

# USGBC LEED® Green Associate™ - Quiz Questions with Answers

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## 1. LEED Process

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1. LEED Process

1.

Which of the following categories would involve the strategies that reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills?

**Materials and Resources**

Indoor Environmental Quality

Energy and Atmosphere

Sustainable Sites

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*Correct answer: Materials and Resources*

*Materials and Resources include strategies involving recycling, source reduction, and knowing what is in the products and materials we use. Strategies that reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills would fall under this category.*

*Strategies that reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills would not be in the Indoor Environmental Quality category, the Energy and Atmosphere category, or the Sustainable Sites category.*

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**2.**

Your team has met and received feedback from the data they've gathered for the project. What, according to the steps of the iterative process, should they do next?

**Create the design**

Revise data

Continue researching based on the feedback received

Nothing more is needed

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*Correct answer: Create the design*

*It's important to understand that the project does not begin with the design. Following the iterative process, LEED projects begin by conducting research to better understand the project and find synergies between credits. From this foundation of data and feedback, the team can then create the design.*

*There is no need to revise the data collected, but there is more to be done. The nature of the iterative process is that the project can and will continually cycle through the steps, so there may be more research done, but that is not the next step after a team has received feedback.*

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**3.**

Which of the following is the committee that finds solutions to problems within rating systems?

**TAG**

USGBC

GBCI

CIR

*Correct answers: TAG*

*TAG or Technical Advisory Group is a committee of USGBC members who maintain the rating systems and oversee their development.*

*The USGBC makes up the committee known as TAG. GBCI is in charge of the certification and credentialing process. CIR or Credit Interpretation Request is a tool that project teams can use to get specific feedback on how to apply a prerequisite or credit.*

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**4.**

A contractor has recently worked on several green building jobs. To better understand the green building process, she decided to become LEED accredited but doesn't need to specialize in a specific LEED rating system. What accreditation should she get?

**LEED Green Associate**

LEED Certificated

LEED O+M

LEED Professional

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*Correct answer: LEED Green Associate*

*LEED Green Associate is an accreditation for professionals who want a foundational understanding of the LEED process and rating systems.*

*LEED Certificated is a reward for buildings. People are accredited, not certified. LEED O+M is a rating system. LEED Professional is fictitious.*

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**5.**

A hotel is looking for a way to reduce energy consumption. Which of the following strategies would help achieve this goal?

**Installing digital thermostats in guestrooms**

Installing high-efficiency laundry machines

Installing a green roof

Installing PV systems

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*Correct answer: Installing digital thermostats in guestrooms*

*Digital thermostats are examples of negative feedback loops because they self-correct based on feedback. This also means they automatically turn off when they reach the desired temperature. This makes them more energy efficient since they can be off until a correction is needed.*

*Installing high-efficiency laundry machines would help with water efficiency, not energy efficiency. Installing a green roof would not help with reducing energy use. Installing PV systems would help the hotel produce their own renewable energy but wouldn't help with reducing energy consumption.*

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**6.**

Which of the following is the motion that banned the production of CFC refrigerants?

**The Montreal Protocol**

USGBC

Council for Cleaner Refrigerants

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy

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*Correct answer: The Montreal Protocol*

*CFCs are harmful refrigerants that deplete our ozone. The Montreal Protocol was created to ban the use and production of CFCs. Other harmful refrigerants such as HCFCs are being phased out.*

*The USGBC is a nonprofit organization that is in charge of releasing new versions of LEED. The Council for Cleaner Refrigerants does not exist. The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy is a nonprofit organization that aims to make energy efficiency as accessible as possible.*

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**7.**

A project team that is emphasizing building automation would most likely be working on which LEED credit category?

**Energy and Atmosphere**

Location and Transportation

Indoor Environmental Quality

Innovation

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*Correct Answer: Energy and Atmosphere*

*Building automation is an important strategy for the Energy and Atmosphere category. Automation is one of the best ways to reduce energy use. One example of this is automated lights that turn off if they do not sense any occupants in the room.*

*Building automation would not be a strategy in Location and Transportation, Indoor Environmental Quality, or Innovation.*

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**8.**

A project is struggling to decide what rating system to choose between BD+C : Retail or BD+C : New Construction and Major Renovations. The project's floor area is appropriate for 43% of BD+C : Retail and 57% of BD+C : New Construction and Major Renovations. Using the 40/60 rule, which system should they use?

**It's up to the team's discretion**

They should use BD+C : New Construction and Major Renovations

They should use BD+C : Retail

They should use neither rating system

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*Correct Answer: It's up to the team's discretion*

*The 40/60 rule is if the rating system is appropriate for less than 40% of the floor area, then the project team should not use that rating system. If the floor area applies to more than 60% of the floor area, then the project team should use that floor area. If the floor area is appropriate for a percentage between 40% and 60%, then the choice is up to the project team's discretion. Since, in this instance, the floor area of the project applies to between 40% and 60%, the project team can use either rating system; it is up to them.*

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**9.**

The USGBC's LEED Pilot Credit Library can be used to attain points in which of the following credit categories?

**Innovation**

Integrative Process

Regional Priority

Sustainable Sites

*Correct answer: Innovation*

*One of the strategies that can be used to gain points in the Innovation credit category is by pursuing a pilot credit from the LEED Pilot Credit Library. Pilot credits are being tested by the USGBC and could possibly end up being added to a rating system.*

*The LEED Pilot Credit Library would not be used in the Integrative Process credit category, the Regional Priority credit category, or the Sustainable Sites credit category.*

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**10.**

A farmer is using processed organic waste to turn it into a renewable energy source called biogas. Which of the following are they using to accomplish this?

**Anaerobic digester**

Vertical farm

PV systems

Aeroponic

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*Correct answer: Anaerobic digester*

*Anaerobic digesters can process organic waste and create biogas, which is a form of renewable energy.*

*Vertical farms and Aeroponics don't create energy. PV systems use sunlight to create energy.*

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11.

How many credits or prerequisites are addressed in a standard CIR?

1

It varies

0

4

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*Correct answer: 1*

*For a fee, team members of registered projects seeking LEED certification can submit a credit interpretation request (CIR) to the USGBC through LEED Online. The purpose of submitting a CIR is to clarify a question about implementation strategy for a certain prerequisite or credit within a LEED rating system.*

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**12.**

A company has been bought out. The new owners have a triple-bottom-line approach to business. Which of the following is not one of the three focuses of the triple-bottom-line approach?

**Governance**

Social

Economic

Environmental

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*Correct answer: Governance*

*Governance is not one of the stakeholders valued in the triple bottom line. The stakeholder approach values social (people), economic (profit), and environmental (planet).*

*The triple bottom line includes social (people), economic (profit), and environmental (planet).*

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**13.**

Which of the credit categories must use strategies that aren't covered in any of the other LEED categories to earn points?

**Innovation**

Regional Priority

Sustainable Sites

Materials and Resources

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*Correct answer: Innovation*

*One option to achieve the Innovation category is to use strategies that aren't covered in the other LEED categories. This credit, also called innovation, must be replicable by other projects.*

*The ability to come up with their own innovative strategies that aren't in any other LEED category is not an available option in Regional Priority, Sustainable Sites, or Materials and Resources categories.*

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**14.**

Which credential is reserved for professionals who are involved in designing or building a LEED project?

