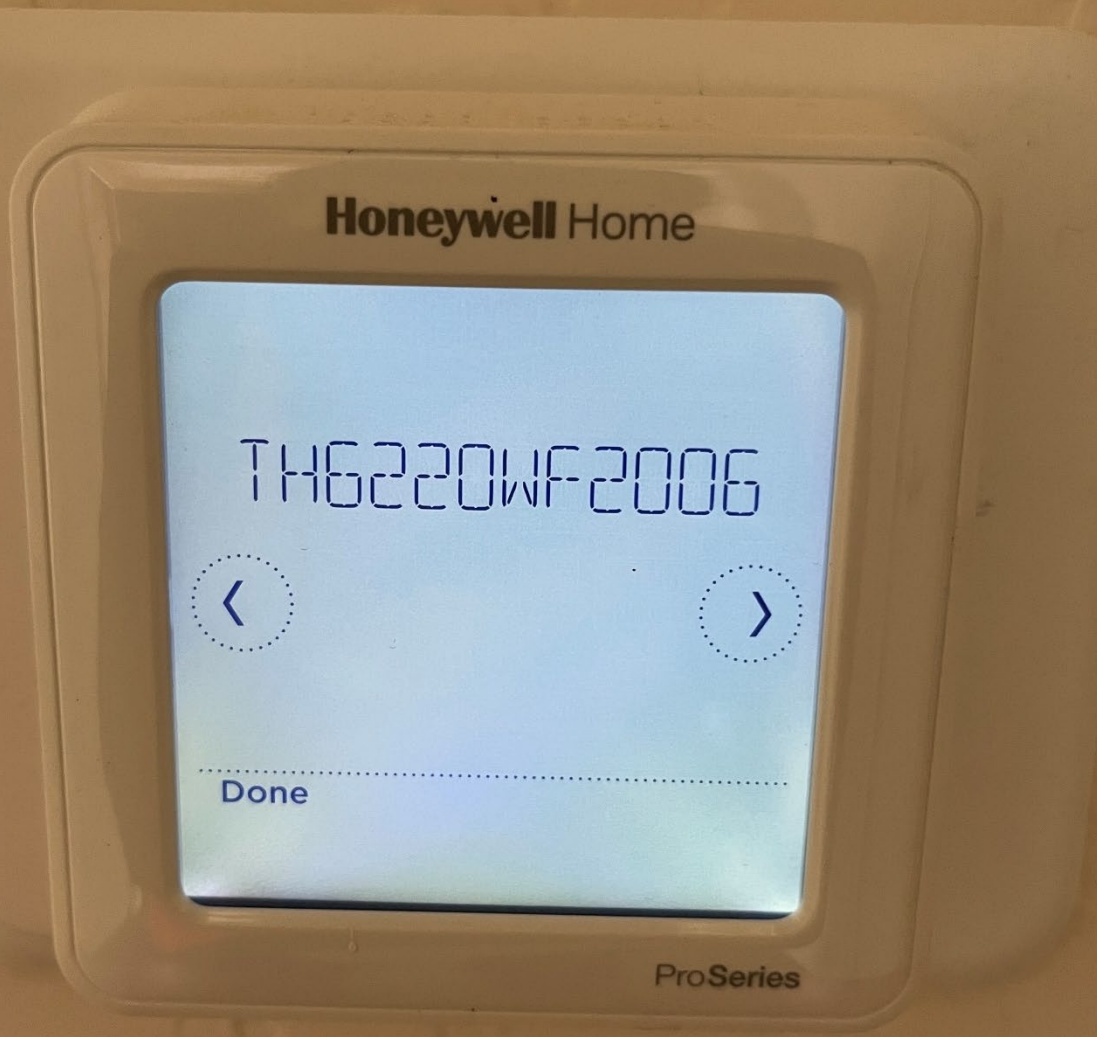
- **All installed HVAC systems must use heat pump technology** as the primary source for both heating and cooling.
- **Systems that rely on electric resistance heating as the primary method** (such as baseboard heaters or electric furnaces) are **not eligible** for the program.



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Communicating Thermostats

- **Thermostats must be programable and wi-fi enabled**, allowing remote temperature adjustment with a smartphone or other internet-connected device.
- **Thermostats must be Auto Demand Response (ADR) capable.**
- **Projects installing variable capacity heat pumps (VCHP) are exempt** from the communicating thermostat requirement.
- **Tenants are not required to enroll in an ADR program**, but the thermostat must be technically capable of ADR participation to qualify.