



## SWEPSCO’S ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND EEA SHARE COMMON GOAL

The energy efficiency programs at Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPSCO) continue to help residential, commercial, industrial, and public entity customers operate more efficiently and improve the comfort of their homes and facilities. It’s this common goal of energy efficiency that links SWEPSCO and EEA. SWEPSCO E&E Consumer Programs Manager Sherry McCormack said, “It’s good to know there are utilities, associations and organizations all across our state who want the same for Arkansans: improved comfort at an affordable price.”

In addition to its focus on energy efficiency, SWEPSCO, in conjunction with its parent American Electric Power (AEP), continues to reduce carbon emissions through the electrification of its fleet and increased renewable generation. McCormack said, “In April 2022, the largest single-site wind farm in North America began providing cost-effective power to SWEPSCO’s Arkansas and Louisiana customers, along with customers of its sister company, Public Service Company of Oklahoma.”

“AEP has committed to replacing 100 percent of its 2300 cars and light-duty trucks with electric vehicle alternatives by 2030. The company also plans to convert a portion of its medium- and heavy-duty trucks to electric or hybrid models in order to electrify 40 percent of its entire on-road vehicle fleet in less than ten years. AEP also has committed to achieving an 80 percent reduction in emissions by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050, from a 2000 baseline.”

UPCOMING EVENTS		
DATE	EVENT	CITY
JUNE 1	Dallas County Library	Fordyce
JUNE 2	Woodruff County Library	Augusta
JUNE 7	Madison County Senior Activity Center	Huntsville
JUNE 8	Marion County Senior Activity & Wellness	Flippin
JUNE 10	Lawrence County Library	Walnut Ridge
JUNE 15	Pine Bluff Public Library	Pine Bluff
JUNE 16	Alma Public Library	Alma
JUNE 23	Charleston Public Library	Charleston
JUNE 25	Hot Springs Village Home Improvement Expo '22	Hot Springs Village
JULY 12	Stone County Library	Mountain View
AUG. 10	White Hall Library	White Hall
AUG. 15	Boone County Senior Center	Harrison
AUG. 22	Crossett Public Library	Crossett
SEPT. 10	SouthArk Expo '22	El Dorado
SEPT. 13	Pike County Public Library	Murfreesboro
SEPT. 22	Malvern-Hot Spring County Library	Malvern
OCT. 3	Ashdown Community Library	Ashdown
OCT. 3	Foreman Public Library	Foreman
OCT. 5	Lafayette County Library	Lewisville
OCT. 11	Alma Senior Activity Center	Alma
NOV. 7	Elkins Senior Activity & Wellness Center	Elkins

If you know of an individual, program, or organization that has received recognition in the energy efficiency field, please let us know so we can highlight their achievement.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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RECENT EVENTS			
DATE	EVENT	INSTRUCTOR	CITY
APRIL 28	Bentonville Community Center	John Fetherston	Bentonville
MAY 9	Johnson County Senior Activity Center	John Fetherston	Clarksville
MAY 11	Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library	John Fetherston	Jonesboro
MAY 23	Mary I. Wold Cleburne County Library	John Fetherston	Heber Springs

UPCOMING TRAININGS		
DATE	EVENT	CITY
DEC. 31	Building Science Principles online course and exam	Online

RECENT TRAININGS			
DATE	EVENT	INSTRUCTOR	CITY
MAY 2	Certified Energy Manager	Clint D. Christenson	Little Rock
MAY 19	IECC Impact on Building Envelope Systems	Eric Oliver	Webinar
MAY 24	IECC Impact on Mechanical & HVACR Systems	Eric Oliver	Webinar
MAY 26	IECC Impact on Special Systems	Eric Oliver	Webinar

## EEA CONGRATULATES ARKANSAS UTILITY COMPANIES

Energy Efficiency Arkansas (EEA) would like to congratulate **Black Hills Energy-Arkansas**, **Entergy Arkansas, LLC**, and **Southwestern Electric Power Company (SWEPSCO)** on being named a “Partner of the Year–Sustained Excellence” winner by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). On May 5, 2022, the EPA announced that each of the utilities were being recognized for their work with the its ENERGY STAR® program.





# What is the certificate?

Earning the Building Science Principles (BSP) Certificate of Knowledge proves that you have basic knowledge of building science. Building science demonstrates how various components of a home interact to affect the home's overall performance.

