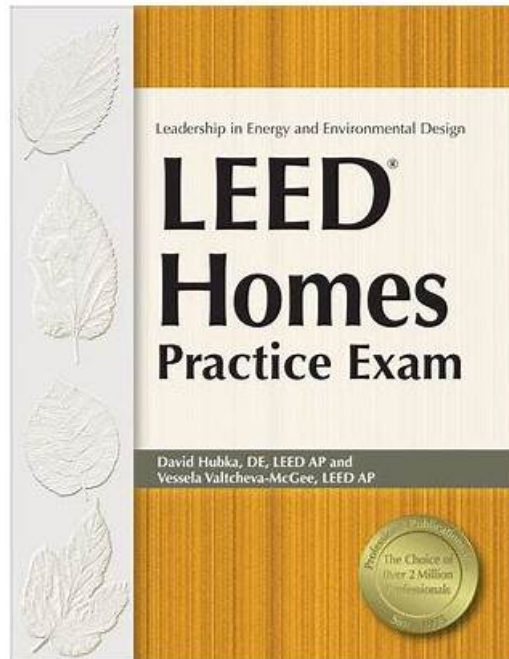


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USGBC LEED-AP-Homes Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials & Resources: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Sustainability Specialist. It emphasizes the selection and management of eco-friendly materials, efficient usage of resources, and implementation of waste reduction strategies to support green residential construction.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Priority Credits: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Regional Performance Advisor. It covers specific environmental credits that reflect local priorities, enabling tailored certification strategies that align with regional ecosystems or regulatory contexts.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor Environmental Quality: This section of the exam measures the skills of an Architectural Designer. It addresses indoor air health, natural light, and ventilation requirements to ensure occupant comfort and durability, reflecting a home's capacity to provide a healthy and lasting living environment.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovation: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Design Innovation Lead. It invites professionals to explore creative and exemplary strategies that surpass standard credits—such as pilot projects or pioneering sustainability solutions—demonstrating forward-thinking in residential design.
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Location & Transportation: This section of the exam measures the skills of an Environmental Planner. It focuses on how homes integrate with their surroundings and connect to transportation networks, emphasizing sustainable siting strategies aligned with urban planning practices.

USGBC LEED AP Homes (Residential) Exam Sample Questions (Q46-Q51):

NEW QUESTION # 46

The minimum required outdoor air ventilation is calculated based on the conditioned floor area of the home and the:

- A. Number of full-time occupants
- **B. Number of bedrooms**
- C. Number of bathrooms
- D. Volume of the home

Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) addresses minimum outdoor air ventilation in the Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ)

Prerequisite: Ventilation, using ASHRAE Standard 62.2-2010 to determine ventilation rates based on conditioned floor area and the number of bedrooms.

According to the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):

EQ Prerequisite: Ventilation

Meet the minimum outdoor air ventilation requirements of ASHRAE Standard 62.2-2010, which calculates ventilation rates based on the conditioned floor area of the home and the number of bedrooms (as a proxy for occupancy). The formula is: Ventilation rate (cfm) = $0.01 \times \text{floor area (ft}^2) + 7.5 \times (\text{number of bedrooms} + 1)$.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Indoor Environmental Quality Prerequisite: Ventilation, p. 142.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C rating system confirms:

EQ Prerequisite: Ventilation

Ventilation rates are determined using ASHRAE 62.2-2010, based on conditioned floor area and the number of bedrooms, which

accounts for typical occupancy levels.

Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.

The correct answer is number of bedrooms (Option B), as ASHRAE 62.2-2010 uses this alongside conditioned floor area to calculate ventilation requirements.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Prerequisite: Ventilation, p. 142.

C). Number of bathrooms: Bathrooms influence local exhaust requirements, not whole-house ventilation rates. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Ventilation, p. 146.

D). Number of full-time occupants: While occupancy affects ventilation needs, ASHRAE 62.2-2010 uses bedrooms as a proxy, not actual occupant counts. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Prerequisite: Ventilation, p. 142.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EQ prerequisites, including ventilation calculations, and references the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction as a key resource. The exam is based on LEED v4, ensuring the relevance of ASHRAE 62.2-2010.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Indoor Environmental Quality Prerequisite: Ventilation, p. 142.

LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, USGBC LEED Credit Library, accessed via LEED Online (<https://www.usgbc.org/credits>).

LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook, GBCI, October 2024, p. 12 (references study resources and exam scope based on LEED v4).

USGBC LEED for Homes Rating System (v4), available via USGBC website (<https://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-homes-design-and-construction-v4>).

LEED v4.1 for Homes, USGBC, accessed via LEED Online, confirming ventilation calculation criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 47

The first consideration in solar home design is to:

- A. Size solar shading
- B. Select windows
- **C. Orient the building**
- D. Incorporate thermal mass

Answer: C

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) encourages passive solar design strategies in the Energy and Atmosphere (EA) category, particularly in EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance or EA Prerequisite:

Minimum Energy Performance, to maximize energy efficiency through site and building design.

