

EXTERIOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM (EHI) Window and Exterior Door Selection Guide

The following project requirements and best practices are based on information available from leading building science organizations and practitioners including Efficient Windows Collaborative, Building Science Corporation, and Department of Energy.

WINDOWS

Project Requirements – Window projects shall follow All requirements below.

- **Window Installation**
Window installation shall follow manufacturers' installation guidelines and use trained installers.
- **Window Energy Efficiency (source: [Efficient Windows Collaborative](#))**
When replacing windows, projects must install ENERGY STAR certified windows meeting or exceeding the energy efficiency levels below.

U-factor (U-value)	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient (SHGC)	Air Leakage
Windows: U ≤ 0.27	Windows: Any	Windows: AL ≤ 0.30
Windows: U = 0.28	Windows: SHGC ≥ 0.32	
Windows: U = 0.29	Windows: SHGC ≥ 0.37	
Windows: U = 0.30	Windows: SHGC ≥ 0.42	

- **Window Types Allowed:**
 - **Window Rehab:**
The rehabbing of windows shall follow the specifications and best practices identified by the Window Preservation Standards Collaborative, http://windowstandards.org/?page_id=159.
 - **New Windows:**
The following window frame material types are allowed.
 - Vinyl (**For EHI Program ONLY**)
 - Composite
 - Fiberglass
 - Wood

Project Resources for Homeowners and Contractors:

- Iowa Windows Fact Sheet - https://www.efficientwindows.org/factsheets_existing/iowa.pdf
- Efficient Windows Collaborative - <https://www.efficientwindows.org/>
- Whole Building Design Guide - <https://www.wbdg.org/resources/windows-and-glazing>

DOORS

Project Requirements – Door projects shall follow All requirements below.

- **Door Installation**
Door installation shall follow manufacturers' installation guidelines and use trained installers.
- **Door Energy Efficiency**
When replacing doors, projects must install ENERGY STAR certified doors.
- **Door Safety**
Doors separating garage and home shall adhere to International Residential Code (IRC) 302.5.1.