The BSP Reference Guide, available in both English and Spanish, teaches you some of the widely-used industry terminology and concepts related to building science.

Understanding the relationships between the building envelope, heating, AC, insulation, mechanical ventilation, and other systems of the home will help you understand how these systems affect the comfort, health, and safety of its occupants.

You can study the guide and then challenge the online exam from your computer to earn the BSP certificate.

**To learn more about the BSP, please visit [bpi.org/certificate](http://bpi.org/certificate) or email [bsp@bpi.org](mailto:bsp@bpi.org).**

The BSP certificate proves your basic knowledge of building science.

Please note: The BSP certificate is not a professional certification. To learn more about BPI certifications, visit [bpi.org/certification](http://bpi.org/certification).



“This guide is easily readable and well-illustrated: a powerful resource for filling in gaps in building science knowledge.”

*-Daniel Lea, Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association*

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Founded in 1993, the Building Performance Institute (BPI) is the nation's premier certification and standard-setting organization for home performance professionals.

BPI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization accredited by the American National Standards Institute, Inc. (ANSI) as a developer of American National Standards and as a certifying body for personnel credentials. BPI develops the technical standards for home energy audits and for energy efficiency, health, and safety improvements.

From these standards, BPI develops rigorous online and field exams for BPI's professional certifications.

[bpi.org](http://bpi.org)  
[info@bpi.org](mailto:info@bpi.org)

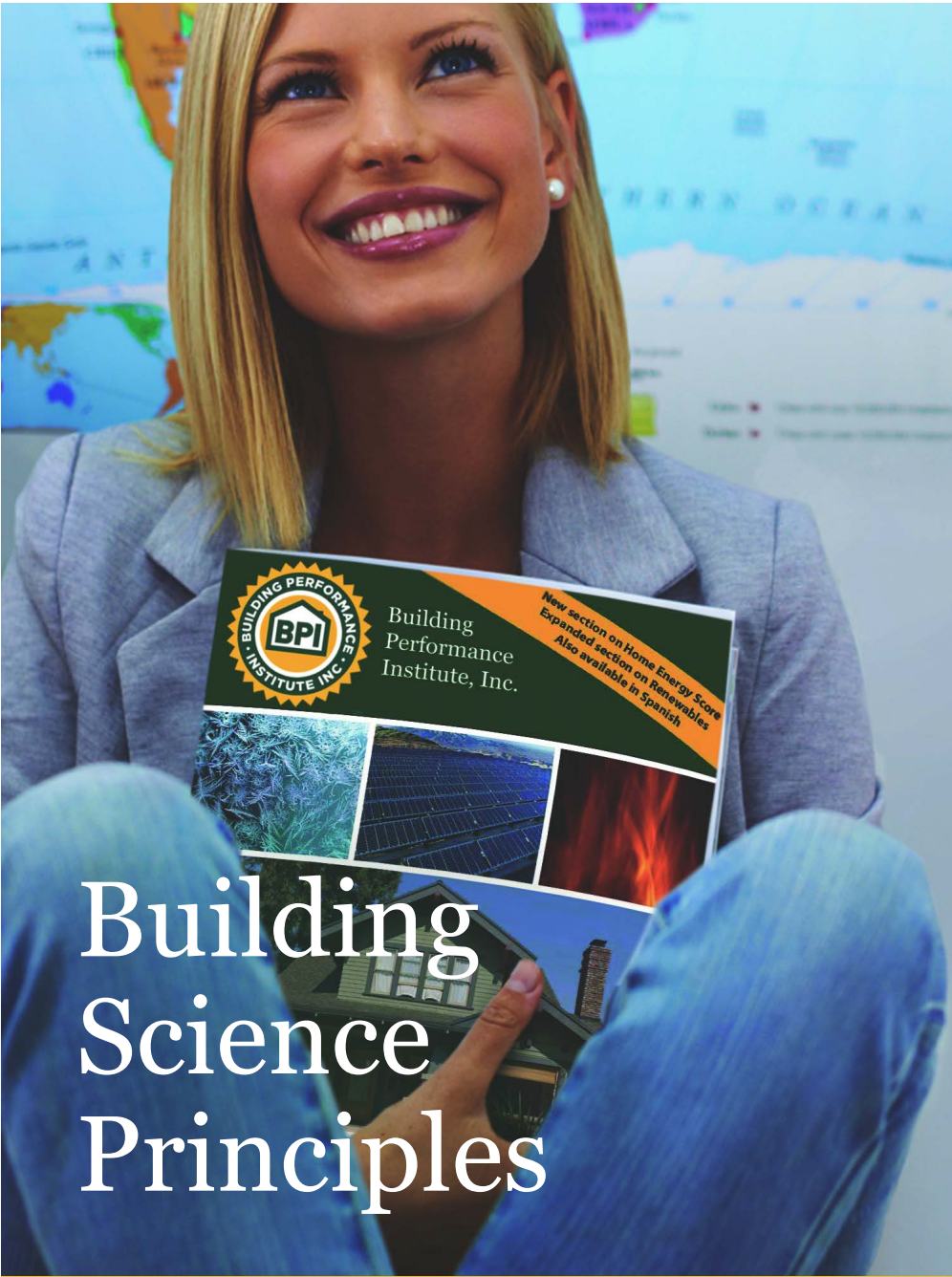
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Malta, NY 12020

