

**The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program  
Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council**

**Topics:**

1. LEED credentialing programs which affects practicing and potential candidates for the LEED AP Status
2. LEED certification Changes which effects buildings
3. LEED Online advancements which improves registering and managing a project



**Becoming a LEED Accredited Professional**

three-tier level for LEED Accreditation:

1. The Green Associate designation (tier 1) is for professionals who need to demonstrate a certain degree of understanding about green design, construction and operations but do not necessarily need to become a LEED Accredited Professional.
2. The LEED AP+ (tier 2) is for professionals who require a greater breadth of knowledge in green design, building and operation practices. The LEED AP+ accreditation can be achieved in five different specializations, including Building Design and Construction (BD+C), LEED for Operations and Maintenance (O+M), LEED for Homes (Homes), Interior Design and Construction (ID+C) or LEED for Neighborhood Developments (ND).
3. As an elite recognition, a LEED Fellow (tier 3) is for professionals who are distinguished by their years of experience and project portfolio in the green building industry. Details about how to achieve the LEED Fellow designation are yet to be announced.

**LEED GREEN ASSOCIATE**



**Eligibility Requirements**

Candidates must have experience in the form of:

- **EITHER** documented involvement on a LEED-registered project
- **OR** employment (or previous employment) in a sustainable field of work
- **OR** engagement in (or completion of) an education program that addresses green building principles.
- **AND** Candidates are also required to agree to the [Disciplinary and Exam Appeals Policy](#) and [Credentialing Maintenance Program](#) and submit to an application audit.

**Exam Cost**

Core examination (Green Associate) will consist of 100 questions.

	USGBC national members and full-time students	All others
Application fee	<b>\$50</b>	
Exam fee (per exam appointment)	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$200</b>
Biennial CMP renewal fee	<b>\$50</b>	

**LEED ACCREDITED PROFESSIONALS**



**Eligibility Requirements**

Candidates must have experience in the form of:

- Documented professional experience on a LEED project, within the last 3 years, with verification through LEED Online or employer attestation.
- **AND** Candidates are also required to agree to the [Disciplinary and Exam Appeals Policy](#) and [Credentialing Maintenance Program](#) and submit to an application audit.

**Exam Costs**

Core examination (Green Associate) will consist of 100 questions. The second exam will be a specialty exam in the desired field of concentration (BD+C, O+M, Homes, ID+C or ND) and will also consist of 100 questions.

		USGBC national members	All others
Application fee		<b>\$100</b>	
Exam fee (per exam appointment)	Combined exam (LEED Green Associate and specialty exam)	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$450</b>
	Specialty exam only	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$250</b>
Biennial CMP renewal fee		<b>\$50</b>	

**LEED Fellow**

Looking beyond 2009, GBCI is working to develop a third designation, currently referred to as the LEED AP Fellow credential.

LEED Fellows would become part of an extraordinary class of leading professionals distinguished by their years of experience and contributions to the standards of practice and body of knowledge for achieving continuous improvement in the green building field. This credential is still under development.

### **LEED AP (without specialty)**

Existing LEED APs will have two years from the launch of the new credentialing program to opt in to the new system in order to keep their accreditation active.

LEED APs without specialty listed as the following:

- LEED AP for New Construction v2.0- v2.2 [NC] between January 2001 and June 30, 2009;
- The LEED AP for Commercial Interiors v2.0 [CI] between June 2006 and June 30, 2009;
- Or the LEED AP Existing Buildings v2.0 [EB] between June 2006 and December 31, 2008

### **Enrollment window**

LEED APs without specialty will be provided with an enrollment window, a 2-year period between fall 2009 and fall 2011. Your enrollment window is available through [My Credentials](#) and also will be emailed to you in fall 2009. Enrollment windows are distributed throughout fall 2009 in alphabetical order by surname.

### **Enrollment Options**

During the enrollment window, LEED APs without specialty have three options:

- Option 1: Become a LEED AP with one (or more) of the BD+C, Homes, ID+C, ND, or O+M specialty designations by passing one of the new specialty examinations. LEED APs without specialty must go to [My Credentials](#) during their individual enrollment window and choose that option, then register for the exam during their enrollment window.
- Option 2: Become a LEED AP with one (or more) of the BD+C, ID+C, or O+M specialty designations by prescriptive CMP, LEED APs without specialty must go to [My Credentials](#) during their individual enrollment window and select Enroll in the LEED AP with specialty credential: Enroll through prescriptive credentialing maintenance from the Current Options.
- If LEED APs without specialty choose not to enroll, they'll continue to be a LEED AP without specialty in the LEED Professional Directory. LEED APs without specialty are not required to do any credentialing maintenance or pay any fees to remain in the LEED Professional Directory.

(View the [Enrollment Guide](#) for more information.)

