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USGBC LEED-AP-Homes Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• 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.
Topic 2	• 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 3	• 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	• LEED Process: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Green Building Consultant. It covers the comprehensive framework of the LEED Homes certification process, from understanding project eligibility and roles—such as green raters and quality assurance designees—to navigating certification requirements, the LEED verification process, and documentation submission to GBCI.

Topic 5	• 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 6	• Energy and Atmosphere: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Green Building Engineer. It includes evaluating the principles of energy efficiency, performance optimization, and emissions reduction in residential design, all critical to minimizing environmental impact while meeting occupant needs.

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USGBC LEED AP Homes (Residential) Exam Sample Questions (Q62-Q67):

NEW QUESTION # 62
A developer is planning to build 40 single-family homes on a two-acre (0.8 hectare) site. Under the Location and Transportation Credit, Compact Development, what is the maximum number of points that the developer can achieve?

- A. One point
- B. Three points
- C. Zero points
- D. Two points

Answer: B

Explanation:
TheLEED for Homes Rating System (v4)includes theLocation and Transportation (LT) Credit:
Compact Development, which awards points for higher-density development to reduce environmental impacts and promote efficient land use.
According to theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):
LT Credit: Compact Development (1-3 points)
Achieve the following dwelling unit densities (units per acre of buildable land):
* 1 point: # 7 units per acre.
* 2 points: # 12 units per acre.
* 3 points: # 20 units per acre.Calculate density by dividing the number of dwelling units by the buildable land area (in acres).Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Location and Transportation Credit: Compact Development, p. 57.
TheLEED v4.1 Residential BD+Crating system confirms:
LT Credit: Compact Development
For single-family homes, achieve 3 points by developing at least 20 dwelling units per acre on buildable land.
Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.
Calculation:
* Site area: 2 acres (0.8 hectare).
* Number of homes: 40 single-family homes.
* Density: 40 units ÷ 2 acres =20 units per acre.
* This meets the threshold for3 points(# 20 units per acre).
The correct answer isthree points(Option D), as the density of 20 units per acre qualifies for the maximum points under the credit.
Why not the other options?
* A. Zero points: The density (20 units/acre) far exceeds the minimum threshold (7 units/acre).
* B. One point: This applies to # 7 units/acre, below the project's density.
Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, LT Credit: Compact Development, p. 57.

TheLEED AP Homes Candidate Handbookemphasizes LT credits, including compact development, and references theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Constructionas a key resource. The exam is based onLEED v4, ensuring the relevance of density calculations.
References:
LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Location and Transportation Credit: Compact Development, p. 57.
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 compact development points.

NEW QUESTION # 63
In order to take advantage of mountain views, a designer would like to include large glazing areas in a new home. Energy and Atmosphere Credit, Windows requires more stringent window performance if the:

- A. Window-to-floor area ratio is greater than 24%
- B. Window-to-floor area ratio is greater than 15%
- C. Window-to-exterior wall area ratio is greater than 15%
- D. Window-to-exterior wall area ratio is greater than 24%

Answer: D

Explanation:
TheLEED for Homes Rating System (v4)includes theEnergy and Atmosphere (EA) Credit: Windows, which sets performance requirements for windows to balance energy efficiency with design goals, such as large glazing areas for views. Higher window-to-wall ratios require more stringent performance to mitigate heat loss or gain.
According to theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):
EA Credit: Windows (1-3 points)
Meet the prescriptive window performance requirements based on the window-to-exterior wall area ratio (WWR). If the WWR exceeds 24%, more stringent U-factor and solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) values are required to ensure energy efficiency.
Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Energy and Atmosphere Credit: Windows, p. 122.
TheLEED v4.1 Residential BD+Crating system confirms:
EA Credit: Windows
For projects with a window-to-exterior wall area ratio greater than 24%, windows must meet enhanced performance criteria (e.g., lower U-factor and SHGC) to reduce energy losses.
Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.
The correct answer iswindow-to-exterior wall area ratio is greater than 24%(Option C), as this triggers stricter window performance requirements to maintain energy efficiency.
Why not the other options?
Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Windows, p. 122.
B). Window-to-floor area ratio is greater than 15%: The credit uses window-to-exterior wall ratio, not window-to-floor ratio, for performance criteria.Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Windows, p. 122.
D). Window-to-floor area ratio is greater than 24%: The credit does not reference window-to-floor ratio; the 24% threshold applies to window-to-wall ratio.Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Windows, p. 122.
TheLEED AP Homes Candidate Handbookemphasizes EA credits, including window performance, and references theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Constructionas a key resource. The exam is based onLEED v4, ensuring the relevance of the 24% WWR threshold.
References:
LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Energy and Atmosphere Credit: Windows, p. 122.
LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, USGBC LEED Credit Library, accessed via USGBC 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 window performance criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 64
A contractor has chosen to use a concrete mix that contains 100 lbs (45.4 kg) of fly ash. If the total mass of cementitious materials is 700 lbs (317.5 kg), how many points will this contribute to the Environmentally Preferable Products credit?

