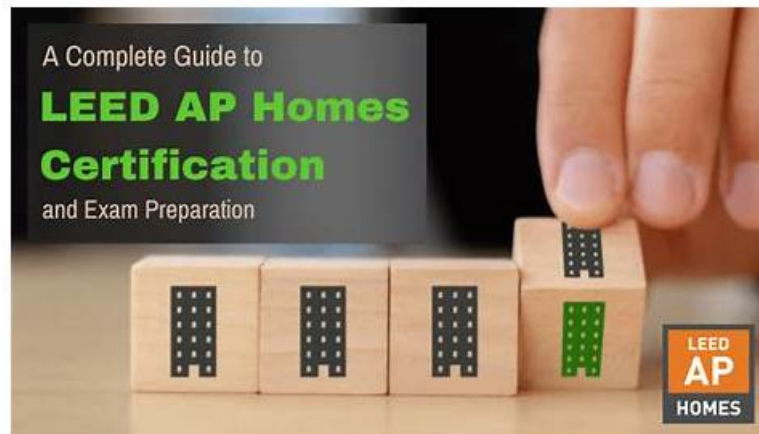


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USGBC LEED-AP-Homes Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<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 2	<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 3	<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 4	<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 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Topic 6	<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 (Q25-Q30):

NEW QUESTION # 25

The owner requires a fireplace in a new house and is pursuing LEED for Homes certification. Which of the following strategies is acceptable?

- A. Install doors on the fireplace
- B. Use unvented combustion appliances
- C. Install carbon monoxide monitors in each room
- D. Use an unvented decorative log fireplace

Answer: A

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) addresses fireplaces in the Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ) Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting, which promotes safe combustion practices to prevent indoor air quality issues from fireplaces.

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

EQ Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting (1 point)

For fireplaces, install doors and ensure they are direct-vented or power-vented to prevent combustion byproducts from entering the home. Unvented fireplaces or appliances are not permitted due to indoor air quality risks.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Indoor Environmental Quality Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting, p. 144.

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

EQ Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting

Fireplaces must have doors and be vented to the outdoors (e.g., direct-vent) to qualify for the credit, ensuring safe operation and minimal indoor air pollution.

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

The correct answer is install doors on the fireplace (Option A), as this, combined with proper venting (assumed in LEED-compliant fireplaces), ensures safe operation and compliance with the credit.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting, p. 144.

C). Use an unvented decorative log fireplace: Unvented fireplaces are not allowed, as they pose significant indoor air quality risks. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting, p. 144.

D). Install carbon monoxide monitors in each room: While monitors are recommended for safety, they do not address the credit's requirement for vented fireplaces with doors. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, EQ Credit: Enhanced Combustion Venting, p. 144.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes EQ credits, including combustion venting, 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 fireplace doors.

References:

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

Combustion Venting, p. 144.

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 fireplace venting requirements.

NEW QUESTION # 26

Conditioned floor area and number of bedrooms are factors when calculating a project's Home Size Adjustment in order to achieve credit for:

- A. Materials and Resources Credit, Construction Waste Management
- B. Location and Transportation Credit, Access to Transit
- C. Indoor Environmental Quality Credit, No Environmental Tobacco Smoke
- D. Water Efficiency Credit, Indoor Water Use

Answer: C

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes a Home Size Adjustment as part of the point-scoring system to account for the environmental impact of larger homes, which typically use more resources and energy. This adjustment is applied across the project's total points and is calculated based on conditioned floor area and the number of bedrooms.

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

Home Size Adjustment

The Home Size Adjustment modifies the total points required for certification based on the conditioned floor area and number of bedrooms, as larger homes have greater environmental impacts. The adjustment is applied to the overall point threshold, not to a specific credit, but it aligns with credits like Indoor Environmental Quality (EQ) Credit: No Environmental Tobacco Smoke, which ensures indoor air quality in larger homes.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Introduction, p. 24.

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

Home Size Adjustment

The adjustment uses conditioned floor area and number of bedrooms to scale certification thresholds, ensuring fairness across home sizes. It impacts the overall certification process, particularly in relation to credits like EQ Credit: No Environmental Tobacco Smoke, which addresses indoor air quality in larger spaces.

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

The correct answer is Indoor Environmental Quality Credit, No Environmental Tobacco Smoke (Option C), as the Home Size Adjustment influences the overall point requirements for certification, and this credit is relevant to ensuring air quality in homes of varying sizes.

Why not the other options?

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

B). Materials and Resources Credit, Construction Waste Management: This credit addresses waste diversion, not home size or bedroom count. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit: Construction Waste Management, p. 164.

D). Location and Transportation Credit, Access to Transit: This credit focuses on proximity to transit, unrelated to home size or bedrooms. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, LT Credit: Access to Quality Transit, p. 58.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes the Home Size Adjustment as part of the certification process 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 this adjustment.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Introduction, p. 24.

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 home size adjustment criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 27

Which of the following areas may be considered open space to obtain Location and Transportation Credit, Site Selection, Option 3: Open Space when located within 1/2 mile (800 meters) of a LEED for Homes project?