**AP**

Green Associate

Fellow

Homes Green Rater

*Correct answer: AP*

*The LEED Associate Professional (AP) credential is reserved for professionals who are involved in designing or building a LEED project. To become a LEED AP, candidates must pass the Green Associate exam as well as the exam for the LEED AP credential.*

*The LEED Green Associate is designed for those who are not working directly on LEED projects; it concentrates on the big picture of green building and design. The LEED Fellow credential is the most prestigious designation awarded. It recognizes LEED APs who have demonstrated exceptional achievement in technical knowledge and skill, leadership, advocacy, commitment, and service, as well as teaching, mentoring, or research. "Homes Green Rater" is not a LEED credential.*

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**15.**

Which of the following is not a benefit of green buildings?

**Lower cost to build**

Lower maintenance costs

Energy use reduction

Lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

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*Correct answer: Lower cost to build*

*The cost of a green building depends on the owner's budget for the project. Green buildings can be built on any budget, some are more expensive than others.*

*The benefits of green buildings include lower maintenance costs, energy use reduction, and lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.*

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**16.**

All of the following terms describe the LEED Green Associate credential **except**:

**Entry level**

Voluntary

Consensus based

Market driven

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*Correct answer: Entry level*

*The LEED Green Associate credential denotes general knowledge of green design, construction, and operations. It is a green building benchmark that is voluntary, consensus based, and market driven. It encourages and accelerates adoption of sustainable building and community development practices. The LEED Green Associate credential is not regarded as "entry level," but as a credential existing professionals can work toward.*

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**17.**

What must project teams do in order to achieve LEED certification?

**Satisfy all prerequisites and earn a minimum number of credits**

Prove that their designs save more money than other projects

Create the most environmentally friendly building in existence

Successfully obtain at least one grant for their project

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*Correct answer: Satisfy all prerequisites and earn a minimum number of credits*

*Within each category of each of the rating systems, there are prerequisites and credits. It is critical to remember that prerequisites are absolutely required and credits are optional. Not all categories contain prerequisites, but all of the categories have credits. It does not matter if a project intends to pursue credits in every category—all prerequisites are required and are mandatory in the rating system in which the project is working.*

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**18.**

A project owner wants to leave a portion of the interior incomplete. What percentage of the gross floor area of the project must be left incomplete for the project to be applicable for LEED BD+C Core and Shell?

**More than 40% of the gross floor area must be incomplete**

Less than 40% of the gross floor area must be incomplete

Exactly 40% of the gross floor area must be incomplete

Less than or equal to 40% of the gross floor area must be incomplete

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*Correct answer: More than 40% of the gross floor area must be incomplete*

*Projects whose gross floor area is equal to or more than 40% incomplete qualify as Core and Shell projects.*

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19.

What is the prerequisite for the LEED v4 Regional Priority category?

**There are no prerequisites**

Environmental Tobacco Smoke Control

Construction and Demolition Waste Management Planning

Indoor Water Use Reduction

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*Correct answer: There are no prerequisites*

*Every LEED v4 project must comply with certain prerequisites. In the Regional Priority category, there are no prerequisites.*

*The remaining answers are incorrect. Most categories have prerequisites, but Regional Priority does not.*

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**20.**

Who submits the documentation when a team is ready to have its application reviewed?

**The project administrator**

The agent

The lead designer

The project owner

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*Correct answer: The project administrator*

*Three important project team members include the owner, the agent, and the project administrator. When the team is ready for its application to be reviewed, the project administrator submits the appropriate fee and documentation. Then the application is reviewed and a determination is made regarding certification.*

*The project agent is the person who is granted actual authority by the owner to register the project and accept the certification agreement. The project owner is the person who has the authority to hold and control the real and personal property associated with the project and accept the certification agreement. "Lead designer" is not one of the designated project team members.*

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**21.**

A project team is stumped on how to approach a particular credit. So, they sent in a Credit Interpretation Request. How much did they spend on this request?

**\$220**

\$500

\$1500

\$225

*Correct answer: \$220*

*A single Credit Interpretation Request (CIR) costs \$220. If teams have several unrelated questions, they have to submit separate CIRs, which means multiple charges of \$220.*

*A CIR appeal costs \$500, while \$1500 is how much a Neighborhood Development certification costs. The cost for single-family homes for certification is \$225.*

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**22.**

Which of the following strategies would restore soil health, give purpose to run-down buildings, and increase crop production?

**Vertical farming**

Xeriscaping

Aeroponic gardening

Anaerobic digesters

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*Correct answer: Vertical farming*

*Vertical farming is a strategy where crops are grown vertically, usually in unused buildings. This strategy takes the pressure off of the soil compared to regular farms, gives purpose to abandoned buildings, and increases crop production.*

*Xeriscaping may be good for the soil but would not benefit unused buildings or increase crop production. Aeroponic gardening does not use soil, so it could help reduce the strain on our soil and could give purpose to run-down buildings, but it wouldn't necessarily increase crop production. Using anaerobic digesters would not have any of these benefits. Anaerobic digesters provide renewable energy.*

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**23.**

All of the following are main categories of LEED for Neighborhood Development **except**:

**Retail Development**

Smart Location and Linkage

Neighborhood Pattern and Design

Green Infrastructure and Buildings

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*Correct answer: Retail Development*

*Categories unique to the LEED Neighborhood Development (ND) rating system include the Smart Location and Linkage, Neighborhood Pattern and Design, and Green Infrastructure and Buildings categories. Each of these categories includes several credits on the project checklist. Retail Development is not a category in the LEED v4 for Neighborhood Development Plan.*

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**24.**

Which of the following is a step in the iterative process?

**Analyze data**

Compile credit documentation

Perform a charrette

Assign roles to project team members

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*Correct Answer: Analyze data*

*Analyze data is the second step in the iterative process. The steps of the iterative process are as follows:*

- 1. Conduct research.*
- 2. Analyze collected data.*
- 3. Share data analysis with team members during meetings.*
- 4. Collaborate, give, and receive feedback to find synergies and opportunities for greater efficiency.*
- 5. Create or refine the design. This process can and should be repeated for the best results.*

*Compiling credit documentation is a step in LEED project submission. Performing a charrette and assigning roles to project members are part of the integrative process.*

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**25.**

A LEED project has just begun. The project team does not have a LEED AP working on the project. How does this affect the project?

**It won't affect the project**

They cannot achieve certification without at least one LEED AP

They can achieve certification but will be deducted a point

They can't achieve above LEED Certified

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*Correct answer: It won't affect the project*

*While having a LEED AP can be helpful to a LEED project, it is not required that a LEED AP must be part of the project team.*

*They will still have access to any level of LEED certification they desire. Points are not deducted in LEED, but they won't be able to get one point in IN Credit - Accredited Professional. Projects can achieve certification without LEED APs being on the team.*

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**26.**

A project team was working on a credit for the EA category and realized the local code is more stringent than the LEED credit requirements regarding certain parts of the credit. Which should be adhered to?

**Whichever is more stringent should be adhered to. Thus, both will be fulfilled.**

Continue following LEED thresholds regardless. This makes things clearer when the project is being reviewed for certification.

The team should always adhere to local codes first and LEED only when possible

The team should follow an alternative code instead of either

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*Correct Answer: Whichever is more stringent should be adhered to. Thus, both will be fulfilled.*

*By always fulfilling the more stringent code, it ensures that both the LEED credit and the local thresholds are satisfied.*

*If you follow LEED thresholds or local codes, even when they're not as stringent as others, you may not meet the requirements of the other more strict set of requirements. Adhering to local codes is important, but if they aren't as stringent as LEED requirements, they may lose opportunities to obtain points. An alternative code would not help and possibly be not applicable to either standard.*

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**27.**

Which of the credit categories depends on the environmental needs of the area surrounding the project?

