

- [EAc1 | Annual energy use](#)
- [EAc1 | Optimize energy performance](#)
- [EAc1 | Optimize energy performance](#)
- [EAc1 | Optimize energy performance](#)
- [EAc1.1 | Optimize energy performance - lighting power](#)
- [EAc1.1 | Optimize energy performance - lighting power](#)
- [EAc1.1 | Optimize energy performance, lighting power](#)
- [EAc1.1-1.5 | Optimize energy performance](#)
- [EAc1.2 | Optimize energy performance - lighting controls](#)
- [EAc1.2 | Optimize energy performance - lighting controls](#)
- [EAc1.2 | Optimize energy performance, lighting controls](#)
- [EAc1.3 | Optimize energy performance - HVAC](#)
- [EAc1.3 | Optimize energy performance - HVAC](#)
- [EAc1.3 | Optimize energy performance, HVAC](#)
- [EAc1.4 | Optimize energy performance - equipment and appliances](#)
- [EAc1.4 | Optimize energy performance - equipment and appliances](#)
- [EAc1.4 | Optimize energy performance, equipment & appliances](#)
- [EAc1.5 | Optimize energy performance - building envelope](#)
- [EAc1.5 | Optimize energy performance, envelope](#)
- [EAc10 | Renewable energy](#)
- [EAc10 | Space heating and cooling equipment](#)
- [EAc11 | Residential refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc11 | Heating and cooling distribution systems](#)
- [EAc12 | Efficient domestic hot water equipment](#)
- [EAc13 | Lighting](#)
- [EAc14 | High-efficiency appliances](#)
- [EAc15 | Renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | Insulation](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site and off-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | Efficient hot water distribution system](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2 | On-site renewable energy, 1%](#)
- [EAc2.1 | Existing building commissioning - investigation and analysis](#)
- [EAc2.1 | Existing building commissioning - investigation and analysis](#)
- [EAc2.1 | Renewable energy - 5%](#)
- [EAc2.1-2.3 | Renewable energy](#)
- [EAc2.2 | Existing building commissioning - implementation](#)
- [EAc2.2 | Existing building commissioning - implementation](#)
- [EAc2.2 | Renewable energy - 10%](#)
- [EAc2.3 | Existing building commissioning - ongoing commissioning](#)
- [EAc2.3 | Existing building commissioning - ongoing commissioning](#)
- [EAc2.3 | Renewable energy - 20%](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc3 | Air infiltration](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Energy use, measurement and payment accountability](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Additional commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Additional commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Advanced utility tracking](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3 | Energy use, measurement & payment accountability](#)
- [EAc3 | Enhanced commissioning](#)
- [EAc3.1 | Performance measurement - building automation system](#)
- [EAc3.1 | Performance measurement - building automation system](#)
- [EAc3.1 | Building operations and maintenance - staff education](#)
- [EAc3.2 | Performance measurement - system-level metering](#)
- [EAc3.2 | Performance measurement - system-level metering](#)
- [EAc3.2 | Building operations and maintenance - building systems maintenance](#)
- [EAc3.3 | Building operations and maintenance - building systems monitoring](#)
- [EAc3.3 | Performance measurement - system-level metering](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Green power](#)
- [EAc4 | On-site and off-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc4 | Green power](#)
- [EAc4 | Windows](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Green power](#)
- [EAc4 | Additional ozone protection](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Ozone protection](#)
- [EAc4 | Ozone depletion](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Active solar-ready design](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc4 | Green power](#)
- [EAc4 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)

