

# 10 POINTS

Required for Tier 2

## PRESCRIPTIVE PATH

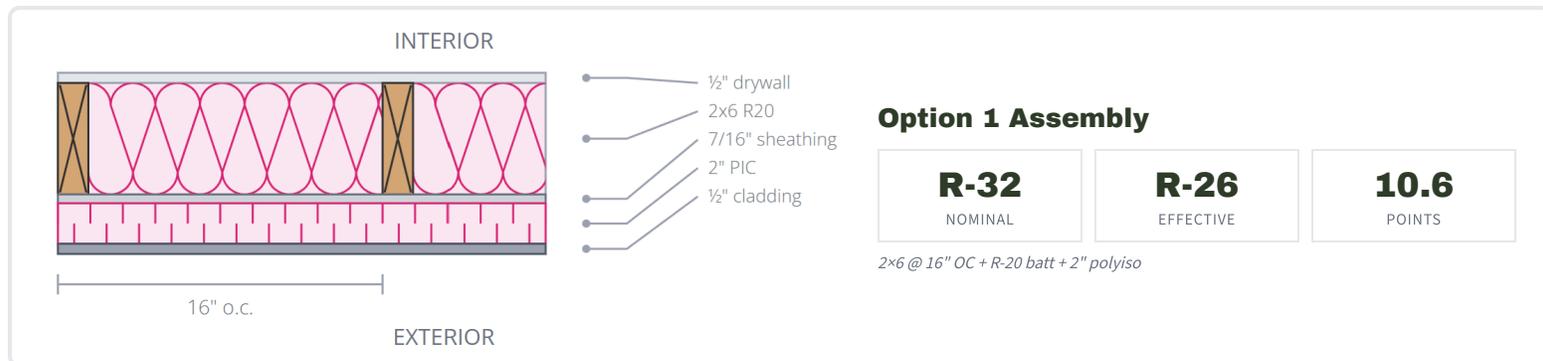
Tiered Energy Compliance — Zone 6 Nova Scotia

Tier 2 applies to building permits received on or after April 1, 2026. Many builders need just one or two upgrades to comply.

### THREE WAYS TO REACH 10 POINTS

All wall assemblies assume 1/2" drywall, 7/16" OSB sheathing, and vinyl cladding.

Option 1 One and Done <i>Fastest path</i>	Option 2 Walls + Equipment <i>Mixed approach</i>	Option 3 Envelope Focus <i>Building envelope</i>
2x6, 16" OC, R-20 batt + 2" polyiso <b>10.6</b>	2x6, 16" OC, R-20 batt + 1.5" XPS <b>7.7</b>	2x6, 16" OC, R-20 batt + 1.5" EPS <b>6.2</b>
	Heat pump water heater <b>3.8</b>	Windows U < 1.44 <b>1.6</b>
		Airtightness < 2.0 ACH <b>3.5</b>
<b>TOTAL 10.6</b>	<b>TOTAL 11.5</b>	<b>TOTAL 11.3</b>



### DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

#### Plan Early

Plan your points strategy at the permit stage. Some details, like wall assemblies, can't easily change once construction begins.

POINTS CATEGORY	REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION	SUBMIT AT
Above-Ground Walls	Wall detail drawing	Building Permit
Foundation Walls	Wall detail drawing	Building Permit
Building Volume	Building plans	Building Permit
Windows & Doors	Window schedule with specs	Building Permit
HRV / ERV	Equipment spec sheet	Building Permit
Water Heater	Equipment spec sheet	Building Permit
Airtightness	Blower door test results	Final Inspection

### AIRTIGHTNESS — HIGH-VALUE OPPORTUNITY

#### ACH @ 50 Pa

Air Changes per Hour at 50 Pascals (~20 km/h wind)

ACH	WHAT IT MEANS	POINTS
2.5	Typical new construction	—
2.0	Tighter than average	3.5
1.5	Tight	6.9
1.0	Very tight	10.4
0.6	Extremely tight	13.3

#### Max Points Available

# 13.3

Enough for Tier 2 on its own — but results depend on workmanship.

