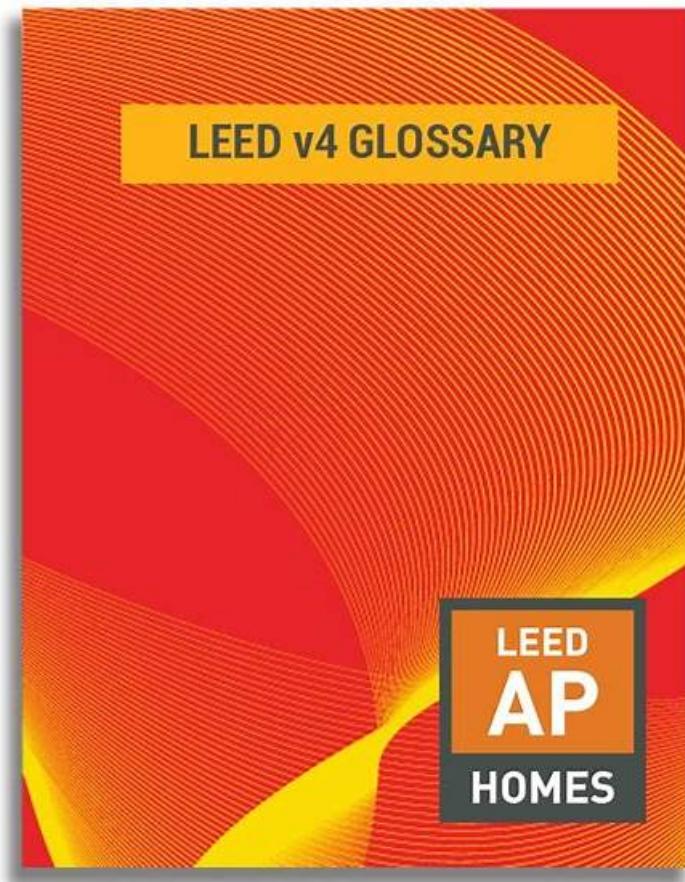


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## USGBC LEED-AP-Homes Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>

## USGBC LEED AP Homes (Residential) Exam Sample Questions (Q75-Q80):

### NEW QUESTION # 75

If the roof sheathing of a home is constructed of certified lumber approved for LEED, under what circumstances can points be earned?

- A. If the certified wood is sourced from a 600 mi. (966 km) radius
- B. If the certified content is greater than 90%**
- C. If the certified content is greater than 45%
- D. No points are earned because certified lumber is a prerequisite

### Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) awards points for the Materials and Resources (MR) Credit:

Environmentally Preferable Products when using certified lumber, specifically Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-certified wood, which contributes to the required percentage of material cost.

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

MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products (1-4 points)

Use FSC-certified wood for at least 25% (1 point), 50% (2 points), or 90% (3-4 points) by cost of the total materials. For specific material categories like roof sheathing, at least 90% of the component (by cost) must be FSC-certified to significantly contribute to the credit.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Materials and Resources Credit:

Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160-161.

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

MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products

Points are awarded for FSC-certified lumber if it constitutes at least 90% of a specific component like roof sheathing (by cost) to meet higher point thresholds (e.g., 3-4 points). Certified lumber is not a prerequisite; it contributes to the credit.

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

The correct answer is if the certified content is greater than 90% (Option B), as this ensures the roof sheathing significantly contributes to the credit's material cost threshold for points.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 161.

C). If the certified wood is sourced from a 600 mi. (966 km) radius: Local sourcing (within 100 miles) is relevant for Option 1: Local Production, not FSC certification. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160.

D). No points are earned because certified lumber is a prerequisite: Certified lumber is not a prerequisite; MR Prerequisite: Certified

Tropical Wood applies only to tropical wood, not all lumber. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Prerequisite: Certified Tropical Wood, p. 156.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes MR credits, including certified lumber, 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 FSC certification thresholds.

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 certified lumber criteria.

## NEW QUESTION # 76

Which of the following could be done to receive credit under Sustainable Sites Credit, Nontoxic Pest Control?

- A. Treat all material with a borate product
- B. Use treated wood for all wood-to-concrete connections
- C. Treat all wood framing with a borate product to a minimum of 3 ft. (0.9 m) below foundation
- D. Install landscaping within 24 in. (0.6 m) of home

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Sustainable Sites (SS) Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control, which awards points for physical or nontoxic strategies to prevent pest entry, such as termites, without relying on chemical treatments unless specifically allowed.

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

SS Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control (1 point)

Use treated wood (e.g., pressure-treated or borate-treated) for all wood-to-concrete connections to prevent termite damage in a way that minimizes environmental impact compared to broad chemical treatments. This is considered a nontoxic or low-toxicity strategy for pest control.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Sustainable Sites Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control, p. 82.

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

SS Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control

Using treated wood for wood-to-concrete connections is an acceptable strategy to earn points by preventing pest access while minimizing chemical use.

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

The correct answer is use treated wood for all wood-to-concrete connections (Option C), as this is a recognized nontoxic pest control strategy for the credit.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, SS Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control, p. 82.

B). Install landscaping within 24 in. (0.6 m) of home: This may increase pest access, contradicting the credit's intent. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, SS Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control, p. 82.