### **Option 2 process**

The 30 hours must be completed in specific categories as prescribed by The GBCI. For Example LEED AP BD+C must complete the following minimum in each category; 4 CE hrs Project Site, 3 CE hrs Water Management, 6 CE hrs Project Systems & Energy Impact, 3 CE hrs Acquisitions, Installation and Management of Project Materials, 5 CE hrs Improvements to the Indoor Environment, 2 CE hrs Stakeholder Involvement in Innovation, 1 CE hr Project Surrounding and Public Outreach, plus 6 LEED-specific CE hours

## **Credentialing Maintenance**

LEED Green Associates must earn 15 CE hours biennially (3 of which must be LEED-specific hours) and LEED APs must earn 30 CE hours biennially (6 of which must be LEED-specific hours) to maintain their credential.

**General green building hours:** CE hours that are applicable for continuing education credit but are not LEED-specific because they are related to green building in general but not related to the USGBC's LEED Rating systems.

**LEED-specific:** All LEED-specific continuing education must be approved and designated as LEED-specific by an ERB or GBCI.

## **Education Provider Network & Educational Reviewing Bodies**

With the exception of LEED-specific hours earned through authorship and LEED project participation, only activities designated as LEED-specific by an ERB (Educational Reviewing Bodies) or GBCI will count toward a LEED Professional's required LEED-specific hours. Currently the only ERB is The USGBC.

The courses target professionals seeking to enrich their knowledge of green building theories, techniques and business trends. All approved courses offered by USGBC Education Providers are approved for credit toward LEED Professional Credentialing Maintenance. Go to [www.USGBC.org](http://www.USGBC.org), select the **Education** tab then **Courses & Training** to find USGBC courses.

## **Reporting credentialing maintenance**

LEED Professionals must self-report all of their CE hours online through [My Credentials](#) after November 1. No additional documentation will be required unless audited.

## **Renewal / Fee**

Once LEED Professionals have completed the CMP requirements for their credential, they may renew their credential and pay the \$50 CMP renewal fee on [My Credentials](#) at any time during their reporting period without altering its start and end dates. However, LEED Professionals must renew their credential within the 30 days following the end of their reporting period. If the credential is not renewed within 30 days of the end date, the credential will expire

## **Maintenance through retesting**

Because the purpose of the program is not to measure or guarantee continuing competence, the LEED Professional of the future, whether LEED Green Associate or LEED AP, will not be required to sit for additional examinations after fulfilling initial credentialing examination. However, LEED Professionals do have the option of maintaining their credential through retesting (without completing continuing education).

**LEED Certification of Buildings; New Point Scale and More**

on April 27, 2009, USGBC launched LEED v3

The USGBC describes the three major changes to the LEED program as:

1. **Standardization:** credits and prerequisites are consistent across all LEED 2009 rating systems. LEED for Homes and LEED for Neighborhood Development were not changed under LEED 2009.
2. **Revised credit weightings:** LEED now awards more points for strategies that will have greater positive impacts on what matters most — energy efficiency and CO2 reductions.
  - Each credit was evaluated against a list of 13 environmental impact categories, including climate change, indoor environmental quality, resource depletion and water intake, among many others.
  - The result revealed each credit’s portion of the big picture, giving the most value to credits that have the highest potential for making the biggest change.
  - The credits are all intact; they are just worth different amounts. As a result, LEED 2009 will operate on a 100-point scale rather than the previous 69-point scale used in LEED v2.2.
3. **Regional Priority:** Through USGBC’s regional councils, chapters and affiliates identified regionally specific environmental issues.
  - Based on a project’s Zip Code, six LEED credits have been prioritized to address the specific environmental issues.
  - The project will be awarded up to four extra points (one point per credit) for earning the priority credits.
  - Upon project registration, LEED Online automatically determines a project’s RPCs based on its ZIP code.

**Category Specific Changes Summary:**

**Sustainable Site**

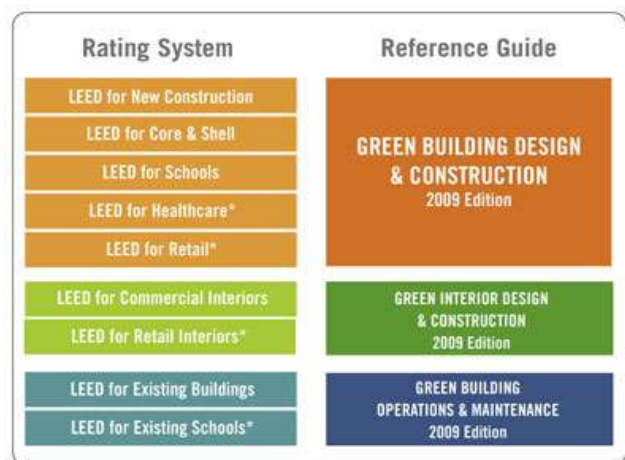
In the Sustainable Sites category, the point totals have been almost doubled from 14 in LEED v2.2 to 26 points in v3. Increased incentives were implemented for infill buildings, brownfield developments, added public transportation, and the reuse of existing buildings.

**Water Has a New Prerequisite**

There is now a prerequisite in the Water Efficiency category; a 20 percent reduction over the baseline case.

