

U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

and the

**LEED™ GREEN BUILDING
RATING SYSTEM**



WHAT IS LEED™



“The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System® is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. USGBC's members, representing every sector of the building industry, developed and continue to refine LEED.”



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

- Integrate building industry sectors
- Lead market transformation
- Educate owners and practitioners
- Implement green building policies, standards, programs, technologies and practices.



WHO IS BEHIND IT?

- USGBC is a national non-profit organization based in DC
- Includes representation from diverse industry trades
- The LEED standard was developed by USGBC on a voluntary basis
- The support tools were developed with funding from the U.S. Dept. of Energy



WHAT IS GREEN DESIGN?

Design and construction practices that significantly reduce or eliminate the negative impact of buildings on the environment and their occupants.

- Sustainable site planning
- Safeguarding water and water efficiency
- Energy efficiency
- Conservation of materials and resources
- Indoor environment quality

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?



Environmental

- Reduce destruction of natural areas, habitats, and biodiversity.
- Reduce air pollution, water pollution, and solid waste.
- Reduce depletion of finite resources
- Healthier and safer indoor environments
- Healthier outdoor environments
- Personal satisfaction

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?



Economic – Hard Numbers

- Reduce operating costs
- Reduced project costs
- Competitive first costs
- Municipal economic advantages
- Enhance asset value & profits

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?



Economic – Soft Numbers

- Improve productivity
- Reduce liability
- Reduce absenteeism and turnover

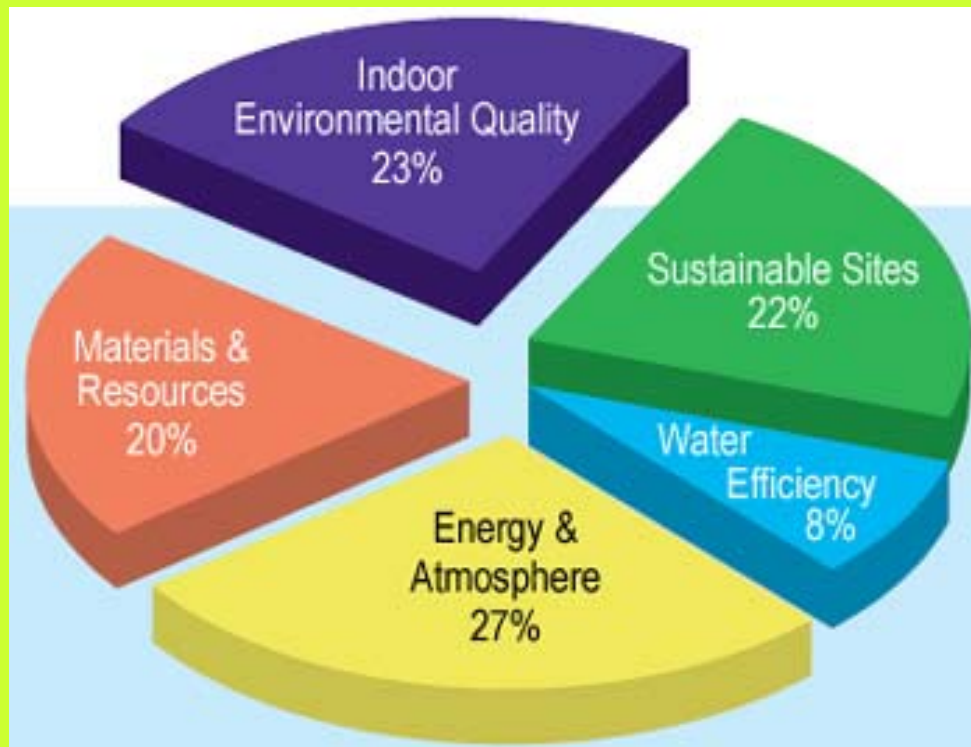


TECHNICAL OVERVIEW

- Uses whole-building approach and encourages a collaborative, integrated design and construction process
- Optimizes environmental and economic factors
- Four levels of certification:
 - LEED Certified 26-32 points
 - Silver Level 33-38 points
 - Gold Level 39-51
 - Platinum Level 52+

TOTAL OF 69 POINTS POSSIBLE

LEED POINT DISTRIBUTION



- Sustainable site planning
 - 22%
- Safeguarding water and water efficiency
 - 8%
- Energy efficiency
 - 27%
- Conservation of materials and resources
 - 20%
- Indoor environment quality
 - 23%

LEED CERTIFICATION PROCESS



FIVE STEPS:

1. Project Registration
2. Integration
3. Resources
4. Documentation Submission
5. Certification

BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION



Recognition of quality buildings and environmental stewardship

1. Third party validation of achievement
2. Qualification for state and local government incentives
3. LEED certification plaque for building
4. Official certificate
5. Marketing exposure through USGBC website, case studies, & media coverage