

Qualified Natural Gas, Propane, or Oil Furnace or Hot Water Boiler Credits:

The following information is offered to assist taxpayers with properly obtaining energy tax credits and is for educational purposes only. This information does not replace the assistance of a professional tax preparation specialist, professional accountant or attorney.

There are informational websites offered via the US Government and other organizations that list the efficiency ratings and other requirements needed to qualify for energy tax credits. Some of these websites are listed at the bottom of this page. Unfortunately, most of these websites do not explain how to obtain this information regarding a particular energy appliance, either before you purchase it or for one you already own.

The model number of larger energy appliances, such as furnaces, boilers, water heaters and more, contains the code needed to determine the exact efficiency and other factors about the device. If you've never had to look up the efficiency of a furnace or boiler before, then this can be a frustrating experience. Fortunately there are several ways to obtain the information you need.

First, you will need to find the location of the model number. For most furnaces, the model number is located inside the *upper access cover of the unit. When you remove the access cover, the model number will be on a white or silver label normally located on a side panel. Be sure to write this number down accurately. A flashlight and/or magnifying glass may be needed.

(The label will normally be located behind the main panel cover) →

**Some furnaces are mounted horizontally or upside-down. If this is the case, you will want to open the main access cover, not the one over the blower motor and fan. In some cases you will need to use a screwdriver or nut driver to remove the access cover.*



Graphics from: EnergyCodes.gov



For boilers, the model number is normally listed on a white or silver label found on the exterior of the unit. If the label is located in a hard-to-read location, then a dental mirror and flashlight may be required.

Once you have obtained the model number or if you are having problems finding the model number you can contact the local distributor who handles the particular brand unit and have them determine the energy efficiency numbers. For larger cities, you can find the local distributor by looking under "Air Conditioning Contractors" in the yellow pages. Under this heading the contractors who sell a particular brand will often be grouped together in a box under that brand's heading. If you look at the bottom name in that box, this should be the local distributor for that product line or brand name. For smaller cities and rural locations, you can look up the model number online via the Internet (see next paragraph). If you do not have Internet access, your local library should be able to help you.

Another method used to find the efficiency of a furnace or boiler is to look them up via model number in the Gas Appliance Manufacturer's Association Directory or GAMA Directory. You can conduct a search using just the first few letters of the model number and then refine your search until you find the exact or closest match to your particular unit. The GAMA website provides hints and suggestions to help you find your product listing and can be found at: www.gamanet.org

Perhaps the easiest way to determine if a new furnace, boiler or other energy device qualifies for the energy tax credits is via the listings by product prescreened by GAMA. This link will take you to GAMA and I=B=R Efficiency Rating Certified Furnaces, Boilers, Water Heaters, Heat Pump Water Heaters and more:

<http://www.gamanet.org/gama/inforesources.nsf/vContentEntries/Product+Directories?OpenDocument#Tax>

TIAP – The Tax Incentives Assistance Project: <http://www.energytaxincentives.org/>

Information from the IRS regarding the energy tax credits: <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=153397,00.html>