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Fax: (518) 899-1622



SM

The symbol of excellence for home performance contractors



# Building Science Principles

The Building Science Principles certificate is your first step into the world of home performance.

[bpi.org](http://bpi.org)



SM



# WHO SHOULD GET THE CERTIFICATE



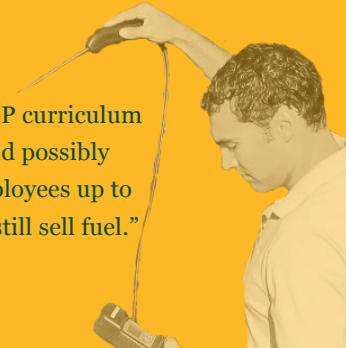
## Who should get this certificate?

- The Building Science Principles (BSP) Certificate of Knowledge is designed for a variety of audiences, including:
- Remodelers and home improvement contractors
  - Insulation, HVAC, and window installers
  - Employees of contracting companies
  - Community college students interested in a career in the building trades
  - Vocational or technical trade students
  - Secondary school students interested in environmental sustainability
  - Realtors
  - Energy-related product manufacturers and their distributors
  - Sales representatives
  - Homeowners and renters

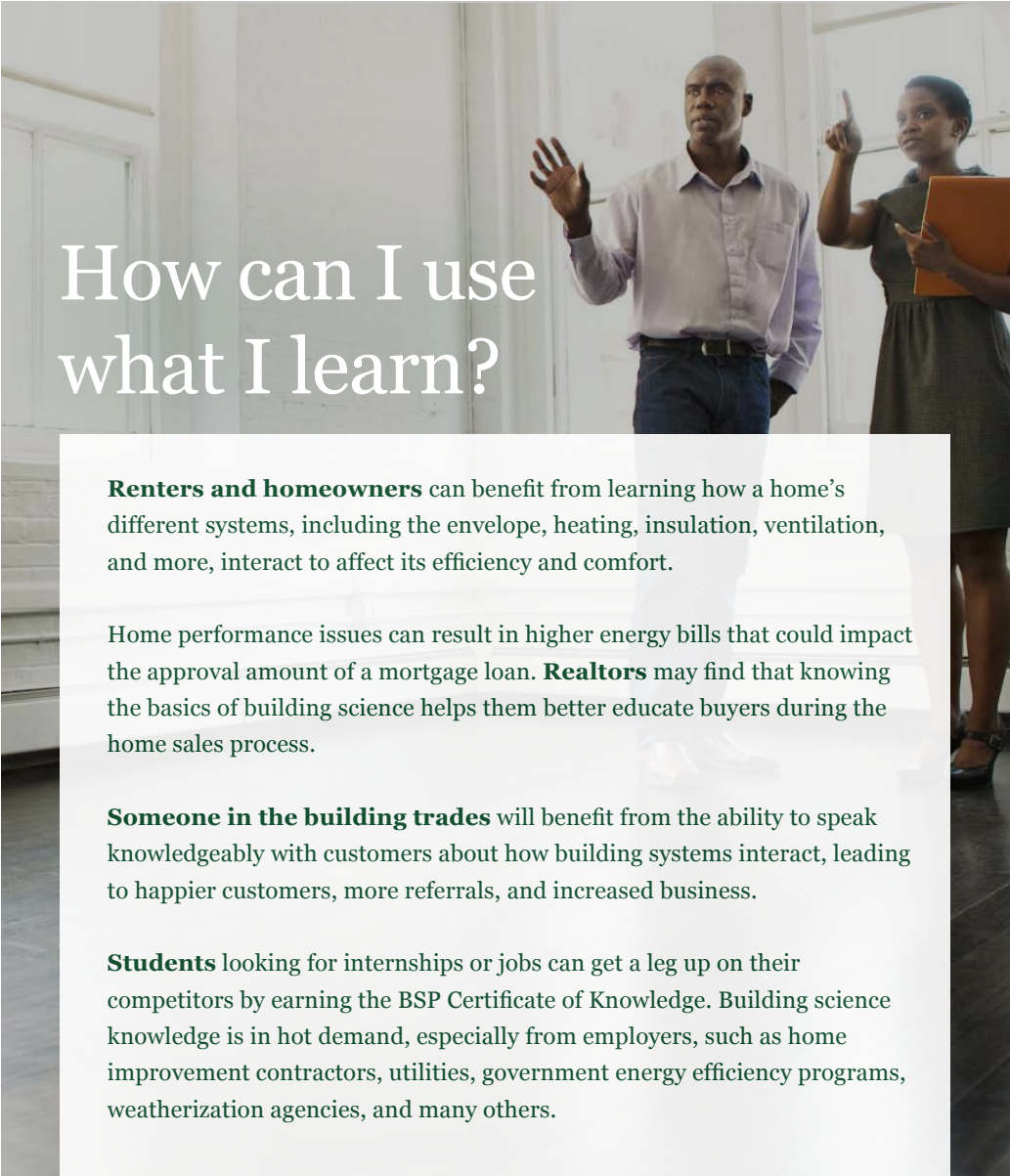
### Case Study: Home Performance Contractor