## Understanding Wall Assemblies

The R-value on insulation packaging is **not** your wall's effective R-value. Wood studs conduct heat faster than insulation, so the code's RSI values represent *whole-wall assembly* performance.



Not sure what R-value your wall is? Scan here.

Assembly	Nominal R-value (RSI)	Effective R-value (RSI)
2x6 + R-20 batts + 1" XPS exterior	R-25 (4.40)	R-21 (3.69)
2x6 + R-22 batts + 1" polyiso exterior	R-28 (4.93)	R-23 (3.97)
2x6 + R-24 batts + 1.5" polyiso exterior	R-33 (5.81)	R-26 (4.50)

All wall assemblies assume 1/2" drywall, 7/16" OSB sheathing, and vinyl cladding. To hit higher targets: use higher-R batts AND/OR continuous exterior insulation.

Different upgrades receive different **energy conservation points (ECP)**. Below are simplified versions of the 2020 National Building Code tables.

### Above-Ground Walls Table 9.36.8.5

RSI	R-VAL	PTS
3.08	R-17	1.6
3.69	R-21	6.2
3.85	R-22	6.9
3.96	R-22	7.7
4.29	R-24	9.2
4.40	R-25	9.9
4.57	R-26	10.6
4.73	R-27	11.1
4.84	R-27	11.6
5.01	R-28	12.2
5.45	R-31	13.6

*Effective (whole-wall) R-value.*

### Foundation Walls Table 9.36.8.7

RSI	R-VAL	PTS
3.09	R-18	0.2
3.46	R-20	0.8
3.90	R-22	1.4

*Lowest RSI of any section applies. No trade-offs.*

### Windows & Doors Table 9.36.8.6

MAX U	MIN ER	PTS
1.44	29	1.6
1.22	34	4.6

*U: lower = better. ER per CSA A440.2.*

### Building Volume Table 9.36.8.11

VOLUME (M <sup>3</sup> )	~AREA (SF)	PTS
380 – 390	~1,720	1
370 – 380	~1,675	2
360 – 370	~1,630	3
350 – 360	~1,590	4
340 – 350	~1,545	5
330 – 340	~1,500	6
320 – 330	~1,455	7
310 – 320	~1,410	8
300 – 310	~1,365	9
≤ 300	≤ 1,325	10

*8' ceiling assumed. Multi-unit: ≤230 m<sup>3</sup>/unit = 10 pts.*

### Ventilation Table 9.36.8.9

SRE RANGE	PTS
60% to 64%	0.7
65% to 74%	2.2
≥ 75%	3.5

*SRE at 0°C. Ratings at hvi.org.*

### Abbreviations

- RSI** Thermal resistance (SI)
- U-val** Thermal transmittance (W/m<sup>2</sup>K)
- ER** Energy Rating (windows)
- HRV** Heat Recovery Ventilator
- ACH** Air Changes per Hour
- UEF** Uniform Energy Factor
- SRE** Sensible Recovery Eff.

### Airtightness Table 9.36.8.8

LEVEL	ACH	PTS
AL-2A	2.0	3.5
AL-3A	1.5	6.9
AL-4A	1.0	10.4
AL-5A	0.6	13.3

*Points are for detached homes and buildings tested with the guarded test (Table 9.36.6.4-A). Attached dwellings tested unguarded should use Table 9.36.6.4-B.*

### Water Heating Table 9.36.8.10

EQUIPMENT	EFF.	PTS
Tankless condensing	UEF ≥ 0.92	4.9
Gas- or oil-fired		
Storage tank	UEF ≥ 0.83	4.9
Gas- or oil-fired		
Comm. storage	UEF ≥ 0.85	3.2
Gas- or oil-fired		
Comm. storage	UEF ≥ 0.79	2.4
Gas- or oil-fired		
Heat pump	EF ≥ 2.35	3.8

*Electric resistance tanks not eligible. UEF = Uniform Energy Factor.*

### Quick Reference

From	To	×
RSI	R-value	5.678
R-value	RSI	0.176
m <sup>3</sup>	sf (8' ceil)	4.4

$$R = RSI \times 5.678$$