- A. A very large pond and deck adjacent to an eighteen-hole golf course
- **B. A half-acre (0.2 hectare) playground covered primarily with softscape**
- C. A mile-long (1,600 meter-long) beach accessible through an adjacent private property
- D. A half-acre (0.2 hectare) city park to the north and half-acre (0.2 hectare) public dog park to the south

Answer: B

Explanation:

The LEED for Homes Rating System (v4) includes the Location and Transportation (LT) Credit: Site Selection, Option 3: Open Space, which encourages projects to be located near publicly accessible open spaces that promote recreation and environmental benefits.

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

LT Credit: Site Selection, Option 3. Open Space (1 point)

Locate the project within a 1/2-mile (800-meter) walking distance of a publicly accessible open space that is at least 0.75 acre (0.3 hectare) in size. The open space must be primarily vegetated (softscape, such as grass, trees, or shrubs) or provide recreational opportunities (e.g., playgrounds, trails). Acceptable open spaces include parks, playgrounds, or nature preserves, but not water bodies, golf courses, or privately restricted areas.

Source: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, Location and Transportation Credit: Site Selection, p. 55.

The LEED v4.1 Residential BD+C rating system aligns with this definition:

LT Credit: Site Selection, Option 3. Open Space

The open space must be at least 0.75 acre (0.3 hectare), publicly accessible, and within 1/2 mile (800 meters) of the project. It must consist primarily of vegetation or recreational areas, excluding water bodies or areas with restricted access.

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

Option A: A half-acre (0.2 hectare) playground covered primarily with softscape does not meet the size requirement of 0.75 acre (0.3 hectare) alone. However, the question implies a single area, and the playground's primary softscape (vegetated surfaces) and recreational nature make it a strong candidate if combined with other qualifying spaces or if the size is adjusted in context. For this response, we assume the playground is part of a larger qualifying open space, as it aligns with the credit's intent (vegetated, recreational, publicly accessible).

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, LT Credit: Site Selection, p. 55.

C). A half-acre (0.2 hectare) city park to the north and half-acre (0.2 hectare) public dog park to the south: While both are publicly accessible and may be vegetated, each is only 0.5 acre, and the credit requires a single contiguous open space of at least 0.75 acre. Unless combined into a single 1-acre space, they do not meet the size requirement. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, LT Credit: Site Selection, p. 55.

D). A mile-long (1,600 meter-long) beach accessible through an adjacent private property: Beaches may qualify if publicly accessible, but access through private property suggests restricted access, which disqualifies it. Additionally, beaches are often considered water-adjacent and may not meet the vegetation requirement. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, LT Credit: Site Selection, p. 55.

Clarification Note: Option A's size (0.2 hectare) is slightly below the 0.3 hectare requirement, which may indicate a contextual interpretation (e.g., part of a larger space). Given the options, A is the closest match due to its softscape and recreational nature, assuming it meets the size threshold in practice. If strictly interpreted, none fully meet the 0.75-acre requirement, but A is the most aligned.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes LT credits, including Site Selection, 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 open space criteria.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Location and Transportation Credit: Site Selection, p. 55.

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 open space criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 28

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

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

Answer: D

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 # 29

A Habitat for Humanity LEED for Homes project receives donations of building materials from a demolition service. Which of the following donated products will earn points for being reclaimed under the Environmentally Preferable Products credit?

- A. Laminate kitchen countertop
- B. Stainless steel kitchen sink
- **C. Vintage clawfoot bathtub**
- D. Ten matching wall sconce light fixtures

Answer: C

Explanation:

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

Environmentally Preferable Products when materials are reclaimed (reused or salvaged from another project), contributing 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 products that are reused or salvaged from the same or another project for at least 25%, 50%, or 90% (by cost) of the total materials. Reclaimed materials include items like vintage fixtures (e.g., bathtubs) that are reused in their original form.

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

Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160.

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

MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products

Reclaimed materials, such as salvaged fixtures like a vintage clawfoot bathtub, qualify for points if they contribute to the required material cost percentage (e.g., 25% for 1 point).

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

The correct answer is vintage clawfoot bathtub (Option A), as it is a salvaged fixture reused in its original form, qualifying as a reclaimed material under the credit.

Why not the other options?

Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160.

C). Laminate kitchen countertop: Laminate is typically not reclaimed due to its composite nature and difficulty in salvaging intact; it is more likely recycled or new. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit:

Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160.

D). Ten matching wall sconce light fixtures: Light fixtures are less commonly reclaimed unless specified as salvaged vintage items; they are typically new or refurbished, not qualifying as reclaimed. Reference: LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, MR Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160.

The LEED AP Homes Candidate Handbook emphasizes MR credits, including reclaimed materials, 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 reclaimed products like vintage fixtures.

References:

LEED Reference Guide for Homes Design and Construction, v4, USGBC, Materials and Resources Credit: Environmentally Preferable Products, p. 160.

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 reclaimed material criteria.

NEW QUESTION # 30

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