According to the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):

EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance

The first step in solar home design is to orient the building to maximize solar exposure for passive heating, daylighting, and potential active solar systems. Proper orientation (e.g., south-facing in the Northern Hemisphere) optimizes energy performance before other strategies like window selection or shading.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Energy and Atmosphere Credit:

Optimize Energy Performance, p. 118.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C Rating system confirms:

EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance

Building orientation is the primary consideration in solar design, as it determines the effectiveness of passive solar strategies and energy efficiency measures.

Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.

The first consideration in solar home design is to orient the building (Option D), typically to maximize south-facing exposure (in the Northern Hemisphere) to optimize passive solar heating, daylighting, and solar energy potential.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Windows, p. 122.

B). Size solar shading: Shading is designed after orientation to manage solar gain. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance, p. 118.

C). Incorporate thermal mass: Thermal mass is a secondary strategy to store heat after orientation is optimized. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Optimize Energy Performance, p. 118.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EA credits, including solar design, and references the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction as a key resource. The exam is based on LEED v4, ensuring the relevance of building orientation.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Energy and Atmosphere Credit: Optimize Energy Performance, p. 118.

LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, USGBC LEED Credit Library, accessed via LEED Online (<https://www.usgbc.org/credits>).

LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook, GBCI, October 2024, p. 12 (references study resources and exam scope based on LEED v4).

USGBC LEED for Homes Rating System (v4), available via USGBC website (<https://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-homes-design-and-construction-v4>).

LEED v4.1 for Homes, USGBC, accessed via LEED Online, confirming solar design priorities.

NEW QUESTION # 48

Looking at the attached table, a project team is aiming for three points in Water Efficiency Credit, Outdoor Water Use. The site contains a total of 57,500 ft² (5,342 m²) of softscape. If the plan has 8,000 ft² (743 m²) of turf grass, what is the minimum area of native or adapted landscape required to achieve the desired three points for this credit?

Turf grass area

Native or adapted plant area

Points

< 60%

> 25%

1

< 40%

> 50%

2

< 20%

> 75%

3

< 5%

> 75%

4

- A. 38,967 ft² (3,620 m²) of native or adapted plant area
- B. 43,126 ft² (4,007 m²) of native or adapted plant area
- C. 2,784 ft² (259 m²) of native or adapted plant area
- D. 39,355 ft² (3,656 m²) of native or adapted plant area

Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Water Efficiency (WE) Credit: Outdoor Water Use

, which awards points based on the ratio of turf grass (high water use) to native or adapted plants (low water use) in the softscape to reduce irrigation needs.

According to the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):

WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use (1-4 points)

To achieve 3 points, the softscape must have less than 20% turf grass and more than 75% native or adapted plants, calculated by area.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Water Efficiency Credit: Outdoor Water Use, p. 98-99.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C Rating system confirms:

WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use

For 3 points, the turf grass area must be less than 20% of the total softscape, and the native or adapted plant area must exceed 75%.

Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.

Calculation:

* Total softscape area: 57,500 ft² (5,342 m²).

* Turf grass area: 8,000 ft² (743 m²).

* Turf grass percentage: $(8,000 \div 57,500) \times 100 = 13.91\%$ (< 20%, meets requirement).

* Minimum native or adapted plant area for 3 points: $> 75\%$ of 57,500 ft² = $0.75 \times 57,500 = 43,125$ ft².

* Compare options:

- * A. 38,967 ft² (3,620 m²): $38,967 \div 57,500 = 67.77\%$ ($< 75\%$, does not meet).
- * B. 39,355 ft² (3,656 m²): $39,355 \div 57,500 = 68.44\%$ ($< 75\%$, does not meet).
- * C. 43,126 ft² (4,007 m²): $43,126 \div 57,500 = 75.00\%$ (meets $> 75\%$ requirement).
- * D. 2,784 ft² (259 m²): $2,784 \div 57,500 = 4.84\%$ (far below 75%, does not meet).

The correct answer is 43,126 ft² (4,007 m²) of native or adapted plant area (Option C), as it meets the minimum requirement for 3 points.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes WE credits, including outdoor water use, and references the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction as a key resource. The exam is based on LEED v4, ensuring the relevance of the table's criteria.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Water Efficiency Credit:

Outdoor Water Use, p. 98-99.

LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, USGBC LEED Credit Library, accessed via LEED Online (<https://www.usgbc.org/credits>).

LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook, GBCI, October 2024, p. 12 (references study resources and exam scope based on LEED v4).

USGBC LEED for Homes Rating System (v4), available via USGBC website (<https://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-homes-design-and-construction-v4>).

LEED v4.1 for Homes, USGBC, accessed via LEED Online, confirming softscape ratios.

