



# Title 20



## Certification Processes

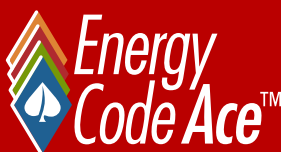
The California Statewide Codes & Standards Program

Here to help you meet California's Title 20 appliance and equipment certification requirements.

We offer FREE

- Trainings
- Resources

All designed to improve compliance with the state's appliance and building energy codes and aimed at locking in long-term energy savings.



10/26/2020

## California's Appliance Efficiency Regulations

### Background

The California Energy Commission (CEC) established the Appliance Efficiency Regulations in 1976 in response to a legislative mandate to reduce the energy demand in the state. Also known as the California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Sections 1601 through 1609, these standards are updated regularly to include amendments and new standards.

All appliances and equipment regulated under Title 20 must be certified to the CEC before being offered for sale in California.

### What do the regulations include?

Title 20 contains the following requirements for residential and commercial appliances and equipment:

- ❖ Energy efficiency and performance
- ❖ Design specification
- ❖ Marking
- ❖ Test procedure
- ❖ Certification and data reporting

### How can we help?

In addition to clarifying the requirements and definitions under Title 20, we offer training and resources on the following topics:

- ❖ Certification requirements, forms, and processes
- ❖ CEC Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDBS)
- ❖ Interaction with federal energy conservation standards and regulations
- ❖ Mechanisms for determining compliance with standards
- ❖ Best practices for manufacturers, retailers, and distributors

Find our new On-Demand Video Trainings at [EnergyCodeAce.com/content/title-20-training](https://EnergyCodeAce.com/content/title-20-training)

Contact us at [Title20@energycodeace.com](mailto:Title20@energycodeace.com) for inquiries and assistance

Be sure to visit [EnergyCodeAce.com](https://EnergyCodeAce.com) and register to ensure you will receive announcements on Title 20 training, tools, and resources.

This program is funded by California utility customers under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission.



# CEC Certification Process Overview

❖ [www.energy.ca.gov/appliances](http://www.energy.ca.gov/appliances)



## 1. Identify who is certifying

Manufacturers may certify appliance efficiency data directly (Direct Manufacturer Certification) or manufacturers may elect to have an authorized third-party certifier submit data to the Energy Commission on behalf of the manufacturer (Third-Party Certification). All certification processes are now completed online.

## 2. Identify the certification requirements

**Direct Manufacturer Certification** (two requirements):

1. Completed Appliance Submittal Declaration in MAEDBS
2. Submit appliance data in MAEDBS through manual or Excel upload.

**Third-Party Certification** (four requirements):

1. Third-Party Certifier Application in MAEDBS
2. Manufacturer's Delegation of Authority Application in MAEDBS
3. Completed Appliance Submittal Declaration in MAEDBS
4. Submit appliance data in MAEDBS through manual or Excel upload.

## 3. Locate the applicable CEC Certification Packet

[energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances](http://energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances)

1. General Instructions (PDF)
2. Appliance-specific submission instructions (PDF)
3. Appliance-specific data submission template (Excel)

## 4. Review Test Laboratory Requirements

All appliance design and efficiency data testing must be performed at a testing laboratory approved by the CEC. Certifiers must indicate on the appliance submittal Declaration the test laboratory at which testing was conducted.

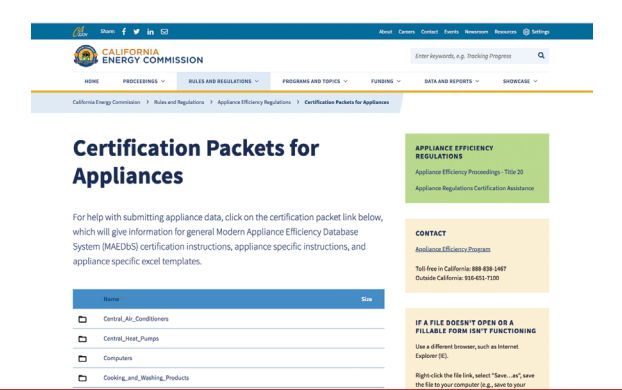
The CEC maintains a publicly-available list of approved laboratories.

