



WASHINGTON STATE ENERGY CODE 2021 Code Adoption Significant Changes

JANUARY 2024

AREA/SPACE HEATING: HEAT PUMP REQUIRMENT FOR ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN RESCINDED

HOT WATER HEATING: HEAT PUMP REQUIRMENT FOR ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN RESCINDED

1. **R402.1.4** *Continuous minimum R-5 insulation required on/within all exterior walls.*

WSEC Definition:

CONTINUOUS INSULATION (c.i.). Insulating material that is continuous across all structural members without thermal bridges other than fasteners and service openings. It is installed on the interior or exterior or is integral to any opaque surface of the building envelope.

2. **R402.1.4** *Minimum R-60 in ceiling. (R-38 if full height over top plate)*

3. **R402.4.1.3** *Air leakage maximum 4.0 air changes per hour.*

4. **R403.5.5** *Water heater required to be installed in conditioned space (exception for heaters greater/equal to 2.0 UEF, tankless heaters, gas water heaters with tank)*

5. **R404.1** *All permanent lighting fixtures must be high-efficiency (exception for appliance lighting)*

6. **R404.1.1** *Interior lighting fixtures must be controlled by dimmers or occupant sensors.*

Exception: Lighting controls shall not be required for the following:

1. Bathrooms.
2. Hallways.
3. Lighting designed for safety or security.

SECTION R406 Energy Credits

7. **Table R406.2** *Better energy credits for heat pumps*

8. **R406.3** *Required energy credits expanded for all dwellings. (less than 150 sq/ft exempt)*

<1500sq -- 5 credits

1500sq-5000sq -- 8 credits

>5000 -- 9 credits

Additions 150 – 500 sq/ft 2 credits

9. **Table 406.3** *Credit for compact hot water distribution system (16 ounces max source to nearest valve)*

10. **Table 406.3** *Credits for smaller solar and wind installations. (.5 credits/600kWh)*

SECTION R502/R503

11. **R503.1.3** *Replacement hot water heater not required to be installed in conditioned space.*