**Regional Priority**

Sustainable Sites

Location and Transportation

Indoor Environmental Quality

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*Correct answer: Regional Priority*

*The Regional Priority requirements change depending on where the project is located. This credit category aims to encourage projects to focus on the areas of need surrounding their site. This could be rainwater runoff, light pollution, habitat protection, etc.*

*Credits don't change depending on the location for Sustainable Sites, Location and Transportation, and Indoor Environmental Quality.*

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**28.**

A project team is just beginning the discovery phase, which is also known as what?

**Pre-design phase**

Schematic design phase

Research phase

Implementation phase

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*Correct Answer: Pre-design phase*

*This phase happens before the schematic design phase and is the most important, as this is when the team will gain information and data that will inform the rest of the project.*

*There is no such phase as the research phase although research is an important part of the discovery/pre-design phase. Like the schematic design phase, the implementation phase comes after the pre-design phase and relies on the information gathered from that phase as well as the design created from that data in the design phase.*

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**29.**

A project team is analyzing what is the appropriate rating system for their new project. The scope is broad between LEED for New Construction and LEED for Core and Shell. What is the best strategy to determine the appropriate rating system?

**40/60 rule**

Let the project owner decide which rating system to go with

Contact an agent at USGBC to determine their rating

Refer to the LEED v4 Rating System Selection

*Correct answer: 40/60 rule*

*When project teams are unsure of which rating to choose, LEED recommends using the 40/60 rule. The rule means that if the gross floor area of the space is less than 40%, then the rating system should not be used. If the gross floor area of the space is more than 60%, then the rating system should be used. If it falls between 40% and 60%, then the project team must decide which rating system to use.*

*The remaining answers are incorrect. LEED's biggest focus is an integrative design process, and leaving it up to the owner is not a good strategy. A USGBC representative does not assist with selecting a rating system for you. A LEED candidate should be familiar with each system. Referring to the LEED v4 Rating System is a great option, but it is not a strategy for deciding which one.*

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**30.**

What is one difference between the registration fee and the certification fee?

**The registration fee is due at the time of registration, and the certification fee is due when the application is submitted for review**

There is no difference between the registration fee and the certification fee

The registration fee is charged on a per-project basis, and the certification fee is a flat fee no matter the size of the project

Registration fees apply only to design projects, and certification fees apply to construction projects

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*Correct answer: The registration fee is due at the time of registration, and the certification fee is due when the application is submitted for review*

*Project teams are required to submit a registration fee and a certification fee. There is a flat registration fee calculated on a per-project basis that is due at the time of registration. The certification fee is charged on a per-project basis and is based on the size and rating system of the project. It is due when the application is submitted for review. Both registration and certification fees apply to both design and construction projects.*

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**31.**

Your project team is initiating a green cleaning program for the building. Which of the following credits would this strategy gain points in?

**Innovation**

Indoor Environmental Quality

Sustainable Sites

Materials and Resources

*Correct answer: Innovation*

*A green cleaning program is an example of an innovative method. It is a strategy that is not employed in the LEED rating system and therefore is eligible for IN Credit - Innovation.*

*This strategy would not earn points in Indoor Environmental Quality, Sustainable Sites, or Materials and Resources.*

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**32.**

Which category of the LEED rating system provides guidance on where the project is built, encouraging the selection of sites with existing services and transit?

**Smart Location and Linkage**

Sustainable Sites

Green Infrastructure and Buildings

Neighborhood Pattern and Design

*Correct answer: Smart Location and Linkage*

*Categories unique to the LEED Neighborhood Development (ND) rating system include the Smart Location and Linkage, Neighborhood Pattern and Design, and Green Infrastructure and Buildings categories. Credits in the Smart Location and Linkage category are used to promote walkable neighborhoods with efficient transportation options and open space, encouraging the selection of sites with existing services and transit.*

*The focus of the LEED Sustainable Sites (SS) category is on reducing environmental impacts through site assessment, site design, and site management. Green Infrastructure and Buildings credits promote the reduction of the environmental consequences of the construction and operation of buildings and infrastructure. Neighborhood Pattern and Design credits emphasize compact, walkable, vibrant, mixed-use neighborhoods with good connections to nearby communities.*

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**33.**

A building owner has noticed an increase in their electricity bills and finds out that lights are being left on when no one is in the building. Instead of complaining to the occupants, they put up displays showing the amount of electricity being used as well as information about its impact on the environment. Workers begin turning the lights off when they leave, and the owner's electricity bill comes back down.

What is this an example of?

**The Prius Effect**

A leverage point

The integrative process

Optimization

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*Correct answer: The Prius Effect*

*The Prius Effect is a strategy that hypothesizes that when information is given to users, they will respond and change their behavior. In this scenario, they saw how much energy they were wasting and decided to turn the lights off when they weren't in the office.*

*A leverage point is an action within the Prius Effect. The leverage point in this scenario would have been the displayed information. This is not an example of the integrative process. Optimization is usually a term used to describe a product that has been changed to achieve a goal.*

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**34.**

What is the main difference between prerequisites and credits in the LEED rating systems?

**Prerequisites are required; credits are optional**

Prerequisites are more difficult to earn than credits

Project teams must build up credits before they can aim for prerequisites

Credits are required; prerequisites are optional

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*Correct answer: Prerequisites are required; credits are optional*

*Within each category of each of the rating systems, there are prerequisites and credits. It is critical to remember that prerequisites are absolutely required and credits are optional. Not all categories contain prerequisites, but all of the categories have credits. It does not matter if a project intends to pursue credits in every category—all prerequisites are required and are mandatory in the rating system in which the project is working.*

*Whether a prerequisite or a credit is difficult to earn is based on the LEED project team. Prerequisites must always be achieved, but it is not required that they be completed before the credits.*

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**35.**

A home owner is making sustainable changes to the house. To that end, his contractor is replacing the old exterior siding with material that is fire resistance and durable and doesn't negatively impact the environment. What has she replaced the vinyl siding with?

**Fiber cement**

Vegetation

VOCs

Vinyl siding

*Correct answer: Fiber cement*

*Fiber cement is a better alternative to vinyl siding, which is harmful to the environment. Not only is fiber cement environmentally better but also fire-resistant and more durable than vinyl.*

*Vinyl siding is harmful to the environment, so a homeowner who wants to make their house more sustainable and green wouldn't replace their exterior siding with vinyl. Vegetation can be used on roofs but is not usually a replacement for exterior siding. VOCs are chemicals released at normal interior temperatures.*

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**36.**

In a LEED for New Construction project, what is the maximum number of points a project can earn in the Regional Priority category?

4

16

13

33

*Correct answer: 4*

*There is an opportunity to earn a maximum of 4 points if a project is able to achieve the credit in the Regional Priority category. The hypothetical project is a LEED for New Construction project for the purposes of this question and answer.*

*The remaining answers are incorrect and represent maximum point totals achievable in other LEED v4 categories for New Construction projects.*

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**37.**

A team is put together to build a new warehouse and wants to become LEED certified. What rating system should the team use?

