

Intro to LEED Recertification



LEED certified buildings need recertification on a regular cycle to maintain, improve and document ongoing performance. LEED for Existing Buildings (LEED-EB O&M) is the USGBC rating system used for recertifying both buildings and interiors.

- Under LEED-EB recertification is required every 1-5 years. The new performance period for the current certification is 1-5 years.
- Under LEED-NC recertification is not yet required but it is needed to maintain and communicate ongoing performance.

If you want to maintain high post occupancy performance on an ongoing basis in your LEED-NC (LEED-BD+C) certified buildings implement a LEED-EB recertification program. A LEED-NC certification plaque is a lot like a good restaurant review. The older the review, the less meaningful it is in terms of how good the food still might be. Similarly, a five-year-old LEED-NC certification only means that five years ago, the building was designed to be a sustainable building the old plaque says nothing about whether the building is operating sustainably today. Ongoing recertification under LEED-EB also helps building owners and managers stay jointly engaged in maintaining and improving sustainable operations.

When to start the recertification process:

Leonardo Academy recommends registering for your recertification as soon as you receive the initial certification plaque. The benefits of doing so are twofold:

One, you lock in the version of the LEED-EB O&M rating system you'll be using for the recertification. As LEED is now on a three-year update cycle, requirements may change between certifications. But by registering your project right away, you know what the requirements will be.

Second, registering right away helps you keep your eyes on the prize, not allowing recertification to be lost amidst the daily details of facility management. Registering for recertification helps facility managers organizational focus on the ongoing sustainable operation of the building.

Leonardo Academy has extensive experience in LEED building recertification

Leonardo Academy LEED Recertification Case Studies

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- Akridge, 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington DC
- Recertified from LEED-NC (v2.2) Gold 2007 to LEED-EB (v2009) Platinum 2012

- Clinton Foundation, William J Clinton Presidential Library, Little Rock, AR
- Recertified from LEED-NC (v2.0) Silver 2004 to LEED-EB (v2.0) Platinum 2007

- Diversey, Inc., Corporate Headquarters, Sturtevant, WI
- Recertified from LEED-EB (pilot)Gold 2004 to LEED-EB (v2.0) Gold 2010

- Diversey, Inc., Distribution Center, Sturtevant, WI
- Recertified from LEED-NC (v2.2)Gold 2007 to LEED-EB (v2.0) Gold 2010

- National Geographic Society, Headquarters, Washington, DC
- Recertified from LEED-EB (pilot)Silver 2003 to LEED-EB (v2.0) Gold 2009
- Recertified from LEED-EB (v2.0)Gold 2009 to LEED-EB (v2.0) Gold 2010
- Recertified from LEED-EB (v2.0)Gold 2010 to LEED-EB (v2008) Gold 2012

Contact Leonardo Academy to learn more about LEED recertification of your buildings.

608-280-0255, leed@leonardoacademy.org , www.leonardoacademy.org