<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 1: Determine</th>
<th>Determine Governing Energy Code</th>
<th>Determine Project Climate Zone</th>
<th>Determine Project Occupancy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IECC version and local amendments</td>
<td>Zone 4B, Zone 5B, Zone 6B, or Zone 7B.</td>
<td>Group R or All Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Step 2: Select an Option**

**Prescriptive Compliance Options:**

Use when a whole-building energy model will not be performed to demonstrate energy code compliance. Typically, whole-building energy modeling methods are required when assembly R-values or U-factors cannot meet code requirements, when the U-factor component performance alternative cannot be used to demonstrate compliance, or when glazing areas exceed the maximum glazing area percentages set by the energy code.

**Non-prescriptive Compliance Option:**

Use when prescriptive compliance options cannot be used to demonstrate energy code compliance.

**Step 3: Select a Strategy**

**R-Value-Based Method**

Provide opaque above-grade wall insulation with an R-value equivalent to or greater than that described in Table 8-4. This is the least flexible strategy.

**U-Factor-Based Method/U-Factor**

Provide an opaque above-grade wall assembly with an assembly U-factor less than or equal to that described in Table 8-4. U-factors should consider all instances of thermal bridging required by the governing jurisdiction.

**Component Performance Alternative/U-Factor-Based Method/Building Envelope Trade-Off Option**

Provide an area-weighted calculation of assembly and component U-factors for comparison with the prescriptive target. Use when overperforming assemblies can offset underperforming assemblies and components. This strategy is typically not successful when a project exceeds maximum glazing area percentages set by the energy code.

**Total Building Performance/Energy Cost Budget Method**

Perform a whole-building energy model using approved software. Use when enclosure components, lighting, and HVAC performance will be traded off to meet energy code compliance. This strategy is typically used when a project will exceed maximum glazing area ratios set by the energy code.

**Step 4: Determine System**

Provide insulation that meets or exceeds the R-values listed in Table 8-4.

Provide assembly U-Factors from calculations, modeling, ASHRAE 90.1 Appendix A tables, or other approved sources. Refer to modeling results presented at the end of this chapter to assist with determining appropriate insulation thickness.