

The Top 5 LEED Certification Questions and Answers

Thank you for signing up to receive the report “The Top 5 LEED Certification Questions and Answers.” Should you have any additional questions after reading the report, feel free to call us toll-free at 800-834-9995.

- 1. What is LEED Certification?** LEED certification is a recognition that a construction project or building can attain by utilizing environmentally friendly building practices during construction or remodeling. LEED is the acronym that stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is the Green Building Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The model was developed in 1998 to encourage environmental awareness amongst government agencies, architects, engineers, developers, and builders.
- 2. What project types are eligible for LEED certification?** There are different categories of LEED for different types of projects:
 - LEED-ND (Neighborhood Development)
 - LEED-BD&C (Building Design & Construction)
 - LEED for Homes
 - LEED-EBOM (Existing Buildings – Operations & Maintenance)
 - LEED-ID&C (Interior Design & Construction)
- 3. What are the different LEED certification levels?** The LEED system has four certification levels for construction: Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. These levels correspond with the number of credits achieved in five categories: Sustainable Sites (SS), Water Efficiency (WE), Energy and Atmosphere (EA), Materials and Resources (MR), and Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ). Each project will achieve a different combination of LEED points or credits in these categories.
- 4. How much does LEED certification cost?** While LEED projects may incur additional initial costs in attempting to achieve various LEED points, and LEED certification itself is an additional expense, economic payback may come in the form of lower utility bills, employee productivity gains, and higher rents and resale value.
- 5. What will LEED certification do for my building/s?** LEED certification offers compelling proof to you, your clients, your peers, and the public at large that

you've achieved your environmental goals and your building is performing as designed. Getting certified allows you to take advantage of a growing number of state and local government incentives, and can help boost interest in your project.