**BantamWesson** is an HVAC and energy efficiency company. 85% of their staff obtained the Building Science Principles (BSP) Certificate of Knowledge.

“The BSP curriculum enlightened our customer service representatives, our sales people, our oil delivery guys, and senior management on how understanding the house as a system can help each and every conversation they have with our customers. Although our HVAC technicians are already knowledgeable on this, the BSP curriculum helped them to convey concepts to the homeowner and possibly upsell our other services. The BSP helped get our employees up to speed on why we offer energy efficiency services and still sell fuel.”



# VALUE OF THE CERTIFICATE



## How can I use what I learn?

- Renters and homeowners** can benefit from learning how a home’s different systems, including the envelope, heating, insulation, ventilation, and more, interact to affect its efficiency and comfort.
- Home performance issues can result in higher energy bills that could impact the approval amount of a mortgage loan. **Realtors** may find that knowing the basics of building science helps them better educate buyers during the home sales process.
- Someone in the building trades** will benefit from the ability to speak knowledgeably with customers about how building systems interact, leading to happier customers, more referrals, and increased business.
- Students** looking for internships or jobs can get a leg up on their competitors by earning the BSP Certificate of Knowledge. Building science knowledge is in hot demand, especially from employers, such as home improvement contractors, utilities, government energy efficiency programs, weatherization agencies, and many others.