D). Treat all wood framing with a borate product to a minimum of 3 ft. (0.9 m) below foundation: This is not a standard strategy and may involve excessive chemical use, not aligning with nontoxic goals. Reference:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, SS Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control, p. 82.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes SS credits, including nontoxic pest control, 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 treated wood strategies.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Sustainable Sites Credit: Nontoxic Pest Control, p. 82.

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 pest control strategies.

### NEW QUESTION # 77

To receive maximum points under Indoor Environmental Quality Credit, Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, which single strategy should be used?

- A. Installing a garage exhaust fan
- B. Providing a tight seal between garage and conditioned space
- **C. Using a detached garage**
- D. Keeping HVAC systems out of garage

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ) Credit:

Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, which aims to prevent garage pollutants (e.g., vehicle exhaust, chemicals) from entering conditioned living spaces.

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

EQ Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection (1-2 points)

To achieve the maximum points (2 points), use a detached garage, as it physically separates the garage from conditioned spaces, eliminating the risk of pollutant transfer. Other strategies, such as sealing the garage- conditioned space interface or installing exhaust fans, earn fewer points.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Indoor Environmental Quality Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, p. 149.

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

EQ Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection

A detached garage is the most effective strategy, earning the maximum 2 points by preventing any pollutant transfer from the garage to the home's conditioned spaces.

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

The correct answer is using a detached garage (Option C), as it achieves the maximum points by eliminating the risk of pollutant infiltration.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, p. 149.

B). Keeping HVAC systems out of garage: This is a requirement but does not earn maximum points alone.

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, p. 149.

D). Providing a tight seal between garage and conditioned space: This earns 1 point but is less effective than a detached garage. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, p. 149.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EQ credits, including garage pollutant protection, 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 detached garages.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Indoor Environmental Quality Credit: Enhanced Garage Pollutant Protection, p. 149.

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 garage protection strategies.

### NEW QUESTION # 78

Which of the following is used to properly size space heating and cooling systems in accordance with LEED for Homes criteria?

- A. ACCA Manual J
- B. DOE 2006 HVAC Sizing Guide
- C. SMACNA Publication 69.2
- D. ASHRAE 62.2

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) requires proper sizing of space heating and cooling systems to ensure energy efficiency, addressed in the Energy and Atmosphere (EA) Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance and related credits.

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

EA Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance

Size heating and cooling systems in accordance with ACCA Manual J (Residential Load Calculation). This ensures that HVAC systems are appropriately sized for the home's thermal loads, improving energy efficiency and occupant comfort.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance, p. 112.

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

EA Prerequisite: Energy Performance

Use ACCA Manual J to calculate heating and cooling loads and properly size HVAC equipment to meet LEED requirements.

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

The ACCA Manual J (Option B) is the standard method for sizing residential heating and cooling systems, ensuring they match the home's thermal requirements.

Why not the other options?

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

C). SMACNA Publication 69.2: SMACNA standards focus on sheet metal and ductwork installation, not system sizing. Reference: No mention in LEED v4 for Homes; irrelevant to HVAC sizing.

D). DOE 2006 HVAC Sizing Guide: While the DOE provides energy guidelines, LEED specifically requires ACCA Manual J for sizing. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance, p. 112.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EA prerequisites, including HVAC sizing, 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 ACCA Manual J.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Energy and Atmosphere Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance, p. 112.

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 ACCA Manual J requirement.

**NEW QUESTION # 79**

To earn credit for Energy and Atmosphere Credit, Space Heating and Cooling Equipment, the HVAC equipment must exceed the requirements set by:

- A. International Energy Conservation Code
- B. ACCA Manual J guidelines
- C. ENERGY STAR for Homes, Prescriptive Path
- D. ASHRAE 2001 Handbook of Fundamentals

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Energy and Atmosphere (EA) Credit: Space Heating and Cooling Equipment, which rewards the use of high-efficiency HVAC equipment that exceeds baseline standards.

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

EA Credit: Space Heating and Cooling Equipment (1-4 points)

Install HVAC equipment that meets or exceeds the efficiency requirements of the ENERGY STAR for Homes program, Prescriptive Path, which specifies minimum efficiency ratings (e.g., SEER, AFUE) for heating and cooling systems.

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

Space Heating and Cooling Equipment, p. 128.

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

EA Credit: Space Heating and Cooling Equipment

HVAC equipment must exceed the efficiency standards set by ENERGY STAR for Homes, Prescriptive Path, to earn points for improved energy performance.

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

The correct answer is ENERGY STAR for Homes, Prescriptive Path (Option A), as this is the benchmark for high-efficiency HVAC equipment in this credit.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Credit: Space Heating and Cooling Equipment, p. 128.

C). International Energy Conservation Code: IECC sets baseline energy codes, not the higher efficiency requirements for earning points. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance, p. 112.

D). ACCA Manual J guidelines: These are used for sizing HVAC systems, not setting efficiency standards.

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EA Prerequisite: Minimum Energy Performance, p. 112.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EA credits, including HVAC efficiency, 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 ENERGY STAR standards.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Energy and Atmosphere Credit: Space Heating and Cooling Equipment, p. 128.

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).

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LEED v4.1 for Homes, USGBC, accessed via LEED Online, confirming ENERGY STAR requirements.

## NEW QUESTION # 80

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