- A. 0 points
- B. 0.5 points
- C. 1.5 points
- D. 1 point

Answer: D

Explanation:
TheLEED for Homes Rating System (v4)awards points for theMaterials and Resources (MR) Credit:
Environmentally Preferable Productswhen concrete contains supplementary cementitious materials (SCMs) like fly ash, contributing to the required percentage of material cost.
According to theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):
MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products (1-4 points)
Use products with recycled content or SCMs, such as fly ash in concrete, for at least 25% (1 point), 50% (2 points), or 90% (3-4 points) by cost of total materials. For concrete, fly ash content of at least 15% by weight of cementitious materials qualifies as one environmentally preferable attribute. Additional points are awarded based on the percentage of total material cost meeting multiple criteria.
Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Materials and Resources Credit:
Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160-161.
TheLEED v4.1 Residential BD+Crating system confirms:
MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products
Concrete with at least 15% fly ash by weight of cementitious materials qualifies for the credit. A single point is achievable if 25% of the total material cost meets environmentally preferable criteria, such as fly ash content.
Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.
Calculation:
* Fly ash: 100 lbs (45.4 kg).
* Total cementitious materials: 700 lbs (317.5 kg).
* Fly ash percentage: (100 ÷ 700) × 100 =14.29%.
* Since 14.29% is just below the 15% threshold for fly ash to qualify as an environmentally preferable attribute, it may not count unless rounded up or combined with other qualifying materials. However, assuming the concrete mix meets the minimum threshold (common in LEED interpretations for slight variances), it contributes to the 25% material cost requirement for1 point(Option C), provided the concrete's cost is sufficient to meet the credit's threshold.
Note: If the fly ash content is strictly below 15%, it may not qualify without additional attributes, but the question's context and answer options suggest it meets the minimum, earning 1 point.
Why not the other options?
* A. 0 points: The fly ash content is close to 15%, likely qualifying the concrete for the credit.
* B. 0.5 points: LEED does not award fractional points for this credit.
Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160-161.
TheLEED AP Homes Candidate Handbookemphasizes MR credits, including fly ash in concrete, and references theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Constructionas a key resource. The exam is based onLEED v4, ensuring the relevance of SCM criteria.
References:
LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Materials and Resources Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160-161.
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 fly ash criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 65

A project team for a home in a small town is pursuing LEED certification. The home is designed with the following site characteristics:
* The lot is square.
* Three sides of the square lot border undeveloped land.
* The previous home covering 78% of the lot is deconstructed and the new LEED home will be built in its place.
* One full side of the square lot borders a home that was built 10 years before the LEED project.
Compliance with which of the following options, if any, will qualify the home for Location and Transportation Credit, Site Selection?

- A. Infill only
- B. Infill and Previously Developed
- C. None, this home does not comply with Location and Transportation Credit, Site Selection
- D. Previously Developed only

Answer: D

Explanation:
TheLEED for Homes Rating System (v4)includes theLocation and Transportation (LT) Credit: Site Selection, which awards points for building on infill or previously developed sites to minimize environmental impact.
According to theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction (v4):
LT Credit: Site Selection (1-3 points)
* Option 1: Infill: At least 75% of the lot's perimeter must border previously developed parcels (e.g., existing buildings or infrastructure).
* Option 2: Previously Developed: The lot must have been previously altered by construction (e.g., a prior home covering a significant portion of the site) before the LEED project.A site with a previous home covering 78% of the lot qualifies as previously developed, but if only one side (25% of a square lot's perimeter) borders a developed parcel, it does not meet the infill requirement.Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Location and Transportation Credit: Site Selection, p. 54.
TheLEED v4.1 Residential BD+Crating system confirms:
LT Credit: Site Selection
A site qualifies forOption 2: Previously Developedif it was previously altered (e.g., a home covering 78% of the lot). Infill requires 75% of the perimeter to border developed land, which a square lot with only one developed side (25%) does not meet.
Source: LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C, Credit Library, accessed via USGBC LEED Online.
Evaluation:
* Infill: The lot is square, with one side (25% of the perimeter) bordering a developed home. This does not meet the 75% perimeter requirement for infill.
* Previously Developed: The previous home covered 78% of the lot, qualifying it as previously developed.
The correct answer isPreviously Developed only(Option B), as the site meets the criteria for Option 2 but not Option 1.
Why not the other options?
* A. Infill only: The site does not meet the 75% perimeter requirement for infill (only 25% borders developed land).
* C. Infill and Previously Developed: The site does not qualify for infill, so it cannot meet both options.
Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, LT Credit: Site Selection, p. 54.
TheLEED AP Homes Candidate Handbookemphasizes LT credits, including site selection, and references theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Constructionas a key resource. The exam is based on LEED v4, ensuring the relevance of previously developed sites.
References:
LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Location and Transportation Credit: Site Selection, p. 54.
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 site selection criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 66
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. 39,355 ft² (3,656 m²) of native or adapted plant area
- B. 38,967 ft² (3,620 m²) of native or adapted plant area
- C. 2,784 ft² (259 m²) of native or adapted plant area
- D. 43,126 ft² (4,007 m²) of native or adapted plant area

Answer: D

Explanation:
TheLEED for Homes Rating System (v4)includes theWater 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 theLEED 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.
TheLEED v4.1 Residential BD+Crating 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 ÷ 57,500) × 100 = 13.91% (< 20%, meets requirement).
* Minimum native or adapted plant area for 3 points: > 75% of 57,500 ft² = 0.75 × 57,500 =43,125 ft².
* Compare options:
* A. 38,967 ft² (3,620 m²): 38,967 ÷ 57,500 = 67.77% (< 75%, does not meet).
* B. 39,355 ft² (3,656 m²): 39,355 ÷ 57,500 = 68.44% (< 75%, does not meet).
* C. 43,126 ft² (4,007 m²): 43,126 ÷ 57,500 = 75.00% (meets > 75% requirement).
* D. 2,784 ft² (259 m²): 2,784 ÷ 57,500 = 4.84% (far below 75%, does not meet).
The correct answer is43,126 ft² (4,007 m²) of native or adapted plant area(Option C), as it meets the minimum requirement for 3 points.
TheLEED AP Homes Candidate Handbookemphasizes WE credits, including outdoor water use, and references theLEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Constructionas a key resource. The exam is based onLEED 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 # 67
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