

For new single family homes, the Massachusetts Building Code requires that the builder choose 1 of 4 methods to show compliance with the energy code. These are listed on Page 5 of the Building Application. Many builders choose the software option. The Rescheck program can be downloaded free of charge. There is a help menu that will assist you to input data about the building envelope of your house and the insulation used. As you input the information a screen at the bottom of page shows the allowable U-value of your house and the proposed U-value of your house based upon insulation and glazing values that you have inputted. Think of the U-value as being opposite of the R-value. The U-value is a measurement of air infiltration. With regard to windows, for example, the higher the U-value, the poorer is its insulating qualities. The screen will also display a pass or fail note. In order to be in compliance, you must pass. You can decrease your U-value by adding insulation, changing your glazing percentage, or decreasing the U-value of your windows.

To download energy compliance software
Go to www.energycodes.gov
Under compliance tools, click Residential(REScheck)
Click Download REScheck software
Click Massachusetts
Fill out questionnaire
Download

If you choose the prescriptive method, you can download the prescriptive form and attach it to your application.