

Free PDF 2026 USGBC LEED-AP-Homes: Authoritative LEED AP Homes (Residential) Exam Exam Test



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USGBC LEED-AP-Homes Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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 2	<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 3	<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.

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.
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USGBC LEED AP Homes (Residential) Exam Sample Questions (Q93-Q98):

NEW QUESTION # 93

Sustainable Sites Prerequisite, No Invasive Plants requires that all site vegetation:

- A. Be drought tolerant
- B. Provide shading to 25% of hardscapes
- C. Be native to the project's region
- D. Be listed by USDA Cooperative Extension Service or equivalent

Answer: D

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Sustainable Sites (SS) Prerequisite: No Invasive Plants, which ensures that landscaping does not introduce invasive species that could harm local ecosystems.

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

SS Prerequisite: No Invasive Plants

All site vegetation must be non-invasive, as verified by the USDA Cooperative Extension Service or an equivalent authority (e.g., local native plant societies or university extension programs). Invasive species are those that are non-native and likely to cause environmental harm.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Sustainable Sites Prerequisite: No Invasive Plants, p. 72. The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C rating system confirms:

SS Prerequisite: No Invasive Plants

All plants must be verified as non-invasive by the USDA Cooperative Extension Service or equivalent to ensure they do not disrupt local ecosystems.

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

The correct answer is be listed by USDA Cooperative Extension Service or equivalent (Option C), as this ensures that all site vegetation is non-invasive, meeting the prerequisite.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, SS Prerequisite: No Invasive Plants, p. 72.

B). Be drought tolerant: This is relevant to WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use, not the No Invasive Plants prerequisite. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use, p. 98.

D). Provide shading to 25% of hardscapes: This is related to SS Credit: Heat Island Reduction, not the No Invasive Plants prerequisite. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, SS Credit: Heat Island Reduction, p. 80. The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes SS prerequisites, including invasive plant prevention, 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 USDA verification.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Sustainable Sites Prerequisite: No Invasive Plants, p. 72.

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

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 invasive plant verification.

NEW QUESTION # 94

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. Two points
- D. Zero points

Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Location and Transportation (LT) Credit:

Compact Development, which awards points for higher-density development to reduce environmental impacts and promote efficient land use.

According to the LEED 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.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C rating 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: $40 \text{ units} \div 2 \text{ acres} = 20 \text{ units per acre}$.

* This meets the threshold for 3 points (# 20 units per acre).

The correct answer is three 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.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes LT credits, including compact development, 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 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 # 95

In order to assess potential indoor humidity levels caused by locating a home in a warm, humid climate, which two factors should be considered by an engineer or HVAC contractor?

- A. Dehumidification and filtration
- **B. Infiltration and ventilation**
- C. Pressurization and dehumidification
- D. Ventilation and filtration

Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) addresses indoor humidity in warm, humid climates through credits like Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ) Credit: Enhanced Ventilation and EQ Prerequisite:

Ventilation, which consider factors affecting moisture levels to maintain indoor air quality.

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

EQ Credit: Enhanced Ventilation (1-3 points)

In warm, humid climates (e.g., climate zones 1-3), assess indoor humidity by considering infiltration (uncontrolled air leakage through the building envelope) and ventilation (controlled outdoor air introduction).

These factors influence moisture ingress and must be managed to prevent high humidity levels.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Indoor Environmental Quality Credit: Enhanced Ventilation, p. 146.

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

EQ Credit: Enhanced Ventilation

Infiltration and ventilation are critical factors in assessing indoor humidity in humid climates, as infiltration introduces moist outdoor air, and ventilation systems must be designed to manage humidity effectively.

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

The correct answer is infiltration and ventilation (Option B), as these are the primary factors affecting indoor humidity levels in a warm, humid climate, requiring careful design to control moisture.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Ventilation, p. 146.

C). Pressurization and dehumidification: While dehumidification is relevant, pressurization is less critical than infiltration control for humidity assessment. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Ventilation, p. 146.

D). Dehumidification and filtration: Dehumidification is a solution, not a factor to assess, and filtration does not address humidity. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Ventilation, p. 146.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EQ credits, including humidity management, 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 infiltration and ventilation.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Indoor Environmental Quality Credit: Enhanced Ventilation, p. 146.

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 humidity assessment factors.

NEW QUESTION # 96

Which important factors must be considered when calculating the design landscape water requirements?

- A. Soil slope, "no-disturbance" zones, and runoff velocity
- **B. Vegetation selection, microclimate, and irrigation type**
- C. Soil pH, soil compaction, and impervious surfaces
- D. Sub-metering, bedding area zones, and shut-off valves

Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) addresses landscape water use in the Water Efficiency (WE) Credit: Outdoor Water Use, which requires calculating the design landscape water requirements to optimize irrigation efficiency. Key factors influence the water needs of a landscape, guiding the design and irrigation strategy.

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

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

Calculate the landscape water requirement based on the following factors:

- * Vegetation selection: Choose plants with low water needs (e.g., native or drought-tolerant species).
- * Microclimate: Consider site-specific conditions like sun exposure, shade, and wind that affect evapotranspiration rates.
- * Irrigation type: Select efficient systems (e.g., drip irrigation) to minimize water waste. These factors are used to estimate the water demand and design an efficient irrigation system. Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Water Efficiency Credit: Outdoor Water Use, p. 98.

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

WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use

The design landscape water requirement is determined by vegetation selection, microclimate factors (e.g., sun / shade), and irrigation system efficiency (e.g., drip vs. spray).

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

The correct answer is vegetation selection, microclimate, and irrigation type (Option B), as these are the primary factors for calculating water requirements per LEED guidelines.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use, p. 99 (discusses implementation, not calculation factors).

C). Soil slope, "no-disturbance" zones, and runoff velocity: These relate to Sustainable Sites credits (e.g., Rainwater Management) for managing runoff, not calculating landscape water needs. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Sustainable Sites Credit: Rainwater Management, p. 76.

D). Soil pH, soil compaction, and impervious surfaces: While soil conditions affect plant health, they are secondary to vegetation, microclimate, and irrigation for water requirement calculations. Impervious surfaces are relevant to heat island or runoff credits. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, WE Credit: Outdoor Water Use, p. 98.

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 these factors.

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 landscape water factors.

NEW QUESTION # 97

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. 43,126 ft² (4,007 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. 39,355 ft² (3,656 m²) of native or adapted plant area

Answer: A

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: $(8,000 \div 57,500) \times 100 = 13.91\% < 20\%, \text{ meets requirement.}$

* Minimum native or adapted plant area for 3 points: > 75% of 57,500 ft² = $0.75 \times 57,500 = 43,125 \text{ ft}^2$.

* Compare options:

* A. 38,967 ft² (3,620 m²): $38,967 \div 57,500 = 67.77\% < 75\%, \text{ does not meet.}$

* B. 39,355 ft² (3,656 m²): $39,355 \div 57,500 = 68.44\% < 75\%, \text{ does not meet.}$

* C. 43,126 ft² (4,007 m²): $43,126 \div 57,500 = 75.00\% \text{ (meets } > 75\% \text{ requirement).}$

* D. 2,784 ft² (259 m²): $2,784 \div 57,500 = 4.84\% \text{ (far below } 75\%, \text{ does not meet.)}$

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 # 98

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