# Guidelines for accessing and using NatHERS Software Accreditation Protocol Dwelling Designs

August 2024

**Introduction**

The Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme (NatHERS) provides reliable home energy ratings and information to improve the comfort, design and energy efficiency of homes and apartments.

Software testing and accreditation is done in accordance with the NatHERS Software Accreditation Protocol (SAP). The SAP uses up to eleven different dwelling designs which comprise of class 1 and class 2 dwellings of various sizes and floor plans.

**Application process and acknowledgement**

You may obtain access to the SAP dwelling designs by submitting a written request to the NatHERS Administrator at admin@nathers.gov.au. The subject of your email should be ‘*Application for access to NatHERS SAP dwelling designs*’ and include the following completed form.

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| --- | --- |
| **Details** | **Applicant’s responses** |
| Full name, job title and organisation |  |
| Phone |  |
| Email |  |
| **Applicant acknowledges and agrees:** |  |
| 1. The NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs have been developed for software testing purposes and not for construction purposes
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |
| 1. The Commonwealth of Australia does not accept any responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the files and shall not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned (directly or indirectly) by you through the use of, or reliance on, the NatHERS SAP dwelling designs.
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |
| 1. Applicant indemnifies the Commonwealth of Australia for any and all expenses, costs, liabilities, and losses suffered or incurred by the Commonwealth of Australia arising from your:
	* 1. use of the NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs
		2. breach of these conditions or
		3. breach of any additional conditions or directions that may be imposed on you by the NatHERS Administrator regarding your use of the NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs.
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |
| 1. The NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs are living documents and are frequently updated to clarify, expand, or alter software accreditation testing requirements. These updates are generally tracked as mark-ups in the documents. Documents on the NatHERS website (nathers.gov.au) are not guaranteed to be the latest versions of the NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs.
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |
| 1. You must not provide the NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs to any third party except in the following circumstances:
	* 1. You have written consent to do so from the NatHERS Administrator;
		2. To comply with the conditions of your use of the files; or
		3. You are authorised or required by law to provide the files to your professional advisers or employees.
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |
| 1. The NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs remain the intellectual property of the Commonwealth of Australia and your use will not infringe or be inconsistent with the Commonwealth of Australia’s intellectual property rights in the NatHERS SAP Dwelling Designs.
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |
| 1. You must include the following acknowledgement in any document, publication, presentation or communication made using the files:
	1. ‘[insert entity name] has been granted permission from the NatHERS Administrator (as the representative of the Commonwealth) to access and use the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme Software Accreditation Protocol Dwelling Designs in the preparation of this [insert name of document/publication/presentation/communication
 | Acknowledge and agreeDO NOT acknowledge nor agree |