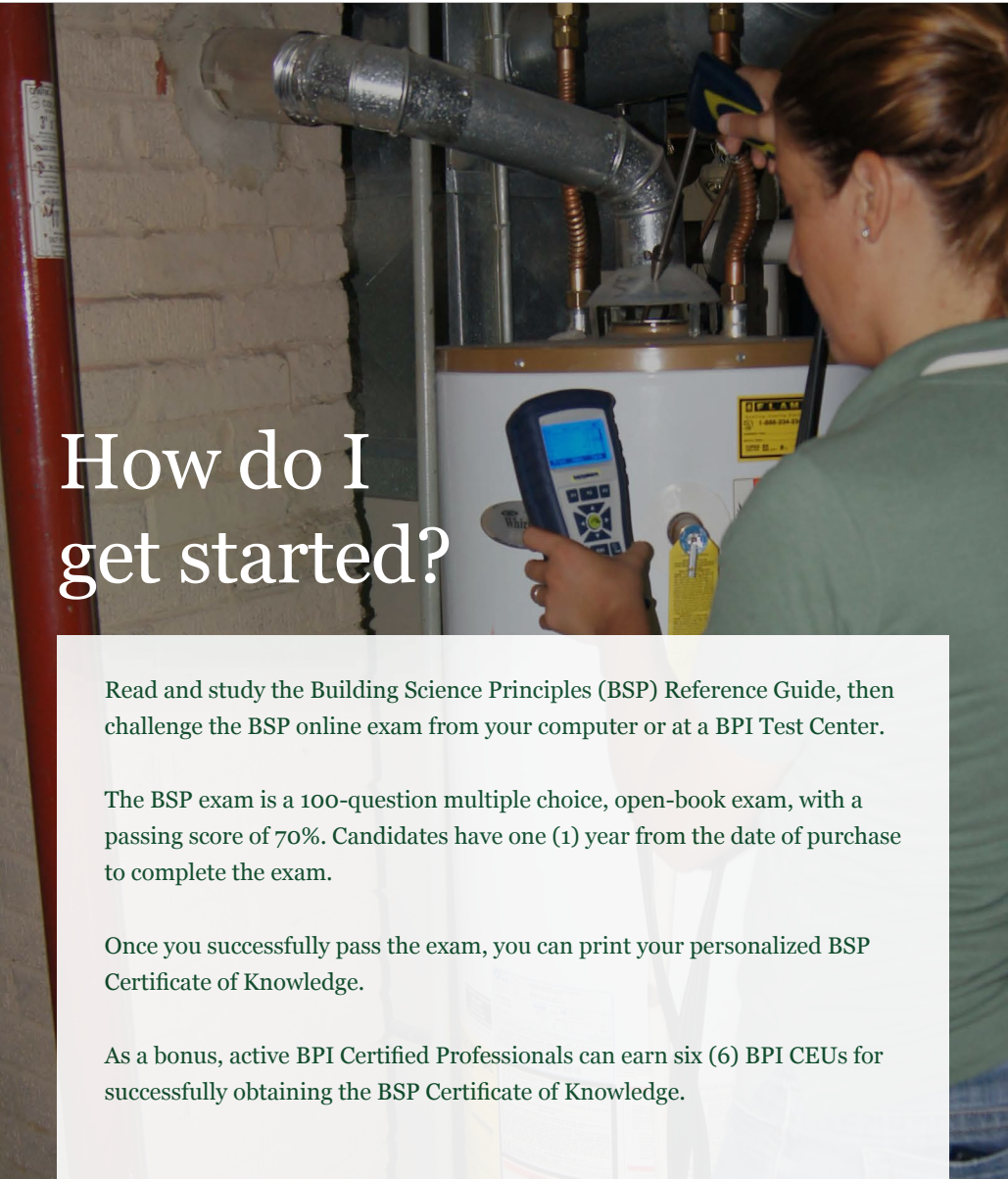
### Case Study: High School Workforce Development

The **Green STEP program**, an **Energize Connecticut** collaborative, prepares Connecticut technical high school students for green industry jobs. So far, **over 110 students** and **144 construction and science teachers** have obtained the Building Science Principles (BSP) Certificate of Knowledge.

“The BSP lays the foundation for building science education. The BSP training course empowers anyone who takes it to talk intelligently about buildings, areas of concern that need weatherization, and the immediate health, safety, and performance benefits that come from building correctly and addressing problems. High school students that obtain the Certificate of Knowledge increase the value of their future employment.”



# GETTING STARTED



## How do I get started?

- Read and study the Building Science Principles (BSP) Reference Guide, then challenge the BSP online exam from your computer or at a BPI Test Center.
- The BSP exam is a 100-question multiple choice, open-book exam, with a passing score of 70%. Candidates have one (1) year from the date of purchase to complete the exam.
- Once you successfully pass the exam, you can print your personalized BSP Certificate of Knowledge.
- As a bonus, active BPI Certified Professionals can earn six (6) BPI CEUs for successfully obtaining the BSP Certificate of Knowledge.

### Case Study: Technical Institute

The **Wichita Technical Institute (WTI)** HVAC/R program provides the training students need to begin successful careers in the field. WTI offers Building Science Principles (BSP) training to HVAC students as a way of incorporating house-as-a-system concepts into the overall program. At the end of the training, students take the exam to obtain the accompanying BSP Certificate of Knowledge.

“The Building Science Principles exam has been perfect for HVAC/R students at WTI. The study material is current and well-written, and the knowledge the students walk away with is invaluable.”

