USGBC’s LEED v4 Passes Ballot and Will Launch This Fall

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The newest version of the LEED® green building rating system moves toward an official market launch at Greenbuild

Washington, D.C. — (July 2, 2013) — The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) announced today that its membership has voted to adopt LEED v4, the next update to the world’s premier green building rating system. The final overall vote was 86 percent in favor of adopting LEED v4. This includes 90 percent approval from the user category of the voting body, 77 percent approval from the general interest category and 89 percent approval from the producer category. The minimum overall percentage of votes needed for a passing vote was 66.7 percent.

“There are 46 countries and territories around the world and all 50 U.S. states (and the District of Columbia) represented in the voting pool for LEED v4, which includes an extraordinarily diverse group of industry professionals, manufacturers, educators and other green building leaders,” said Joel Ann Todd, chair of the LEED Steering Committee. “USGBC sets a very high bar for a rating system to be approved. The rating system must earn a significant percentage of the overall vote as well as a majority approval from each of the various LEED stakeholder groups. This ensures that rating system approval represents the full diversity of USGBC’s membership.”

Over the course of LEED’s development cycle, the program undergoes a series of public comment periods ending with a final ballot, during which USGBC members vote on whether to adopt the changes within the final proposed system.

“This update of LEED builds on the past while offering new requirements, preparing all LEED projects to achieve higher levels of building performance and positive environmental outcomes,” said Scot Horst, senior vice president of LEED, USGBC. “This newest version of LEED challenges the market to make the next leap toward better, cleaner, healthier buildings. I am confident that people will also notice the improved usability of the system with an improved documentation process and more resources and tools to assist and support positive action.”

Starting this summer, USGBC will offer education on LEED v4 in the form of webinar suites, and the full program, along with reference guides, will be unveiled at this year's Greenbuild International Conference & Expo. Currently, there are more 100 projects pursuing certification through the LEED v4 beta program. With projects currently in the review phase, some will certify as early as this summer. Enrollment for the beta program is still open. Download the LEED v4 User Guide for details.

About the U.S. Green Building Council
The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. USGBC works toward its mission of market transformation through its LEED green building program, robust educational offerings, a nationwide network of chapters and affiliates, the annual Greenbuild International Conference & Expo, the Center for Green Schools and advocacy in support of public policy that encourages and enables green buildings and communities. For more information, visit usgbc.org and connect on Twitter and Facebook.

About LEED
The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED green building certification system is the foremost program for the design, construction, maintenance and operations of green buildings. Every day, more than 1.5 million square feet of space is certified using LEED. Nearly 54,000 projects are currently participating in the commercial and institutional LEED rating systems, comprising 9.7 billion square feet of construction space in more than 140 countries and territories. In addition, close

to 40,000 residential units have been certified under the LEED for Homes rating system, with more than 100,000 more homes registered. Learn more at usgbc.org/leed and review the Foundations of LEED development process.

Marisa Long
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USGBC staff

9 comments

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Petros Tavaniotis — 15 weeks 6 days ago
Architect MSc, LEED Green Associate, BETAPLAN S.A.

Until when will LEED AP exams be taking place with the old rating systems version?

Lindsey Evans — 32 weeks 4 days ago
Peckham, Guyton, Albers & Viets, Inc.

any information on if/when a new LEED exam or updated credential will be released? thanks!

Jamie Gilmore — 35 weeks 1 day ago
Architectural Designer, Johnson Braund, Inc.

When and where will we have access to the webinars? Thanks!

Fabio Betti — 35 weeks 4 days ago
Ingegnere, Studio ing. Fabio Betti

Good job!

Alfonso Ponce — 35 weeks 6 days ago
Assistant Director, head of Sustainability in Real Estate, Deloitte Finance

Youpi !!

David Dominguez — 36 weeks 5 hours ago
Architect, Edmonds International, Ltd.

Has USGBC said any deadline for projects to enroll? How long will LEEDv3 still be available?

Christina Macken — 36 weeks 2 hours ago
Program Director, Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council

Hi David - projects have until June 1, 2015 to register for LEED 2009.

Shannon Stage — 21 weeks 5 days ago
USGBC - Louisiana Chapter

Is this date just to register, or to obtain certification?

David Dominguez — 35 weeks 4 days ago
Architect, Edmonds International, Ltd.

Thank you very much Christina.

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