<https://cacertappliances.energy.ca.gov/Pages/CompanyInfo/CompanyList.aspx>

## Appliance Efficiency Enforcement

Section 1609 of the Appliance Efficiency Regulations went into effect July 1, 2015. Any person involved with the manufacture, distribution, and sale of noncompliant appliances, including manufacturers, retailers, contractors, importers, and distributors, may be subject to administrative civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per violation. Violations include if the model has not been tested, marked, or certified correctly; does not meet the efficiency standards; or if any person knowingly provides materially false information to the Energy Commission.

❖ [energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances](http://energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances)



❖ <https://cacertappliances.energy.ca.gov/Login.aspx>



## Referenced Documents and URLs

Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Standards:

[govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/CaliforniaCaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I8F8F3BC0D44E11DEA95CA4428E-C25FA0&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=\(sc.Default\)-](http://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Browse/Home/CaliforniaCaliforniaCodeofRegulations?guid=I8F8F3BC0D44E11DEA95CA4428E-C25FA0&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)-)

CEC Title 20 Certification Packets: [energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances](http://energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances)

CEC Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System (MAEDBS): <https://cacertappliances.energy.ca.gov/Login.aspx>

Title 20 Inquiries: [appliances@energy.ca.gov](mailto:appliances@energy.ca.gov)



# Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations Frequently Asked Questions

## How do you determine whether or not a product is covered by Title 20 standards?

Refer to sections 1601 (scope) and 1602 (definitions) of the Title 20 Appliance Efficiency Regulations for information on covered products and their relevant definitions. If you are still unsure if a specific product is covered, you may contact the Energy Commission at [appliances@energy.ca.gov](mailto:appliances@energy.ca.gov).

## What is the California Energy Commission's (CEC) Appliance Efficiency Database?

The CEC maintains a publicly-accessible database which includes lists of regulated appliances and equipment (including manufacturer, brand, and model identification) that have been certified by manufacturers and third-parties. A regulated product cannot be offered for sale in California if it is not listed in this database

<https://cacertappliances.energy.ca.gov/Pages/ApplianceSearch.aspx>

## If a product is listed in the CEC Appliance Efficiency Database, is it automatically in the Federal appliance database?

The Department of Energy (DOE) maintains its own publicly-accessible database for compliance certification of appliances and equipment regulated under DOE energy conservation standards called the Compliance Certification Management System (CCMS). Manufacturers and third-parties whose appliances/equipment are regulated under both Title 20 and federal standards must certify to both the CEC Appliance Efficiency Database and the DOE CCMS [regulations.doe.gov/ccms](https://regulations.doe.gov/ccms)

## What does the compliance certification process involve?

Certifying to the Energy Commission involves testing the model and submitting certification forms according to specific procedures and requirements outlined in CEC certification packets categorized by product. Certification packets can be found here: [energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances](https://energy.ca.gov/files/certification-packets-appliances)

## What are the consequences of not certifying to the Energy Commission?

Section 1609 of Title 20 contains information on Title 20 enforcement provisions. Parties found in violation of Title 20 may be subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per unit found in violation and per violation type.

## Does the Energy Commission have preference for third-party certifications over direct manufacturer certifications?

While CEC requires that certifiers follow the instructions depending on which certification process they choose, it does prefer that certification is submitted by the entity responsible for implementing the warranty of the device.

## How do I know at which laboratories I can test my appliance or equipment? Does the Energy Commission have a preference?

CEC requires all testing to be conducted at CEC-approved laboratories, which differs from the DOE test laboratory requirement in that it restricts the testing to a list of pre-approved laboratories. This list of approved laboratories can be found in the MAEDBS company search:

<https://cacertappliances.energy.ca.gov/Pages/CompanyInfo/CompanyList.aspx>

## How can my own test laboratory be approved by the CEC?

Laboratories must create a company account in MAEDBS in order to access the laboratory application. Once the account request is approved by the Energy Commission, the laboratory must submit the laboratory application in order to be listed in MAEDBS as an approved entity to test appliance data under specific test methods.

The MAEDBS portal is found here:

<https://cacertappliances.energy.ca.gov/Login.aspx>

## How much time should we allow for the certification approval process?

Allow up to 30 days for a response from the Energy Commission. If the submittal contains errors, approval may take longer until issues are resolved.



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