



**BUILDING DIVISION**

# Prescriptive Residential Energy Efficiency

Public Services Department  
 408 N. Spokane St. – Post Falls, ID 83854  
 Phone: (208)773-8708 Fax: (208)777-8378  
 www.postfallsidaho.org

The prescriptive package approach, found in the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code, lists the minimum requirements for energy compliance as required by the code, or as an alternative, one may use the ResCheck software program which may be downloaded for free at [www.energycodes.gov](http://www.energycodes.gov). With this prescriptive approach, chart 402.1.1, shown in part below, is used for the insulation and window requirements for Zone 5, which is the Climate Zone Post Falls is located in.

The chart gives the minimum insulation levels and glazing U-factors which one need simply meet or exceed all the requirements listed in the package to achieve compliance.

There is also available a u-factor alternative which requires one to find the u-factor for all of the building components and match them to Table 402.1.3, being equal to or less than what is shown. (402.1.3 and 402.1.4)

Also note that for a vaulted ceiling you are allowed to use R-30 insulation if the depth of the rafters is limited, but the area cannot exceed 500 square feet or 20 percent of the total insulated ceiling area, whichever is less. (Section 402.2.2)

If you decide to go with the prescriptive method of energy efficiency you must follow sections 402.1 through 402.3, using the chart below as the minimum requirements. Return this sheet with your permit submittal in order to use it.

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Contractor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Address \_\_\_\_\_

Site Address \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_

**Insulation and Fenestration Requirements by Component for Climate Zone 5**

Climate Zone	Fenestration <sup>b</sup> U-Factor	Skylight <sup>b</sup> U-Factor	Glazed Fenestration SHGC <sup>b,e</sup>	Ceiling R-Value	Wood Frame Wall R-Value	Mass wall R-value <sup>i</sup>	Floor R-Value	Basement <sup>c</sup> Wall R-Value	Slab <sup>d</sup> R-Value & Depth	Crawl Space <sup>c</sup> Wall R-Value
5	0.35	0.60	NR	38	20 or 13+5 <sup>h</sup>	13/17	30 <sup>g</sup>	10/13	10,2ft	10/13

- a. R-values are minimums. U-factors and SHGC are maximums. R-19 batts compressed into a nominal 2 x 6 framing cavity such that the R-value is reduced by R-1 or more shall be marked with the compressed batt R-value in addition to the full thickness R-value.
- b. The Fenestration U-factor column excludes skylights. The SHGC column applies to all glazed fenestration.
- c. "15/19" means R-15 continuous insulated sheathing on the interior or exterior of the home or R-19 cavity insulation at the interior of the basement wall. "15/19" shall be permitted to be met with R-13 cavity insulation on the interior of the basement wall plus R-5 continuous insulated sheathing on the interior or exterior of the home. "10/13" means R-10 continuous insulated sheathing on the interior or exterior of the home or R-13 cavity insulation at the interior of the basement wall.
- d. R-5 shall be added to the required slab edge R-Values for heated slabs. Insulation depth shall be the depth of the footing or 2 feet, whichever is less in Zones 1 through 3 for heated slabs.
- e. There are no SHGC requirements in the Marine zone
- f. Basement wall insulation is not required in warm-humid locations as defined by Figure 301.1 and Table 301.1
- g. Or insulation sufficient to fill the framing cavity, R-19 minimum.
- h. "13+5" means R-13 cavity insulation plus R-5 insulated sheathing. If structural sheathing covers 25 percent or less of the exterior, insulating sheathing is not required where structural sheathing is used. If structural sheathing covers more than 25 percent of exterior, structural sheathing shall be supplemented with insulated sheathing of at least R-2.
- i. The second R-value applies when more than half the insulation is on the interior of the mass wall.
- j. For impact rated fenestration complying with Section R301.2.1.2 of the International Residential Code or Section 1608.1.2 of the International Building Code, the maximum U-factor shall be 0.75 in Zone 2 and 0.65 in Zone 3.