

LEED Definitions

LEED

LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System is a voluntary standard that defines high performance green buildings – which are healthier, more environmentally responsible and ultimately, profitable structures. Developed by the US Green Building Council, a nonprofit organization, LEED addresses defined markets within the commercial and residential building industries through individualized systems.

LEED US Green Building Council

LEED – CI

LEED for Commercial Interiors offers building owners, tenants, designer, and contractors a guideline for creating more efficient, healthier interior spaces that promote comfort and productivity. In addition, **LEED-CI works hand in hand with LEED for Core & Shell by providing developers with a tool for bringing tenant improvements into alignment with their green building goals.**

LEED US Green Building Council

LEED – CS

LEED for Core & Shell is designed for use by commercial real estate and speculative developers. Created in conjunction with LEED-CI to serve the needs of building owners who lease space to tenants, it addresses only those portions of the building that the owner controls and provides incentives to educate tenants about the benefits of green –tenant fit-out. To recognize the competitive edge green buildings have in the marketplace. LEED-CS offers developers the ability to “pre-certify” their intent to LEED-certify so they can credibly market their green building to prospective occupants.

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LEED – EB

LEED for Existing Building serves building owners and service providers by addressing the operations and maintenance phase of the building’s lifecycle, including facility upgrades and performance improvements. Certification and re-certification under the system create an incentive for maintaining optimal performance to drive long-term cost savings and increased occupant productivity. LEED_EB’s two-year pilot program involved 51 building owners who control more than 400 million square feet nationally.

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LEED – H

LEED for Home Rating System is a voluntary initiative to actively promote transformation of the mainstream home building industry to more sustainable practices. Input from local and national stakeholders is helping create a tool that addresses the unique needs of a single-family, low-rise multi-family, and affordable housing. It will provide a much-needed tool for homebuilders and homeowners for building environmentally sound, healthy, and efficient places to live.

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LEED – NC

LEED for New Construction was developed for application to new construction and major renovation projects. In the first four years since its launch, buildings covering more than 180 million square feet were registered or certified under the system. Projects include office buildings, government centers, schools and universities, health care facilities, conference centers and sports arenas.

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LEED – ND

LEED for Neighborhood Developments integrates the principles of green building, smart growth, and new urbanism. Developed by USGBC in partnership with the Congress for the New Urbanism and the Natural Resources Defense Council, it will deliver more efficient energy and water use – especially important in urban areas where infrastructure is often overtaxed. LEED-ND will also focus on smart growth and new urbanism best practices, including designing neighborhoods that reduce vehicle miles traveled and building communities where jobs and services are accessible by foot or public transit. LEED-ND certification will recognize projects that protect and enhance the overall health, natural environment, and quality of life in our communities.

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