Non-Credit Career Pathway Course

# **ENERGY AUDITOR**



# HANDS-ON LEARNING. WORKFORCE READY.

BSC's building analyst training and certification program equips professionals with the expertise to conduct comprehensive home energy audits. Your job as a certified home energy auditor is to identify energy-related issues in the home, provide customers with an economic forecast of return on investment through energy efficiency improvements, and ensure that the interaction of specific building systems does not create any harmful conditions.

This program emphasizes building science principles, teaching participants how to evaluate the energy efficiency, safety, and comfort of homes using advanced diagnostic equipment. Through equipment training, individuals learn to identify energy waste, combustion safety issues, and opportunities for improving indoor air quality.

Certified building analysts are skilled in recommending cost-effective solutions to enhance energy performance and occupant comfort. This certification program opens up opportunities in the growing field of home performance contracting, ensuring homes are efficient, safe, and healthy.

Students will earn three credentials in this program administered by the Building Performance Institute (BPI):

- BPI Building Science Principles (BSP)
- BPI Building Analyst Technician (BA-T)
- BPI Building Analyst Professional (BA-P)

This program is ideal for anyone seeking to gain the skills and certifications necessary to work in the energy efficiency and building performance sectors, including HVAC technicians, general contractors, home inspectors, home builders, electricians, and anyone else interested in home energy auditing.

A successful completion of the training indicates you have met Building Performance Institute's (BPI) standards for home energy auditing and teaches you how to use building science to diagnose a home's energy issues.



# **Program Description**

This program includes everything you need to be successful without prerequisites. This package includes a built-in hierarchy of three professional credentials – BPI Building Science Principles, BPI Building Analyst Technician, and BPI Building Analyst Professional.

All BPI certification courses start with self-paced online training and conclude with proctored certification exams.

# Part 1: Building Science Principles (BSP)

A 14-hour course taught in an online format concluding with a two-hour unproctored online exam. This introductory course will help students gain a comprehensive view of why energy auditing and retrofit work are important components to improving efficiency, air quality, comfort, and occupant safety and health. At the end of the course, and to receive a course completion certificate, each student will need to complete all the required modules and successfully pass the post-course assessment with a 70% or above. Students will be able to take a practice exam before sitting for the exam to earn their BPI Building Science Principles Certificate of Knowledge.

#### Part 2: Building Analyst Technician (BA-T)

A 12-hour course taught in an online format followed by eight hours of hands-on training concluding with a four-hour field exam. A BA-T student will be able to leverage their understanding of Building Science Principles to understand the fundamentals of building analysis and conduct the diagnostic testing required to provide a comprehensive report with a list of prioritized home performance recommendations. At the end of the course, and to receive a course completion certificate, each student will need to complete all the required modules, attend field training in full, and successfully pass a practice post-course assessment with a score of 80% or higher. Students seeking BPI Building Analyst Technician certification must meet the requirements as outlined in the prerequisites section, and then attempt the BA-T field exam at the conclusion of their course.

### Part 3: Building Analyst Professional (BA-P)

A 10-hour course taught in an online format on the BSC Campus followed by two hours of in-class review concluding with a two-hour proctored exam. The BPI Building Analyst Professional (BA-P) is an advanced certification for home performance professionals. A BA-P is a BPI certified Building Analyst Technician who also conducts energy modeling, building analysis, and data evaluation in order to provide a comprehensive report with a list of prioritized home performance recommendations. At the end of the course, and to receive a course completion certificate, each student will need to complete all the required modules and successfully pass a practice written exam with a score of 80% or higher. Students seeking BPI Building Analyst Professional certification must meet the requirements as outlined in the prerequisites section.

#### **Course Commitment**

The Energy Auditor training is a 54-hour training to include 36 hours of online training, 10 hours of hands-on training, and eight hours of exams. Students should be comfortable with online learning, have access to a laptop for the on-campus training, and must be able to demonstrate the ability to perform building inspections, data collection procedures, diagnostic testing, and other key tasks related to energy efficiency analysis in a real residential structure, often including an oral questioning component to assess their understanding of the process and findings. Familiarity with essential tools and pieces of equipment will be beneficial.

#### **Course Investment**

The \$4,179 tuition includes all online classroom materials and equipment use. In partnership with the North Dakota Department of Energy, students will receive a state energy program scholarship to cover the full cost of tuition.

The following expenses are the financial responsibility of the student: lodging and travel, a computer or tablet for online learning, and a notebook along with a pen/pencil.

#### Course Prerequisites

Building Science Principles (BSP): None Building Analyst Technician (BA-T): Completion of BSP Building Analyst Professional (BA-P): Completion of BSP and BA-T

#### Course Size and Schedule

Program enrollment is limited to eight students. To ensure that participants are well-suited to benefit from and contribute to the training, registration involves an application and vetting process.

Applications will be accepted through February 7, 2025. All applicants will receive a notification of their application status on or before February 14.

Part 1: Building Science Principles (BSP) Online Learning and Exam: February 24 - March 9

Part 2: Building Analyst Technician (BA-T) Online Learning: Upon completion of BSP Hands-on Practice and Exam: Starting March 10 at 8 AM

Part 3: Building Analyst Professional (BA-P) Online Learning, Practice Exam, and Final Exam: March 10 through March 14 at 5 PM\*

\*On the BSC Campus. Students must complete BA-T before beginning BA-P.

Contact TrainND Southwest for course availability or visit us online at BismarckState.edu/EnergyAuditor.

## **Registration Requirements**

Complete an application (available at BismarckState.edu/ EnergyAuditor) and submit it to Bismarck State College Continuing Education, National Energy Center of Excellence, 1200 Schafer Street, 1st Floor, Room 107 or by email through our secure portal: https:// sendfiles.ndus.edu/filedrop/BSC-ContinuingEducation

#### Cancellation Policy

Students must contact the BSC Continuing Education office at least 10 business days prior to the course start date to request a cancellation or substitution at (701) 224-5600. Once an online course is accessed, a substitution is not allowed.





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