- [EAc4.1 | On-site and off-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc4.2 | On-site and off-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc4.3 | On-site and off-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc4.4 | On-site and off-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Enhanced refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc5 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc5 | Heating and cooling distribution system](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Refrigerant management](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | HVAC Start-up credentialing](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5 | On-site renewable energy](#)
- [EAc5 | Measurement and verification](#)
- [EAc5.1 | Measurement and verification - base building](#)
- [EAc5.1 | Performance measurement - enhanced metering](#)
- [EAc5.1 | Measurement and verification - base building](#)
- [EAc5.1 | Measurement and verification - base building](#)
- [EAc5.2 | Measurement and verification - tenant submetering](#)
- [EAc5.2 | Measurement and verification - tenant submetering](#)
- [EAc5.2 | Performance measurement - enhanced metering](#)
- [EAc5.2 | Measurement and verification - tenant submetering](#)
- [EAc5.2 | Measurement and verification - tenant submetering](#)
- [EAc5.3 | Performance measurement - enhanced metering](#)
- [EAc5.4 | Performance measurement - emission reduction reporting](#)
- [EAc6 | Emissions reduction reporting](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Space heating and cooling equipment](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Emissions reduction reporting](#)
- [EAc6 | Documenting sustainable building cost impacts](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Building orientation for passive solar](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc6 | Green power](#)
- [EAc7 | Community contaminant prevention - airborne releases](#)
- [EAc7 | Water heating](#)
- [EAc7 | Air infiltration](#)
- [EAc8 | Lighting](#)
- [EAc8 | Envelope Insulation](#)
- [EAc9 | Appliances](#)
- [EAc9 | Windows](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Energy efficiency best management practices - planning, documentation and opportunity assessment](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of the building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Energy efficiency best management practices - planning, documentation and opportunity assessment](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning](#)
- [EAp1 | Existing building commissioning](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of the building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of the building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental building systems commissioning](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental building systems commissioning](#)
- [EAp1 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp1 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of the building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental Commissioning](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of building energy systems](#)
- [EAp1 | Fundamental commissioning of building energy systems](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy efficiency performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy efficiency performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Energy metering](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp2 | Minimum energy performance](#)
- [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- [EAp3 | Refrigerant management - ozone protection](#)

- o [EAp3 | CFC reduction in HVAC/R equipment](#)
- o [EAp3 | Ozone protection](#)
- o [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- o [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- o [EAp3 | CFC reduction in HVAC/R equipment](#)
- o [EAp3 | CFC reduction in HVAC/R equipment](#)
- o [EAp3 | Education of homeowner, tenant, or building manager](#)
- o [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- o [EAp3 | CFC reduction in HVAC&R equipment](#)
- o [EAp3 | Fundamental refrigerant management](#)
- o [EAp4 | Home size](#)
- o [MEAc1 | Optimize energy performance in mid-rise buildings](#)



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LEED BD+C: Schools | v4 - LEED v4

Green power and carbon offsets

Possible 2 points

1 result in **All**.

- [Glossary](#)

Intent

To encourage the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the use of grid-source, [renewable energy](#) technologies and carbon mitigation projects.

Requirements

Engage in a contract for qualified resources that have come online since January 1, 2005, for a minimum of five years, to be delivered at least annually. The contract must specify the provision of at least 50% or 100% of the project's energy from [green power](#), carbon offsets, or [renewable energy](#) certificates (RECs).

Green power and RECs must be Green-e Energy certified or the equivalent. RECs can only be used to mitigate the effects of Scope 2, electricity use.

Carbon offsets may be used to mitigate Scope 1 or [Scope 2 emissions](#) on a metric ton of carbon dioxide–equivalent basis and must be Green-e Climate certified, or the equivalent.

For U.S. projects, the offsets must be from greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects within the U.S.

Determine the percentage of green power or offsets based on the quantity of energy consumed, not the cost. Points are awarded according to Table 1.

Table 1. Points for energy from green power or carbon offsets

Percentage of total energy addressed by green power, RECs and/or offsets	Points
50%	1
100%	2

Use the project's annual energy consumption, calculated in EA Prerequisite Minimum Energy Performance, if Option 1 was pursued; otherwise use the U.S. Department of Energy's Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS) database to estimate energy use.

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