

Table 8-2 Summary of IECC Air Leakage Requirements for Above-Grade Walls

Energy Code	Seals required at openings, penetrations, and joints?	Maximum air leakage rate requirement for fenestration assemblies?	Maximum air permeability requirement for materials?	Maximum air leakage requirement for assemblies?	Maximum whole-building air leakage requirement? *
2003/2009 IECC ^{2, 6}	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
2012 IECC ⁷	Yes	Yes	<p>A continuous air barrier must comply with one of the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The air permeability of materials shall not exceed 0.004 cfm/ft² under a pressure differential of 0.3 inch water gauge when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2178.²⁵ The average air leakage of assemblies of materials and components shall not exceed 0.04 cfm/ft² under a pressure differential of 0.3 inch water gauge when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2357,²⁶ ASTM E 1677,²⁷ or ASTM E 283.²⁸ The air leakage rate of the completed building shall not exceed 0.4 cfm/ft² under a pressure differential of 0.3 inch water gauge when tested in compliance with ASTM E 779²⁰ (or an equivalent method approved by the code official). 		
2015/2018 IECC ^{4, 8}	Yes, if not pursuing the whole-building air leakage test compliance option.	Yes, if not pursuing the whole-building air leakage test compliance option.	<p>The air barrier must comply with one of the following options if not pursuing the whole-building air leakage test compliance option:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The air permeability of materials shall not exceed 0.004 cfm/ft² under a pressure differential of 0.3 inch water gauge when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2178.²⁵ The average air leakage of assemblies of materials and components shall not exceed 0.04 cfm/ft² under a pressure differential of 0.3 inch water gauge when tested in accordance with ASTM E 2357,²⁶ ASTM E 1677,²⁷ or ASTM E 283.²⁸ 		Compliance may be demonstrated by performing a whole-building air leakage test in compliance with ASTM E 779 ²⁰ (or an equivalent method approved by the code official) with a final result that does not exceed 0.40 cfm/ft ² at 0.3 inch water gauge in lieu of the prescriptive requirements for seals, materials, and assemblies.*

*Local amendments in the cities of Fort Collins and Boulder include mandatory whole-building air leakage testing.