**LEED Building Design and Construction**

LEED Operation and Maintenance

LEED Interior Design and Construction

LEED Warehouses and Distribution Centers

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*Correct Answer: LEED Building Design and Construction*

*The LEED Building Design and Construction (BD+C) rating system was created for new buildings and major renovations. Because this team wants to build a new warehouse, the LEED BD+C rating system will be the best choice to use for certification.*

*LEED Operation and Maintenance (O+M) is for already existing buildings, so this project wouldn't be the right choice for this rating system.*

*LEED Interior Design and Construction (ID+C) has a focus on decorative and architectural details, which wouldn't be a priority for a warehouse, so this is not the best option for this project.*

*LEED Warehouses and Distribution Centers is not a rating system but an adaptation within the LEED O+M and LEED BD+C rating systems.*

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**38.**

Nominees to be LEED Fellows must have how many years of professional green building experience?

**10**

8

15

20

*Correct answer: 10*

*The LEED Fellow credential is the most prestigious designation awarded. LEED Fellows are nominated by their peers, have at least 10 years of professional green building experience, must have been a LEED-credentialed professional for at least 8 years, must have a LEED AP specialty credential in good standing, and must agree to be nominated.*

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**39.**

Which of the following credit categories aims to reduce ozone depletion?

**Energy and Atmosphere**

Sustainable Sites

Materials and Resources

Location and Transportation

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*Correct answer: Energy and Atmosphere*

*The Energy and Atmosphere category aims to reduce energy use, use renewable energy, and address environmental issues such as ozone depletion.*

*Reducing ozone depletion would not be a goal in Sustainable Sites, Materials and Resources, or Location and Transportation.*

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**40.**

What are CIRs?

**Credit interpretation requests**

Credits in retrospect

Class interpretation rules

Creative innovation reactions

*Correct answer: Credit interpretation requests*

*For a fee, a project team can submit a credit interpretation request (CIR) to the USGBC through LEED Online. The purpose of submitting a CIR is to ask a question about how to implement a strategy for a certain prerequisite or credit. The remaining answer options are fabricated terms not used in LEED v4.*

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**41.**

How many points are required for LEED Gold certification level?

**60-79 points**

50-59 points

40-49 points

80+ points

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*Correct answer: 60-79 points*

*The certification levels for LEED are LEED Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. LEED Certified teams must earn 40-49 points, Silver certification level is earned with 50-59 points, Gold certification level is earned with 60-79 points, and Platinum certification level is earned with 80 points or more.*

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**42.**

An architectural firm is working on a tenant fit-out in a newly mixed-used project. They will be retrofitting and addressing only the interior portion of the tenant space. What rating system is most appropriate for this type of project?

**LEED for Commercial Interiors**

LEED for New Construction

LEED for Building Operations + Maintenance

LEED for Tenant Build-Outs

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*Correct answer: LEED for Commercial Interiors*

*LEED for Commercial Interiors is specifically for tenant fit-outs, referring to commercial buildings that lease their space or don't take over the entire building.*

*In contrast, LEED for New Construction is for the entire building, making it unapplicable for a tenant fit-out project. LEED for Building Operations and Maintenance is for improving performance, heightening efficiency, and reducing the environmental impact of an existing retail building.*

*There is no LEED rating system for only tenant build-outs.*

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**43.**

Which of the following is **not** included in the LEED Building Design and Construction (BD+C) rating system?

**Commercial interiors**

Schools

Data centers

Hospitals

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*Correct answer: Commercial interiors*

*The LEED Building Design and Construction (BD+C) rating system addresses the design and construction activities related to new construction and major renovations in the commercial, residential, educational, and health care sectors. The project types include new construction, core and shell, schools, retail, hospitality, data centers, warehouses and distribution centers, health care, homes, and mid-rise multifamily residential structures.*

*The LEED AP Interior Design + Construction (ID+C) rating system addresses design and construction related to tenant improvement and fit-out projects for commercial interior, retail, and hospitality buildings.*

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**44.**

All of the following are LEED v4 Impact Categories **except**:

**Purchase Sustainable Materials**

Protect and Restore Water Resources

Enhance Individual Human Health and Well-Being

Build a Greener Economy

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*Correct answer: Purchase Sustainable Materials*

*LEED's system goals are referred to as Impact Categories, which were developed and approved by the LEED Steering Committee for incorporation in LEED v4. Impact Categories include Reverse Contribution to Global Climate Change; Enhance Individual Human Health and Well-Being; Protect and Restore Water Resources; Protect, Enhance, and Restore Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services; Promote Sustainable and Regenerative Material Resources Cycles; Build a Greener Economy; and Enhance Social Equity, Environmental Justice, and Community Quality of Life. Purchase Sustainable Materials is not one of the Impact Categories.*

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**45.**

Which of the following is both a process as well as a credit category in LEED?

**Integrative process**

Iterative process

Prius Effect

Cradle-to-Cradle

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*Correct answer: Integrative process*

*The integrative process is both a type of process as well as a credit category called Integrative Strategies. Projects can earn points from their implementation of this non-linear process.*

*The iterative process is used within the integrative process and is not a credit category. The Prius Effect and Cradle-to-Cradle are also not their own credit categories but are helpful to green buildings.*

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**46.**

The LEED for Neighborhood Development rating system includes which two project types?

**Plan and Built Project**

Data Centers and Hospitals

Commercial Interiors and Hospitality

Retail and Schools

*Correct answer: Plan and Built Project*

*The LEED for Neighborhood Development rating system includes two rating system adaptations, Plan and Built Project. LEED ND: Plan has been designed for projects in the conceptual or master planning phases or under construction. LEED ND: Project is an adaptation that has been designed for projects completed under the LEED ND rating system and refers to projects that are near completion or completed within three years.*

*Data Centers and Hospitals are adaptations in the LEED for Building Operations and Maintenance category. Commercial Interiors and Hospitality are adaptations in the LEED for Interior Design and Construction category. Retail and Schools are adaptations in the LEED for Building Design and Construction category.*

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47.

Who approves improvements and changes to LEED?

**Members**

The chairperson

The board of trustees

Local governmental officials

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*Correct answer: Members*

*The structure of USGBC is committee-based, member-driven, and consensus-focused. Any improvements or changes to LEED are approved by members through a membership-wide vote. LEED principles are based on transparency, openness, and inclusiveness.*

*Neither chairpersons, the board of trustees, nor local governmental officials make decisions regarding improvements and changes to LEED; changes are member-driven.*

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**48.**

A pre-existing school wants to do a major renovation on their building as well as achieve LEED Gold. Which rating system would you recommend this project use?

**LEED BD+C: Schools**

LEED O+M: Schools

LEED O+M Existing Buildings

LEED BD+C: New Construction and Major Renovations

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*Correct answer: LEED BD+C: Schools*

*LEED BD+C, also known as LEED Building Design and Construction, is for new buildings or buildings going through major renovation. This rating system has an adaptation specifically for schools called LEED BD+C: Schools, so this would be the best choice for this project.*

*LEED O+M: Schools and LEED O+M Existing Buildings are for buildings that are not planning on doing any major renovations and want to be certified almost as is. LEED BD+C: New Construction and Major Renovations would work for this, but this option is not specifically designed for schools the way LEED BD+C: Schools is.*

---

**49.**

A LEED O+M project was recently certified. They will need to be recertified at a minimum of how many years?

