



Phius Certification Guidebook v26.1.2 - Record of Updates

This table provides a summary of specific updates made to individual sections of the Certification Guidebook, in addition to the general updates listed in the accompanying [guidebook update blog](#). Rather than providing an exhaustive list, this table is intended to help project teams who are already familiar with the Certification Guidebook identify which sections of v26.1.2 would be especially beneficial to re-review.

Section	Summary of Updates
0.5.1	<u>Townhouses</u> : Updated definition, and must fall under SF program (not MF).
1.1.9.2	<u>Document Upload Dates</u> : “Two strikes” policy for missed deadlines.
1.2 & 1.2.2	<u>Performance Path Fees</u> : Updated for Multifamily and Non-Residential projects. Clarification of expedited review fees. Duplicate building discount available at Phius’ discretion. <u>Feasibility Study Fees</u> : Updated for Multifamily and Non-Residential projects.
1.3.1	<u>Excluding Spaces from the Certified Project Area</u> : New guidance on commercial kitchens and trash.
1.3.3.3	<u>Skylight Condensation Risk</u> : Now eligible for whole-window condensation risk assessment.
1.3.4.1	<u>Non-Residential Base Source Energy Limits</u> : Added for Canada and Japan.
1.3.4.2	<u>Balanced Ventilation</u> : Compliance routes labeled Option 1 / Option 2. Clarification of net pressurization imbalance calculation process. <u>Minimum Ventilation Rates</u> : Clarification of supply and exhaust air requirements. <u>Distribution</u> : All ventilation distribution ductwork from the unit to interior registers must be within the thermal enclosure. <u>Ventilation Intake & Outlet Ductwork Requirements</u> : Section added for clarification.
1.3.4.4	<u>EV Readiness</u> : Multifamily projects must now comply with <i>Phius Annotated</i> DOE ENH Multifamily National Program Requirements and Rater Checklist unless obtaining optional ENH certification (learn more).
1.3.6.3	<u>Fireplace Requirements</u> : Clarification that Phius CORE requirements apply to both interior and exterior fireplaces.
1.4.1.1	<u>Ventilation Air Inlet</u> : Clarification of location requirements. <u>Ventilation Air Outlet</u> : Added location recommendation. <u>Air Filtration</u> : Filters with rating equivalent to MERV 8 may be accepted at Phius’ discretion. <u>Indoor AirPlus v2 Alignment</u> : While v26.1.2 lists 1/1/2027, ENH has since extended the required adoption date to 1/1/2028. Phius is in the process of reviewing the pros and cons of aligning with the ENH program. For the time being, please assume v2 will be required by Phius for projects with permit dates on or after 1/1/2027.

	<p><u>DOE ENH (SF)</u>: Phius amendment requiring advisory item 12 for in-unit HPWHs does not apply to SF, duplex, and townhouse projects.</p> <p><u>DOE ENH (MF)</u>: Multifamily projects must now comply with <i>Phius Annotated</i> program documents (learn more). Update to recirculation requirements.</p>
1.4.2.2	<u>National HVAC Design Report</u> : Applies to Track B only.
1.4.2.4	<u>Drawings</u> : Updated list of requirements, including details, takeoffs, and electrical sets for MF and Non-Residential projects.
1.4.2.5	<p><u>Mechanical Ventilation Equipment</u>: Minor updates to acceptable performance data types.</p> <p><u>Heating & Cooling Equipment</u>: Minor updates to acceptable performance data types.</p> <p><u>Insulation</u>: Datasheets required for thermally broken fasteners.</p>
1.4.2.6	<p><u>iCFA Takeoffs</u>: New guidance.</p> <p><u>Ventilation Duct Takeoffs</u>: Expanded list.</p> <p><u>Thermal Bridge Takeoffs</u>: Required.</p> <p><u>Calculators</u>: Section reorganized and list of available calculators/estimators updated.</p>
1.4.3.2	<u>WUFI Passive Tutorials</u> : These remain available online, but will no longer be updated. In case of conflict, the Guidebook supersedes.
1.4.3.4	<u>WUFI Plus</u> : Dynamic modeling guidance moved to Appendix I-3.16.
1.4.4.1	<u>Multiple Cases</u> : Not allowed, except for mixed-use.
1.4.4.2	<u>Standard Climate Datasets</u> : Now include locations in the US, Canada and Japan.
1.4.4.4	<p><u>Number of Units</u>: New exception for dormitories and nursing homes.</p> <p><u>Number of Floors</u>: Clarification of definition.</p> <p><u>DHW Tap Openings</u>: Added default for residential, use calculator for non-residential.</p> <p><u>Utilization Days</u>: Added default for residential, use calculator for non-residential.</p> <p><u>Basement Slab Depth</u>: Measured to top of slab.</p> <p><u>Slab-on-Grade Perimeter Insulation</u>: New guidance.</p>
1.4.4.5	<p><u>iCFA</u>: New process tip for built-in calculator.</p> <p><u>Specific Heat Capacity</u>: Expanded guidance on selection and calculation.</p>
1.4.4.6	<p><u>Framing</u>: Updated guidance & requirements for different framing types.</p> <p><u>PTHP Penetrations</u>: Through-wall cooling-only AC not allowed.</p>

