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Repair with Elevation: Choose Your Own Contractor FAQ

If you are in the Repair with Elevation Program, you may choose your own contractor (CYOC) who has a licensed and approved elevation subcontractor. If you want to use your own design professional, they must meet all Program requirements and the elevation plans must receive approval from the NYC Department of Buildings (DOB).

Can I use a Build it Back contractor for the elevation, but use my own contractor for the rest of the repairs?

No. Your CYOC contractor must be able to perform or subcontract out all of the work, including the elevation. If you want to have Build it Back elevate your home, you must use the City contractor for all of the work.

Who can perform the elevation?

Your CYOC contractor must use an elevation subcontractor that is approved by Build it Back. They can visit www.nyc.gov/bibcontractorinfo for the elevation subcontractor application. The elevation contractor must be licensed and experienced, and must have insurance and bonding as required by the Program. They will also need to have a satisfactory record of business integrity, specifically regarding complaints and violations. Build it Back will make available a list of approved elevation subcontractors.

Can I use Build it Back's design team to develop the elevation plans?

Yes. We strongly encourage you to use Build it Back's design team for your elevation plans. Our licensed design professionals will be preparing hundreds of elevation plans for the Build it Back Program and they are experienced with developing elevation plans for Sandy-damaged homes. Build it Back will do everything required for DOB approval, including surveys, borings, and other technical reviews.