**A minimum of every five years**

A minimum of every year

A minimum of every three years

A minimum of every ten years

---

*Correct answer: A minimum of every five years*

*To ensure that the owner is upholding the sustainable strategies employed to achieve initial certification, LEED O+M buildings must be recertified at a minimum of every 5 years.*

*LEED O+M buildings can be recertified every year or every three years but that's not the minimum. Ten years is too long a time to be recertified.*

---

**50.**

A project team has decided to aim to achieve some credits that are still being tested. Where did they go to find these credits?

**LEED pilot library database**

LEED Online

USGBC.org

LEED Credit library

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*Correct answer: LEED pilot library database*

*The LEED pilot library database has credits that are being tested and may potentially be added to a rating system.*

*LEED Online is where projects are registered. Pilot credits won't be found on the USGBC website. There is no such thing as the LEED Credit Library.*

---

**51.**

Your project owner hopes to earn Gold certification. What is the range of points that the owner needs to achieve to earn a Gold level certification?

**60-79**

40-49

50-59

80+

*Correct answer: 60-79*

*To achieve the Gold level certification, LEED projects must earn 60-79 points from credits achieved.*

*Forty to forty-nine points earn projects Certified, 50-59 points earn Silver, 60-79 points earn Gold, and 80+ earn Platinum.*

---

**52.**

Your team has achieved 53 points. What certification level, if any, has your project achieved?

**Silver**

Gold

Certified

They have not achieved certification

---

*Correct answer: Silver*

*To achieve certification level Silver, projects must achieve 50-59 points. Since 53 is within this range, your project has been awarded Silver.*

*Fifty-three points earn a project certification. It is too high a number to earn Certified but not high enough to earn Gold.*

---

**53.**

Which of the following is the name of the world's largest conference and exposition dedicated to green building?

**Greenbuild**

Greenhouse

Green Forum

Greenworld

---

*Correct answer: Greenbuild*

*The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) is transforming the building landscape in many ways, including with the Greenbuild International Conference and Expo. Greenbuild is the world's largest conference and exposition dedicated to green building. Launched in 2002, it has become an important annual event for the green building industry.*

*Greenhouse, Green Forum, and Greenworld are fabricated terms and not names of international green building conferences.*

---

**54.**

In a LEED for New Construction project, what is the maximum number of points a project can earn in the Integrative Process category?

**1**

4

33

13

*Correct answer: 1*

*There is an opportunity to earn a maximum of 1 point if a project is able to achieve the credit in the Integrative Process category. The hypothetical project is a LEED for New Construction project for the purposes of this question and answer.*

*The remaining answers are incorrect and represent maximum point totals achievable in other LEED v4 categories for New Construction projects.*

---

**55.**

What governing body is in charge of overseeing the evolution of the main LEED categories?

**Technical Advisory Group**

Credit Interpretation Ruling

U.S. Green Building Council

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

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*Correct answer: Technical Advisory Group*

*Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) are in charge of maintaining the LEED rating system categories. They find solutions to any issues that arise.*

*A Credit Interpretation Ruling is a program that helps projects with any questions regarding how to implement any prerequisite or credit for a fee. The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) created the Technical Advisory Groups. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is the program that the Technical Advisory Group maintains.*

---

**56.**

Which of the LEED impact categories would building in a Federal Empowerment Zone most support?

**Enhance social equity, environmental justice, community health, and quality of life**

Enhance individual human health and well-being

Build a greener economy

Promote sustainable and regenerative material resources cycles

---

*Correct answer: Enhance social equity, environmental justice, community health, and quality of life*

*Building on high-priority sites, like areas that qualify as Federal Empowerment Zones, can support that community. It can provide beautification and jobs to areas in need.*

*Building in a Federal Empowerment Zone may have some synergistic benefits for the impact categories, promote sustainable and regenerative material resources cycles, and build a greener economy, but this strategy would most benefit enhancing the community. This strategy wouldn't be the most beneficial to promoting sustainable and regenerative material resources.*

---

**57.**

An owner has many different types of buildings she wants to certify on the same site. How should she go about certifying each of these buildings?

**Use the LEED Campus Program**

Certify each building one at a time

Use the LEED Volume Program

Use the CIR program

---

*Correct answer: Use the LEED Campus Program*

*The LEED Campus Program makes it easy for project owners who want to certify different types of buildings on the same site. Each building may require a different adaptation but can be streamlined under the umbrella of the Campus Program.*

*She could certify each building but that would take time and isn't necessary. The Volume Program is for certifying multiple buildings of the same type. The CIR program is there to help teams struggling to understand how to achieve credits.*

---

**58.**

LEED certification can increase the value of a building. Which of the following impact categories would this benefit support?

**Build a greener economy**

Enhance social equity, environmental justice, community health and quality of life

Enhance individual human health and well-being

Enhance value of sustainable buildings

---

*Correct answer: Build a greener economy*

*The increased value of property through sustainable methods such as those in the LEED categories supports the impact category for building a greener economy.*

*"Enhance social equity, environmental justice, community health and quality of life" and "enhance individual human health and well-being" would not include increasing the monetary value of a building. "Enhance value of sustainable buildings" is not an impact category.*

---

**59.**

What is the final step in the LEED review process?

**Certification**

Project review

Credit submittal

Project registration

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*Correct answer: Certification*

*Certification is the final step in the LEED review process. If the project is certified, the project team and owner will be sent a formal certificate of recognition, details about ordering a LEED plaque, and guidelines for project promotion and submitting project photography.*

*The steps in the certification process, in order, are as follows: rating system selection, when teams select the appropriate rating system; project registration, when LEED projects are registered and documented through LEED Online; credit submittals; project review, which begins only after all applicable fees have been paid; and project certification.*

---

**60.**

In which impact category would the use of LCAs be used the most?

**Promote sustainable and regenerative material resources cycles**

Build a greener economy

Enhance the individual human health and well-being

Enhance social equity, environmental justice, community health, and quality

---

*Correct answer: Promote sustainable and regenerative material resources cycles*

*LCAs or Life Cycle Assessments are mostly used to assess the environmental impact of a product that would be the most helpful for promoting sustainable and regenerative material resources.*

*LCA's wouldn't have much impact on the economy, although they may help customers choose greener products. LCA's wouldn't have a huge impact on the enhancement of individual human health and well-being. The information gathered from an LCA might help buyers to choose healthier products, but of these options, LCA's wouldn't play the largest role in this category. They also would have little or no part to play in enhancing social equity, environmental justice, and community health and quality.*

---

**61.**

All of the following are minimum program requirements (MPRs) **except**:

**Must reduce environmental impact by 50%**

Must be in a permanent location on existing land

Must use reasonable LEED boundaries

Must comply with project size requirements

---

*Correct answer: Must reduce environmental impact by 50%*

*The minimum program requirements (MPRs) are the requirements that a building must meet before it can be considered for LEED certification. A building must meet the following MPRs for LEED certification: it must be in a permanent location on existing land, it must use reasonable LEED boundaries, and it must comply with project size requirements. Reducing environmental impact by 50% is not an MPR for LEED certification.*

---

**62.**

Which member of the project team typically checks to ensure the LEED project submission is complete?

**Project administrator**

Owner

Agent

Budget planner

*Correct answer: Project administrator*

*Project team members can be contractors, vendors, tradespeople, employees, clients, and any other stakeholders the owner wishes to include. Three important project team members are the owner, the agent, and the project administrator. The project administrator is the person who plays a key quality role by checking that the LEED submission is complete and accurate before submitting the project to GBCI for review, and by accepting the review results once the review is complete.*

*The owner is the person who has the authority to hold and control the real and personal property associated with the project and accept the certification agreement. The agent is the person who is granted actual authority by the owner to register the project and accept the certification agreement. The budget planner is not responsible for checking that the LEED submission is complete.*

---

**63.**

For a project to qualify as a Data Center project, what percentage of the space must be dedicated to computer equipment?