The Water Efficient Landscaping credit has now expanded from 2 to 4 points, as has Water Use Reduction credit.

**Energy & Atmosphere Points Have More Than Doubled**



\* These rating systems are under development or in pilot. Once they are available supplements will be sold for the new LEED 2009 Reference Guides.

The Energy & Atmosphere category now has 35 points, previously at 17 points; the USGBC has placed a great emphasis on energy performance and renewable applications. For Example the Optimize Energy Performance credit has gone from 10 to 19 points, and the On-Site Renewable Energy credit has more than doubled from 3 to 7 points.

The energy performance standard has been raised to the ASHRAE 90.1-2007 with the Minimum Energy Performance prerequisite defined as 10 percent below this benchmark.

**Materials & Resources virtually unchanged**

The LEED Materials & Resources category has remained virtually unchanged with some modifications focused upon upgrading reference documents. The new CSI divisions are now incorporated reflecting the use of Masterformat 2004 as the overarching application, thereby referring to Divisions 3-10, 31 and 32 as the materials cost for the project.

**Indoor Environmental Quality virtually unchanged**

The Indoor Environmental Quality category has also received only minor changes. Standards have been raised to incorporate ASHRAE 62.1-2007. Similarly, for Credit 3.1 Construction IAQ Management Plan, During Construction the standard has been raised to include the SMACNA 008-2008 Chapter 3 requirements.

**Innovation in Design encouraging new ideas**

Innovation in Design credits have been increased from 4 points to 5 points. However, a new caveat has been added that will allow no more than three of the ID points achieved through exemplary performance. This move will effectively encourage more innovative green ideas that can be used on projects.

**Upgrading the functionality of LEED Online**

LEED Online is the primary resource for managing the LEED documentation process

- Manage project details; common area where the project team can document compliance with LEED
- Complete documentation requirements for LEED credits and prerequisites,
- Upload supporting files,
- Submit applications for review, receive reviewer feedback,
- Ultimately earn LEED certification.

The new version of LEED Online is faster, smarter and a better user experience.

**Current LEED Certified Projects in Orlando, FL**

Comparatively there are currently 77 LEED Certified Projects in Seattle, WA

COLONIAL 9TH GRADE CTR BUILDIN	ORANGE CO. PUBLIC SCHOOLS	Orlando	FL	US	Certified
DISCOVERY TECH CENTER II	TAURUS SOUTHERN INVESTMENTS	Orlando	FL	US	Gold

OUC Administration Building	OUC	Orlando	FL	US	Gold
Science & Allied Health	Valencia Community College	Orlando	FL	US	Gold
GSA - Citizenship & Immigration Services		Orlando	FL	US	Gold
IKEA Orlando, FL	IKEA	Orlando	FL	US	Certified
City of Orlando Fire Station 15	City of Orlando	Orlando	FL	US	Certified
City of Orlando Fire Station 14	City of Orlando	Orlando	FL	US	Certified
City of Orlando Fire Station 16	City of Orlando	Orlando	FL	US	Certified
City of Orlando Fire Station 17	City of Orlando	Orlando	FL	US	Certified
Wyndham Vacation Ownership	Wyndham Vacation Ownership	Orlando	FL	US	Silver
Skanska Orlando Headquarters	Skanska USA Building Inc.	Orlando	FL	US	Gold

**Current LEED Certified Hotel Projects in the World**

Hilton Vancouver Conf Center & Hotel	City of Vancouver	Vancouver	WA	US	Certified
PROXIMITY HOTEL	QUAINTANCE-WEAVER	Greensboro	NC	US	Platinum
ORCHARD GARDEN HOTEL	ORCHARD HOTEL	San Francisco	CA	US	Certified
Unity Village Hotel & Conference Center	UNITY	Kansas City	MO	US	Silver
SAGE HOSPITALITY HOTEL/Portland	SAGE HOSPITALITY RESOURCES	Portland	OR	US	Silver
SANDPEARL RESORT HOTEL & RESOR	JMC COMMUNITIES	Clearwater Beach	FL	US	Silver
MONTEREY HOTEL RENOVATION	ROMERKOFF LLC.	Seattle	WA	US	Silver
Hotel Terra	Teton Village Development	Teton Village	WY	US	Silver
HOTEL: POSADA DE MIKE RAPU	EXPLORA CHILE S. A.	Easter Island	CL		Silver
Orchard Hotel	Orchard Hotel	San Francisco	CA	US	Certified
CityFlats Hotel - Charter House Holdings	Charter House Holdings, LLC	Holland	MI	US	Gold
Hotel Arista	Calamos Real Estate LLC	Naperville	IL	US	Certified
Hotel Indigo		San Diego	CA	US	Certified
Avalon Hotel and Spa	Grand Heritage Hotels	Portland	OR	US	Silver
Montage Hotel Beverly Hills	Montage Hotels & Resorts	Beverly Hills	CA	US	Gold
Hotel Carlton		San Francisco	CA	US	Gold
Kandalama Hotel		Damulla	LK		Bronze