

LEED® for New Construction & Major Renovations



Version 2.2

For Public Use and Display

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Introduction

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®)

Buildings fundamentally impact people's lives and the health of the planet. In the United States, buildings use one-third of our total energy, two-thirds of our electricity, one-eighth of our water, and transform land that provides valuable ecological resources. Since the LEED Green Building Rating System for New Construction (LEED-NC version 2.0) was first published in 1999, it has been helping professionals across the country to improve the quality of our buildings and their impact on the environment.

As the green building sector grows exponentially, more and more building professionals, owners, and operators are seeing the benefits of green building and LEED certification. Green design not only makes a positive impact on public health and the environment, it also reduces operating costs, enhances building and organizational marketability, potentially increases occupant productivity, and helps create a sustainable community. LEED fits into this market by providing rating systems that are voluntary, consensus-based, market-driven, based on accepted energy and environmental principles, and they strike a balance between established practices and emerging concepts.

The LEED rating systems are developed by USGBC committees, in adherence with USGBC policies and procedures guiding the development and maintenance of rating systems. LEED-NC version 2.2 is only possible due to the generous volunteer efforts of many individuals, and has been in development for over 2 years. LEED-NC is one of a growing portfolio of rating systems serving specific market sectors.

LEED for Schools

The LEED for New Construction Rating System is applicable to new commercial construction and major renovation projects.

Why Certify?

While LEED Rating Systems can be useful just as tools for building professionals, there are many reasons why LEED project certification can be an asset:

- Be recognized for your commitment to environmental issues in your community, your organization (including stockholders), and your industry;
- Receive third party validation of achievement;
- Qualify for a growing array of state & local government initiatives;
- Receive marketing exposure through USGBC Web site, Greenbuild conference, case studies, and media announcements.

Certification Process

Project teams interested in obtaining LEED certification for their project must first register online. Registration during early phases of the project will ensure maximum potential for certification. The LEED website, www.leadbuilding.org, contains important details about the certification review process, schedule and fees. The applicant project must satisfactorily document achievement of all the prerequisites and a minimum number of points. See the LEED for New Construction project checklist for the number of points required to achieve LEED for New Construction rating levels.

Additional LEED Resources

Visit the LEED Web site for available tools and support, such as the LEED for New Construction Version 2.2 Reference Guide (essential for all LEED for New Construction project teams), technical support via Credit Interpretations, and training workshops.

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EA Prerequisite 3: Fundamental Refrigerant Management Required

Intent

Reduce ozone depletion.

Requirements

Zero use of CFC-based refrigerants in new base building HVAC&R systems. When reusing existing base building HVAC equipment, complete a comprehensive CFC phase-out conversion prior to project completion. Phase-out plans extending beyond the project completion date will be considered on their merits.

Potential Technologies & Strategies

When reusing existing HVAC systems, conduct an inventory to identify equipment that uses CFC refrigerants and provide a replacement schedule for these refrigerants. For new buildings, specify new HVAC equipment in the base building that uses no CFC refrigerants.