**More than 60%**

Less than or equal to 60%

Less than or equal to 55%

Less than or equal to 50%

---

*Correct answer: More than 60%*

*The Data Center adaptation is for projects whose primary use is to house computing equipment. To qualify, more than 60% of the building must be dedicated to computer equipment.*

*Any percentage less than or equal to 60% does not qualify a building as a data center.*

---

**64.**

Which of the following cannot be certified under LEED?

**Mobile homes**

Schools

Retail shops

Neighborhoods

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*Correct answer: Mobile homes*

*According to the LEED minimum program requirements, buildings that are not permanent fixtures of the land cannot be certified.*

*Schools, retail, and even neighborhoods can be LEED certified as long as they meet the minimum program requirements.*

---

**65.**

Which LEED professional credential requires 10 years of professional green building experience?

**LEED Fellow**

LEED Green Associate

LEED AP Building Design + Construction

LEED AP Operations + Maintenance

---

*Correct answer: LEED Fellow*

*LEED Fellow nominees are required to have 10 years of green building experience, have been a LEED credentialed professional for at least 8 years, have at least one LEED AP specialty credential, and agree to be nominated.*

*LEED AP candidates are not required to have past experience in LEED green buildings, but they do need to have passed the LEED Green Associate exam.*

*LEED Green Associate candidates do not need any previous experience. However, the candidate must be 18 years of age or older.*

---

**66.**

An interior designer is dedicated to choosing sustainable and healthy products for their customers. Which of the following products would they be likely to choose?

**A paint with low VOCs**

A flooring with high VOCs

A new plastic chair

Curtains from a popular brand

---

*Correct answer: A paint with low VOCs*

*VOCs or Volatile Organic Compounds are chemical compounds that are usually in interior decor, including flooring, paints, furniture, etc. These compounds are harmful and are released in normal indoor temperatures.*

*Any product with high VOCs should be avoided. Interior designers with a dedication to sustainability and health would try to choose products that are or have elements of recycled or renewable material rather than what is simply the newest and most popular.*

---

**67.**

Which credit category rewards the inclusion of a LEED Accredited Professional on the project team?

**Innovation**

Regional Priority

Materials and Resources

Energy and Atmosphere

*Correct answer: Innovation*

*LEED Accredited Professionals (APs) are individuals who have worked to obtain an advanced level of LEED credentials that requires expertise in a particular LEED rating system. In addition to having expertise in a particular rating system, LEED APs are also required to have an advanced knowledge of green building. The Innovation category rewards the inclusion of a LEED Accredited Professional on the project team. This category offers points for improving a building's performance well beyond what is required by the credits or for incorporating green building ideas that are not specifically addressed elsewhere in the rating system.*

*The Regional Priority category, Materials and Resources category, and Energy and Atmosphere category do not award points simply for having a LEED AP on the team.*

---

**68.**

Which specialty credential is for professionals involved in any aspect of residential building and design?

**LEED AP Homes**

LEED AP O+M

LEED AP ID+C

LEED AP ND

*Correct answer: LEED AP Homes*

*The LEED AP Homes specialty credential is for professionals involved in any aspect of residential building and design, such as contractors, developers, and builders. It indicates knowledge of planning the design and construction of durable homes that conserve energy and water, reduce resource depletion, and provide good indoor air quality.*

*The LEED Operations and Maintenance (O+M) specialty credential for existing buildings is for those who work either on the facilities side of building operations and maintenance or on the contractor side. The LEED AP Interior Design and Construction (LEED AP ID+C) is a specialty credential for professionals involved in the greening of interiors. This specialty is especially suitable for interior designers, developers, real estate agents, and landlords. The LEED AP Neighborhood Development (ND) specialty credential is for professionals involved in the planning, design, and development of neighborhoods that reduce transportation emissions, increase walkability and accessibility to open space, and incorporate green buildings and infrastructure.*

---

**69.**

How many continuing education hours must LEED Green Associates earn within two years of earning the credential?

**15**

30

40

10

*Correct answer: 15*

*For the LEED Green Associate and LEED AP credentials, professionals must earn a certain number of continuing education hours within two years of earning the credential. Green Associates must earn 15 continuing education hours within two years, and LEED APs must earn 30 continuing education hours within two years. For LEED Fellows, there is no credential maintenance required.*

---

70.

What is the prerequisite for the LEED v4 Innovation category?

**There are no prerequisites**

Minimum energy performance

Construction activity pollution prevention

Indoor water use reduction

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*Correct answer: There are no prerequisites*

*Every LEED v4 project must comply with certain prerequisites. In the Innovation category, there are no prerequisites.*

*The remaining answers are incorrect. Most categories have prerequisites, but Innovation does not.*

---

**71.**

Commissioning, efficient design and construction, and demand response are all ways for project teams to earn LEED credits in which category?

**Energy and Atmosphere**

Innovation

Regional Priority

Sustainable Sites

---

*Correct answer: Energy and Atmosphere*

*LEED credits can be earned in the Energy and Atmosphere category by implementing various approaches including enhanced commissioning, optimized energy performance, advanced energy metering, demand response, renewable energy production, enhanced refrigerant management, and green power and carbon offsets.*

---

**72.**

Which part of each rating system is required for projects to accomplish to provide a foundation of accomplishment for all projects to achieve?

**Prerequisites**

Minimum Program Requirements

Credits

Checklists

---

*Correct answer: Prerequisites*

*Within each rating system adaptation, there are prerequisites. These are mandatory and do not provide points to the project.*

*Minimum Program Requirements qualify potential projects for LEED. If a potential project does not meet the Minimum Program Requirements, it cannot be certified for LEED. Credits are not required. Checklists are an organization tool for each rating system adaptation.*

---

**73.**

What professional would be brought in prior to the schematic design phase to oversee the commissioning process?

**The commissioning authority**

Landscape architect

MEP engineer

General contractor

---

*Correct Answer: The commissioning authority*

*The commissioning authority should be brought in before the end of the schematic design phase and is in charge of overseeing the commissioning process. This process, among other things, ensures that the building is compliant with the OPR and BOD.*

*The landscape architect chooses what plants the project will use in its open space and planted areas and how those spaces will look as well as designing water-efficient irrigation systems. The MEP engineer designs the energy and water systems in the building. These systems will be commissioned by the commissioning authority. The general contractor oversees demolition, if any occurs, and construction.*

---

**74.**

A project owner wants to build a new project but wants the interiors to be left mostly incomplete so that renters can modify their space as needed. What LEED rating system and adaptation would be the best choice for this project?

**LEED BD+C Core and Shell**

LEED BD+C New Construction and Major Renovations

LEED ID+C Commercial Interiors

LEED O+M Retail

---

*Correct answer: LEED BD+C Core and Shell*

*LEED BD+C Core and Shell is for new construction or major renovation projects that plan on leaving more than 40% of the gross floor area incomplete.*

*LEED BD+C New Construction and Major Renovations, LEED ID+C Commercial Interiors, and LEED O+M Retail require the interior of the projects to be completed for certification.*

---

**75.**

A project team is at a loss as to how to implement a prerequisite for their project, so they decide to request a CIR. How much will the CIR cost?

