

Retailer, Distributor, and Installer Roles & Verification Requirements

Since 2018, nine states and the District of Columbia have joined California¹ in adopting a variety of appliance efficiency standards. These standards help consumers save energy, water, and money on their utility bills, while also helping states reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase grid resilience and energy independence. Before these standards were adopted, states and efficiency advocates ensured that there were a wide variety of compliant products already available so that these standards minimize market disruption while maximizing consumer benefit.²

To make compliance with these state standards easier for the industry, [Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships](#) created the [State Appliance Standard Database \(SASD\)](#), a publicly accessible database of certified products which meet efficiency standards for the states listed in Table 1.³

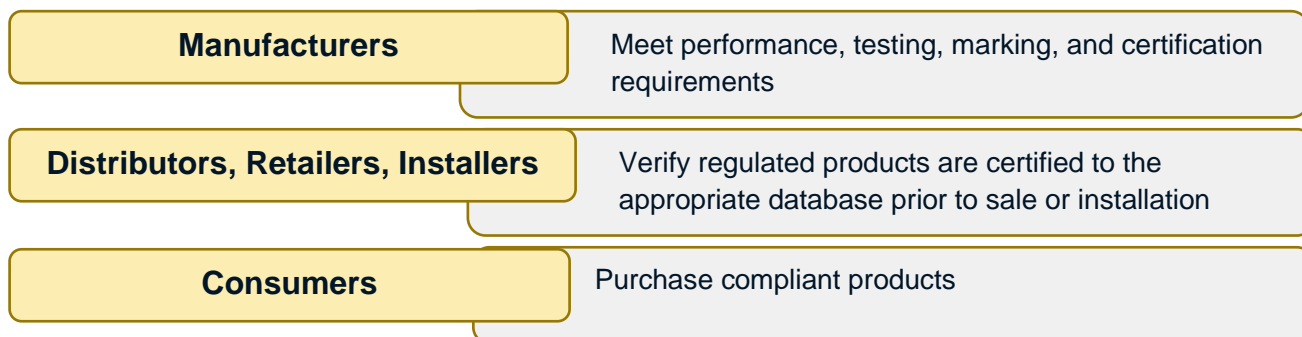
Table 1 States included in the SASD

STATES	
Colorado	Oregon
Hawaii	Rhode Island
Maine	Vermont
Massachusetts	Washington
Nevada	Washington D.C

What This Means for the Industry

Manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and installers each have a responsibility to comply with appliance standards. The [SASD](#) hosts a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) under the Resources page to provide additional detail.

Figure 1. Responsibilities by Market Role



¹ For more information about California Appliance Efficiency Standards, visit the [California Energy Commission](#).

² More information on appliance standards can be found at <https://appliance-standards.org/>.

³ As of December 2021 – subject to change.

When Do Standards Become Effective?

Once an appliance standard is adopted—usually through the passage of a state bill or through state regulatory action—each state determines an effective date, which is the date that the industry must comply. The effective date can take two forms:

- **Manufactured by:** Compliance relies on the date the product was manufactured. If the product is manufactured on or after the effective date, it must comply with the standard. However, if the product was manufactured before the effective date, it is still legally allowed to be sold after the effective date.
- **Sold by:** Regardless of the date of manufacture, noncompliant products cannot be sold after this effective date. In some states, there may be additional stipulations or compliance effective dates for products professionally installed.

Table 2 Effective Date Meaning by State

System	States
Manufactured by	California, Maine, Oregon, Rhode Island, Washington
Sold by	Colorado, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Nevada, Vermont, Washington D.C.

Product Types in the SASD

Air Purifiers
 Commercial Dishwashers
 Commercial Fryers
 Commercial Hot Food Holding Cabinets
 Commercial Ovens
 Commercial Steam Cookers
 Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
 Faucets
 Federally-exempt Linear Fluorescent Lamps
 Gas Fireplaces
 Showerheads
 Urinals
 Water Coolers

What is the State Appliance Standard Database (SASD)?

The SASD is a tool to help industry comply with state appliance efficiency standards. Manufacturers self-certify compliant products to this database, so if the model number is found in the database, it's legally allowed to be sold in the states where it meets their standards.

As retailers, distributors, or installers create inventory, they will need to reference the SASD to verify that the products they intend to sell are legally allowed to be sold in the states with appliance standards. They can also use the California Energy Commission's [Modernized Appliance Efficiency Database System](#) (MAEDbS) to verify compliance with state standards that align with California.

This table shows the products with efficiency standards that must be certified by manufacturers to the SASD. To view a list of all state standards and their effective dates, visit SASD FAQ #4. To learn how to verify compliance, follow the steps detailed below.

How to Verify that Your Products Comply

Any manufacturer, distributor, retailer, or installer selling noncompliant products may be subject to enforcement. However, the SASD makes it simple to identify compliant products.

Distributors and **retailers** are required to verify that the products they sell are compliant prior to selling or offering them for sale.

Installers similarly must verify that products compliant before they are professionally installed. The SASD product verification process is straightforward and user-friendly. Follow the steps below to ensure you are only stocking and selling compliant products.

1. Navigate to the SASD and either:
 - a. Use the filters to select the product category or state that you are verifying compliance for.
 - b. Type in the model number, manufacturer name, or brand using the Search bar.
2. If the product you're verifying compliance for cannot be identified, download the search results using the Export Products button. Use the Excel search function 'Find' to search for the model number you are verifying.

What is the MAEDbS?

The MAEDbS is the California equivalent of the SASD. If a state has an appliance standard that aligns with California, the product must be certified to the MAEDbS prior to selling In California or any other state with the same standard.

Frequently Asked Questions

If I sell, distribute, or install a product listed above, does that mean it's regulated?

- Appliance standards set specific product definitions that may not be identical to all products on the market. To confirm whether the products you sell are regulated, review the scope of the standard by navigating to SASD FAQ #4.

The states I operate in aren't listed. What does that mean?

- States that are not listed do not have regulations for the listed products as of December 2021. State standards are being adopted and updated regularly, so check back on the SASD regularly, at least every 6 months.

I sell or install products that are not listed in the SASD. What should I do?

- The SASD only includes a subset of regulated products in each of the states listed above. If a state standard aligns with California's Appliance Efficiency Standards, those products must be verified in the MAEDbS.
- To verify which database you should be using, review SASD FAQ #7.

What should I do if I realize a product I have for sale isn't listed on the SASD?

- If a product that you sell is not listed on the SASD, reach out to the manufacturer or their representative to let them know about the SASD and have them submit their product data.
- If their product does not end up meeting the standard criteria and it is after the standard has become effective, the product cannot legally be sold. Remove all products from shelves in the state(s) with the respective standard.

What are the consequences of selling a noncompliant product in a state with a standard?

- Any manufacturer, distributor, retailer, or installer selling or offering for sale noncompliant products may be subject to financial penalties. Enforcement processes and fines vary by state.
- Certification, such as listing a product on the SASD or MAEDbS, is required to prove compliance.

Where do these regulations not apply?

- Products that are sold in a state without efficiency standards.

Visit [appliancestandards.com](https://www.appliancestandards.com) for more information and to start verifying products on the SASD.