NEW QUESTION # 49

A home has a large shower compartment of 3,750 in² (2.4 m²) with dual 1.5 gpm (5.6 lpm) shower heads.

How should the flow rate be calculated?

- A. The flow rate is calculated as two separate compartments of 1.5 gpm (5.6 lpm)
- B. The flow rates are added to total 3.0 gpm (11.2 lpm)
- C. Shower compartment size does not affect shower head flow rates for LEED compliance
- **D. Multiple shower heads are not allowed**

Answer: D

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) addresses shower compartments in the Water Efficiency (WE) Credit: Indoor Water Use, where the size and number of showerheads impact water use calculations.

According to the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):

WE Credit: Indoor Water Use (1-6 points)

A shower compartment is defined as an enclosed area with a floor area of no more than 2,500 in² (1.6 m²), where all fixtures (e.g., multiple showerheads) count as a single fixture for water use calculations.

Compartments larger than 2,500 in² are considered multiple compartments, and multiple showerheads in such cases are not allowed for LEED compliance to ensure water efficiency.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Water Efficiency Credit: Indoor Water Use, p. 96.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Crating system confirms:

WE Credit: Indoor Water Use

For shower compartments exceeding 2,500 in² (1.6 m²), multiple showerheads are not permitted to maintain water efficiency goals.

Each compartment must be treated separately if applicable, but large compartments cannot have multiple heads.

Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.

The shower compartment is 3,750 in² (2.4 m²), exceeding the 2,500 in² limit. Therefore, multiple showerheads are not allowed (Option C), as LEED restricts multiple heads in oversized compartments to ensure water efficiency.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, WE Credit: Indoor Water Use, p. 96.

B). The flow rate is calculated as two separate compartments of 1.5 gpm (5.6 lpm): The compartment is one unit, and multiple heads are not allowed, not treated as separate compartments. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, WE Credit: Indoor Water Use, p. 96.

D). Shower compartment size does not affect shower head flow rates for LEED compliance:

Compartment size directly affects whether multiple heads are allowed. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, WE Credit: Indoor Water Use, p. 96.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes WE credits, including showerhead calculations, and references the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction as a key resource. The exam is based on LEED v4, ensuring the relevance of

compartment size restrictions.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Water Efficiency Credit:

Indoor Water Use, p. 96.

LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, USGBC LEED Credit Library, accessed via LEED Online (<https://www.usgbc.org/credits>).

LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook, GBCI, October 2024, p. 12 (references study resources and exam scope based on LEED v4).

USGBC LEED for Homes Rating System (v4), available via USGBC website (<https://www.usgbc.org/resources/leed-homes-design-and-construction-v4>).

LEED v4.1 for Homes, USGBC, accessed via LEED Online, confirming showerhead restrictions.

NEW QUESTION # 50

Which of the following educational tools in a multi-family apartment building must be used to satisfy Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite, Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager?

- A. Placards immediately adjacent to common area equipment promoting energy and water efficiency of the project
- B. Signs on easels in the leasing center describing the sustainable features in each apartment
- C. A weekly meeting with tenants to raise any issues with building performance
- **D. A one-hour walk-through with the building manager explaining function, operation, and maintenance of equipment**

Answer: D

Explanation:

The question references an "Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite" for education, which appears to be a misnomer, as the LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes this requirement under the Innovation (IN) Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager. This prerequisite ensures occupants or managers are educated on sustainable features.

According to the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):

IN Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager For multi-family buildings, provide a minimum one-hour walk-through with the building manager (or tenants) to explain the function, operation, and maintenance of equipment and systems, such as HVAC, water heating, and other sustainable features.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Innovation Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager, p. 188.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C Rating system confirms:

IN Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner or Tenant

In multi-family projects, a one-hour walk-through with the building manager is required to educate on the operation and maintenance of green systems, ensuring effective use of sustainable features.

Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.

The correct answer is a one-hour walk-through with the building manager explaining function, operation, and maintenance of equipment (Option B), as this meets the prerequisite's requirement for multi-family buildings.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, IN Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager, p. 188.

C). A weekly meeting with tenants to raise any issues with building performance: Weekly meetings are not required; the prerequisite specifies a one-time walk-through. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, IN Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager, p. 188.

D). Placards immediately adjacent to common area equipment promoting energy and water efficiency:

Placards are educational but do not satisfy the walk-through requirement. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, IN Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager, p. 188.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes IN prerequisites, including education requirements, and references the LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction as a key resource. The exam is based on LEED v4, ensuring the relevance of the walk-through.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Innovation Prerequisite: Education of the Homeowner, Tenant, or Building Manager, p. 188.

LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, USGBC LEED Credit Library, accessed via LEED Online (<https://www.usgbc.org/credits>).

LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook, GBCI, October 2024, p. 12 (references study resources and exam scope based on LEED v4).