**\$220**

\$500

\$150

\$200

*Correct answer: \$220*

*CIR or Credit Interpretation Requests have a flat cost of \$220 per CIR. If a project has multiple, unrelated questions, they must send in two separate CIRs. Therefore, there will be two separate charges of \$220.*

---

**76.**

The project team decided to issue a credit interpretation ruling, but they weren't satisfied with the ruling. What can they do?

**Nothing; the ruling isn't final**

Appeal the ruling

Nothing; the ruling is final

Issue a TAG

---

*Correct Answer: Nothing; the ruling isn't final*

*Credit Interpretation Rulings are not final. They are meant to help project teams who are struggling to interpret a prerequisite or credit.*

*The ruling is not final, so there is no need to send in an appeal. A TAG is the Technical Advisory Group, and they aid in the development and refinement of the rating systems.*

---

77.

How many points can a LEED project team earn in the Regional Priority category?

Four

Six

Three

Nine

---

*Correct answer: Four*

*The Regional Priority (RP) category directs the focus of a project team to the most important environmental issues identified as affecting a particular locale. Four points are available in this category for LEED BD+C:New Construction.*

---

**78.**

Which specialty credential is for professionals involved in the greening of interiors?

**LEED AP ID+C**

LEED AP Homes

LEED BD+C

LEED O+M

---

*Correct answer: LEED AP ID+C*

*LEED AP Interior Design and Construction (LEED AP ID+C) is a specialty credential for professionals involved in the greening of interiors. This specialty is especially suitable for interior designers, developers, real estate agents, and landlords.*

*The LEED AP Homes specialty credential is for professionals involved in any aspect of residential building and design, such as contractors, developers, and builders. The LEED Building Design and Construction (BD+C) specialty credential is for professionals involved in the design and construction of green buildings serving the commercial, residential, education, and health care sectors. The LEED Operations and Maintenance (O+M) specialty credential for existing buildings is for those who work either on the facilities side of building operations and maintenance or on the contractor side.*

---

**79.**

If a project is working on strategies to reduce light pollution, which LEED category would they be working on?

**Sustainable Sites**

Energy and Atmosphere

Materials and Resources

Indoor Environmental Quality

*Correct answer: Sustainable Sites*

*One of the Sustainable Sites category's strategies involves reducing light pollution on a site. This reflects the category's focus: to assess and manage the project site.*

*The categories Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, and Indoor Environmental Quality do not have strategies that involve reducing light pollution.*

---

**80.**

What is the goal of the Green Infrastructure and Buildings section of the LEED Neighborhood Development rating system?

**To minimize the environmental impact of construction and operation of buildings**

To reduce building costs

To maximize the number of occupants in buildings

To create walkable neighborhoods

---

*Correct answer: To minimize the environmental impact of construction and operation of buildings*

*Categories unique to the LEED Neighborhood Development (ND) rating system include the Smart Location and Linkage, Neighborhood Pattern and Design, and Green Infrastructure and Buildings categories. Green Infrastructure and Buildings credits promote the reduction of the environmental consequences of the construction and operation of buildings and infrastructure.*

*The goal of Green Infrastructure and Buildings credits is not to reduce building costs or maximize the number of occupants in buildings. One of the goals of the Smart Location and Linkage category, not Green Infrastructure and Buildings, is to create walkable neighborhoods.*

---

**81.**

Influencing legislation in favor of green building is known as:

**Advocacy**

Sustainability

Grassroots initiatives

Community involvement

---

*Correct answer: Advocacy*

*An important part of advancing green building in the marketplace is encouraging advocacy. These efforts to educate and influence legislation in favor of green building and design promote changes from the top down. Local and national advocacy committees have been established related to policy priorities, code adoption, green schools, and other green building campaigns.*

*Sustainability refers to the endurance of systems and building processes. Grassroots initiatives refer to efforts that start at home and promote change from the bottom up. Community involvement simply refers to the act of being involved in the green building community and the wider network of green building professionals.*

---

**82.**

Before a building can start the process of becoming LEED certified, the building must first meet the three minimum program requirements. Which of the following is not one of the minimum program requirements?

**Must not be built on a greenfield**

Must be a permanent fixture of the land

Must meet the size requirements

Must have a reasonable LEED project boundary

---

*Correct answer: Must not be built on a greenfield*

*LEED recommends that projects are not built on greenfields because it reduces the number of habitats available for flora and fauna, but this is not one of the minimum program requirements.*

*The LEED minimum program requirements are the following: 1. must be a permanent fixture of the land, 2. must meet the size requirements, and 3. must have a reasonable LEED project boundary.*

---

**83.**

The LEED rating systems consist of what two components?

**Prerequisites and credits**

Individual projects and group work

Interior and exterior design

Natural and man-made

---

*Correct answer: Prerequisites and credits*

*Within each category of each of the rating systems, there are prerequisites and credits. It is critical to remember that prerequisites are absolutely required and credits are optional. Not all categories contain prerequisites, but all of the categories have credits. It does not matter if a project intends to pursue credits in every category—all prerequisites are required and are mandatory in the rating system in which the project is working.*

---

**84.**

"Buildings and communities will regenerate and sustain the health and vitality of all life within a generation" is the vision statement of which organization?

**United States Green Building Council**

Environmental Protection Agency

Green Seal

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

---

*Correct answer: United States Green Building Council*

*The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) was formed in 1993 to promote sustainability in the built environment. The vision of USGBC is "Buildings and communities will regenerate and sustain the health and vitality of all life within a generation." The USGBC sponsors the LEED certification for people who are passionate about creating sustainable buildings and communities.*

---

**85.**

What is the maximum number of Innovations credits and Regional Priority credits a project team can earn?

**Six Innovations credits and four Regional Priority credits**

Two Innovations credits and two Regional priority credits

Four Innovations credits and six Regional priority credits

Five Innovations credits and five Regional priority credits

---

*Correct answer: Six Innovations credits and four Regional Priority credits*

*LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations has a maximum of 110 credits. Six of these credits can come from the Innovations category (Innovations and LEED AP credits) and four can come from the Regional Priority category (one for each of four specific credits, depending on the region's environmental needs).*

---

**86.**

You want to build a school from scratch and want it to be a LEED certified building. What LEED v4 rating system should you choose?

**LEED Building Design and Construction**

LEED School Design and Construction

LEED Neighborhood Development

LEED Building Operations and Maintenance

---

*Correct answer: LEED Building Design and Construction*

*LEED Building Design and Construction or LEED BD+C is a rating system for new buildings and major renovations. This rating system has an adaptation for schools.*

*LEED School Design and Construction does not exist. LEED Neighborhood Development would not be used for a single school. LEED Building Operations and Maintenance is for existing buildings.*

---

**87.**

Which of the following is the third-party organization that is in charge of the process of credentialing professionals for green building?

**GBCI**

USGBC

LEED

TAG

*Correct answer: GBCI*

*The GBCI or Green Business Certification Inc is a third-party organization that oversees the processes of credentialing professionals and certifying green buildings.*

*USGBC is a nonprofit that releases new versions of LEED. TAG is an advisory committee that helps with technical issues in rating systems. LEED is the green building rating system created and revised by the USGBC.*

---

**88.**

Which category includes credits for open space and heat island reduction?