	<p><u>Window SHGC</u>: New SHGC muntin derating formula.</p> <p><u>Psi-Install</u>: Clarification of defaults and when thermal bridge calculations are required.</p> <p><u>Shading Devices</u>: Default added for interior venetian blinds.</p>
1.4.4.8	<p><u>Fridge/Freezer</u>: Updated default energy demand.</p> <p><u>Additional Devices</u>: List of examples added.</p>
1.4.4.9	<p><u>Unbalanced Outdoor Air Ventilation System with Heat Recovery</u>: Updated protocol & added exception.</p>
1.4.4.11	<p><u>Minimum Airflow Rates</u>: No Phius minimum (defer to jurisdiction).</p> <p><u>Inputting Airflow Rates</u>: Added guidance on acceptable methods.</p> <p><u>Mechanical Direct Exhaust</u>: Projects with this system may use additional inputs that are otherwise left blank.</p> <p><u>Exhaust Ventilation</u>: Updated guidance on device type selection.</p> <p><u>Unbalanced Airflow</u>: Updated guidance on when make-up air is required.</p>
1.4.4.16	<p><u>EV Charging</u>: Not required to account for associated energy use.</p>
1.4.4.18	<p><u>Heat Pumps</u>: Use one line item for average performance.</p> <p><u>Wood or Pellet Stove</u>: Default inputs added.</p>
1.4.4.19	<p><u>Type</u>: Significantly expanded guidance on appropriate selection and relevant inputs in various scenarios.</p> <p><u>Swing Tanks</u>: Guidance added.</p> <p><u>Hot Water Piping</u>: Guidance relocated to new, separate Phius DHW Piping Protocol.</p>
1.4.5 & 1.4.6	<p>New METr Modeling Protocol!</p>
1.5.2.1	<p><u>Phius Quality Control Field Checklist</u>: Significantly expanded guidance.</p> <p><u>Multiple Buildings</u>: One QA Workbook per building.</p>
1.5.2.2	<p><u>ASHRAE Path through Energy Star</u>: New process tip if WUFI Passive or METr is sole modeling software.</p>
1.5.2.3	<p><u>Compartmentalization Testing</u>: Expanded guidance.</p>
1.5.2.5	<p><u>Heating & Cooling QA Workbook</u>: New step-by-step instructions.</p>
1.5.3.1	<p><u>DOE Efficient New Homes Eligibility Criteria for MF Buildings</u>: Certification not required (learn more), updated exception for California.</p>
2.3.1	<p><u>Duplex/Townhouse Eligibility</u>: Must be vertically partitioned (side-by-side).</p>
2.4 – 2.4.3	<p><u>Prescriptive Checklist Walkthrough</u>: Added explanations of requirements driven by various inputs.</p>

2.5.2	<u>Preliminary Blower Door Test</u> : Clarification that it is not optional.
3	<u>Targets Exception</u> : Performance criteria target adjustments for impossible-to-fix thermal bridges. <u>Co-Requisite Programs</u> : Retrofits not eligible, checklists must still be completed.
B-1	<u>Vapor Permeability</u> : Plywood and OSB reclassified from Class II to Class III. <u>Hygrothermal Compliance Paths</u> : Path 2 no longer available for Prescriptive Path or non-residential projects.
B-2.1	<u>Hygrothermal Ratios</u> : Calculation guidance added.
B-3	<u>New Roof Type 'E'</u> : Vented framed assemblies with vapor permeable cavity and continuous insulation. <u>Hygrothermal Ratios</u> : Calculation guidance added.
C-1.2	<u>Rater/Verifier Eligibility</u> : May not serve as the builder or a design team member on a project they verify.
C-2.2	<u>Non-Threatening Leakage Exception</u> : now applies when the operational (was durability) criterion is missed.
C-3	<u>C-3.1 Centralized Ventilation Systems</u> : Section added. <u>C-3.2 Decentralized Ventilation Systems</u> : Section added.
D-1	Full Phius Glossary of Terms Coming Soon!
I-3.8	<u>Default Materials Database</u> : Soil/Dirt values corrected.
I-3.12	<u>DHW Uniform Energy Factor (UEF)</u> : Section added with conversion formulas.
I-3.17	<u>Commercial Kitchen Range Hoods</u> : Section added.
N-3	<u>Perimeter Heating</u> : Updated calculation method.
N-7	<u>Large Uncommon Electric & Gas Loads</u> : Updated demand calculations.