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FAQ

Regional Priority Credits Frequently Asked Questions

What are Regional Priority Credits (RPCs)?

The concept of Regional Priority Credits was introduced in the LEED 2009 rating systems to incentivize the achievement of credits that address geographically specific environmental priorities. RPCs are not new credits, but instead are existing LEED credits that USGBC regional councils and chapters have designated as being particularly important for their areas. If an RPC is earned, then a bonus point is awarded to the project's total points. A specific location – referenced by Zip code – has six RPCs per rating system. A project may earn up to four bonus points as a result of earning RPCs, with one bonus point earned per RPC.

How do RPCs work?

Since RPCs are not new credits, LEED project teams do not need to attempt them in addition to the existing LEED credits they are attempting. Upon project registration, LEED-Online automatically determines a project's RPCs based on its Zip code. If the project earns an RPC, it will also earn the associated bonus point. If a project earns more than four RPCs, the team can choose the credits from which the bonus points will be earned. Visit the [RPC Viewer](#) to see the RPCs in your project's Zip code.

If my project earns one or more RPC bonus point, will that affect the amount of Innovation in Design points it earns?

Earning one or more RPC bonus points will not affect the potential to earn Innovation in Design points. While both provide extra points towards a project's point total, RPC and ID points do not exclude each other. In the LEED 2009 Rating Systems, a project may earn up to six ID points, with no more than three being earned via exemplary performance.

Are international projects eligible to earn bonus points via RPCs?

Projects outside of the United States, Puerto Rico, and Guam do have a set of prioritized credits that – if earned – will reward a bonus point just like RPCs. Please click [here](#) to download information about these credits.

What if my project contains more than one Zip code?

The LEED Online registration process requires that project teams enter a single Zip code. The ZIP code selected by the project team during registration will be used to determine the associated RPCs.

My project is registered for an earlier LEED version (i.e LEED-NCv2.2). Will it be eligible for the bonus points if it earns one or more RPC?

RPCs are an exclusive feature of LEED 2009. Therefore, only projects registered to pursue certification under a LEED 2009 rating system are eligible to earn the bonus points from earning one or more RPC.