**Sustainable Sites**

Materials and Resources

Water Efficiency

Location and Transportation

---

*Correct answer: Sustainable Sites*

*The focus of the LEED Sustainable Sites (SS) category is on reducing environmental impacts through site assessment, site design, and site management. Credits in the SS category include site assessment, site development—protect or restore habitat, open space, rainwater management, heat island reduction, and light pollution reduction.*

*Materials and Resources credits include building life-cycle impact reduction, building product disclosure and optimization—environmental product declarations, building product disclosure and optimization—sourcing of raw materials, building product disclosure and optimization—material ingredients, and construction and demolition waste management.*

*Water Efficiency credits include outdoor water use reduction, indoor water use reduction, cooling tower water use, and water metering.*

*The Location and Transportation category credits include sensitive land protection, high priority site, surrounding density and diverse uses, access to quality transit, bicycle facilities, reduced parking footprint, and green vehicles.*

---

**89.**

Which of the following is the first step of the LEED certification process?

**Select a rating system**

Register the project

Submit credits

Accept or appeal a review

---

*Correct answer: Select a rating system*

*The first step of the LEED process is to select a rating system. The rating system chosen will impact what credits and requirements are involved in the project, so it is important to choose the one that is best suited for the project.*

*Registering the project, submitting credits, and accepting or appealing a review can't happen until a project team has selected a rating system.*

---

90.

What role does the LEED pilot credit library play in the evolution of LEED?

**It helps improve credits that are proposed for the next version of LEED**

It gives project teams an easier way to earn certification

It gives project teams opportunities to learn how to make airplanes and other flight vehicles using environmentally sound practices

It allows those who are more intellectual than creative a chance to earn LEED certification

---

*Correct answer: It helps improve credits that are proposed for the next version of LEED*

*The LEED pilot credit library is a database of credits that are being tested for future versions of LEED. There are also opportunities to earn credits in the Innovation category. The online pilot credit library allows comments to be posted, and LEED practitioners can find IN credits to achieve.*

---

**91.**

An owner of a college campus wanted to certify multiple buildings under the same rating system. How should they go about doing that?

**Use the LEED Volume Program**

Use the LEED Campus Program

Certify them one at a time

Use the C2C program

---

*Correct answer: Use the LEED Volume Program*

*The LEED Volume program is for projects that wish to certify multiple buildings under the same rating system. This streamlines the process and makes it easier and faster for project teams to achieve their goals.*

*The Campus Program is for certifying multiple kinds of buildings on the same site. Certifying the buildings one at a time is an option but will be time-consuming. C2C is a certification program for products.*

---

**92.**

What is the correct definition of the LEED project boundary?

**All contiguous land that is associated with the project and supports its typical operations**

The land covered by the perimeter of the project building

The entire community that could be affected by the environmental impact of the building

All hard surfaces associated with the building

---

*Correct answer: All contiguous land that is associated with the project and supports its typical operations*

*The minimum program requirements (MPRs) are the requirements that a building must meet before it can be considered for LEED certification. One of these MPRs for LEED certification is that it must use reasonable LEED boundaries. The LEED project boundary must include all contiguous land that is associated with the project and supports its typical operations.*

*The project boundary encompasses more than just the land covered by the perimeter of the project building and the hard surfaces, such as parking lots, that are associated with the building. The project boundary, however, does not include the entire community that might be affected by the building's environmental impact.*

---

**93.**

How many credits can a LEED project team earn for the integrative process?

 1 2 4 5

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*Correct answer: 1*

*One credit can be obtained for the integrative process, which is not within a category. The integrative process is stressed as the foundation for working through all the categories to achieve credits. Its purpose is to promote teamwork across all the disciplines and begins at the discovery or critical phase of the project.*

---

**94.**

Which of the following would be part of the LEED impact category "enhance individual human health and well being"?

**Providing occupants with a direct view of the outdoors**

Providing vegetated areas

Using xeriscaping

Use low-flow toilets

---

*Correct answer: Providing occupants with a direct view of the outdoors*

*Providing occupants with a direct view of the outdoors enhances the health and well-being of building occupants by reducing stress and allowing occupants to feel more connected with the outdoors.*

*Providing vegetated areas is wonderful for occupants but is mostly there to help provide habitats for local fauna. Using xeriscaping is the use of native or adaptive plants to reduce or eliminate the need for irrigation. Using low-flow toilets would not affect occupant health.*

---

**95.**

What entity would be in charge of quality control during the certification process?

**GBCI**

CIR

TAG

LEED

*Correct answer: GBCI*

*To separate the process of creating the rating systems from the process of certifying projects and credentialing professionals, the Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI) was created. They are responsible for the latter and ensuring the quality of the processes.*

*CIR is Credit Interpretation Request. TAG is Technical Advisory Group. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the rating system.*

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**96.**

To choose a rating system for the project, which of the following should project teams review?

**The rating system checklists**

The USGBC website

LEED Online

The MPRs

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*Correct answer: The rating system checklists*

*The rating system checklists have the name of the rating system, the credit categories, the prerequisites and credits within each category, and the available points. Teams should review the checklists to see which rating system suits their project best and would yield the most points for the project.*

*The USGBC website is where the checklists can be found. LEED Online would not help teams choose a rating system. The MPRs should have already been checked before the process of choosing a rating system begins.*

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**97.**

All of the following would likely benefit from the LEED Campus Program **except**:

**Residential neighborhoods**

Hospitals

Colleges

Commercial developments

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*Correct answer: Residential neighborhoods*

*The LEED Campus Program certifies multiple buildings that are located on the same site and are under the control of the same entity. This program benefits hospitals, colleges, commercial developments, and corporations that have multiple buildings on the same site. Builders in residential neighborhoods would probably not benefit from the LEED Campus Program.*

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**98.**

A hospital project achieved 78 points. What level of certification, if any, have they earned?

**Gold**

Silver

Platinum

It has not achieved certification

*Correct answer: Gold*

*For projects to be awarded gold, they must achieve anywhere from 60-79 points.*

*Seventy-eight points is enough to be awarded certification. It is too high a number to be awarded Silver but not high enough to be awarded Platinum.*

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**99.**

An owner of a retail building wants to renovate the aesthetic and architectural features of the space in a sustainable way. Which LEED rating system should they choose?

**LEED Interior Design and Construction**

LEED Building Design and Construction

LEED Operations and Maintenance

LEED Decorative Design

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*Correct answer: LEED Interior Design and Construction*

*LEED Interior Design and Construction or LEED ID+C is for projects focusing on the interior features of the building. This can include decorative and architectural elements.*

*LEED Building Design and Construction is for new buildings and major renovations. LEED Operations and Maintenance is for existing buildings that aren't planning on renovating much, if anything. LEED Decorative Design doesn't exist.*

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**100.**

While most credits achieve one to three points, Energy and Atmosphere Credit - Optimize Energy Performance can earn teams a total of 18 points. Which of the following explains why some credits earn more points than others?

**Credits are weighted based on how efficiently they achieve one of the LEED impact categories**

Credits are weighted based on how important they are to projects

Credits are weighted based on how easy they are to achieve

Credits are weighted based on votes from a committee

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*Correct answer: Credits are weighted based on how efficiently they achieve one of the LEED impact categories*

*Energy and Atmosphere Credit - Optimize Energy Performance has 18 potential points because this credit is able to meet one or more of the goals established in the LEED impact categories.*

*Credits are not weighted based on votes from a committee, how easy they are to achieve, or how important they are to projects.*

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