



CertiPHIers<sup>™</sup>  
COOPERATIVE



MEAD



RDH BUILDING SCIENCE



All NACC member businesses have Passive House Institute accredited Certifiers ready to assist you. Look for the accreditation symbol at right.

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**CERTIFIERS CIRCLE** members certify buildings meet Passive House Institute energy standards (Passive House Classic, Plus, or Premium or EnerPHit Classic, Plus, or Premium).

Passive House building certification provides many benefits to the developer, designer, consultant, builder, owner, and others:

**INDEPENDENT REVIEW.** Certifiers' review services are separate and distinct from Passive House consulting and design services. This clear separation insures an independent and objective assessment. And additional quality assurance benefitting all parties involved, including not just owners and occupants, but also investors, governments, funders, and other stakeholders.

**PROJECT TEAM PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.** The expert review of the energy calculations, design and construction documentation from a low-energy building science perspective furthers the education of the Consultant, designer, and builder.

**ASSURANCE FOR PROJECT TEAM.** Expert review of the energy calculations, design, specifications, and construction documentation is continuing education for the project team.

**ASSURANCE FOR DEVELOPERS AND OWNERS.** The project team can breathe easier at all stages of the project, knowing their energy calculations and related details have been double-checked.

**PROTECTS THE PASSIVE HOUSE STANDARD.** Rigorous quality assurance maintains the integrity of the world's highest building energy-efficiency standard.



Cornell Tech Residential is set to become the world's tallest Passive House tower. (Photo courtesy of Handel Architects) For more info see [www.handelarchitects.com/projects/project-main/cornell-res-main.html](http://www.handelarchitects.com/projects/project-main/cornell-res-main.html).

For more information about the **NACC** and for resources from the **NACC** including certification guidance and technical reports, see [naphnetwork.org/certification](http://naphnetwork.org/certification).

## CERTIFICATION STEPS

- Early in the concept design stage, obtain proposals for Passive House consulting and design services for your project and select your Certified Passive House Consultant/Designer.
- With your Consultant/Designer's help, assemble key information about your project, such as its location and site conditions, architectural and structural concepts, any program constraints, as well as building assemblies and other components under consideration. Call out any unusual conditions or new technology you anticipate using.
- Early in the design process, send this information to Certifier(s) and request proposals. Select your PHI-accredited Certifier (or PHI), and then meet to discuss the certification process.
- Design Stage Review. Your Certifier works with you by providing feedback and suggestions so you can optimize your design and specifications and complete an accurate PHPP energy model.
- Prepare your detailed certification submittal package (PHPP, plans, specifications, and required supporting documentation) according to your Certifier's guidance. Double check it for completeness before submitting it.
- Make corrections your Certifier requests to your package and re-submit until your Certifier can conditionally assure certification when construction is completed, the building is commissioned, and required documentation submitted. If requested, your Certifier will issue a design stage assurance letter that the planned building can be certified, but there is no "pre-certification" status. Certification is always dependent upon the completed and commissioned building's compliance with PHI's published certification criteria.
- Upon completion, submit complete construction documentation: testing and commissioning reports, PHPP (adjusted if necessary for any changes from plans and specifications), photo documentation, construction and occupant certifications, etc. for Certifier's final review.
- Upon review, if your building meets all certification criteria, you will receive the building certificate. You may post the certificate on your website and attach the plaque to your new Passive House building. If you wish, your Passive House will be listed in PHI's online international project directory.

Note: Although PHI and NACC recommend you obtain a Certifier's initial review and conditional assurance before construction, sometimes that is not feasible. Some Certifiers will review your building even when you first submit your information after starting construction. Or even after completing construction. However, all Certifiers recommend you submit your information during the design stage so you benefit from helpful feedback and advice before starting to build.