

University of Nebraska Sustainable Design Policy

In the interest of being good stewards of the environment, the University of Nebraska is implementing sustainable building goals and requirements into their design guidelines.

The goals and requirements being implemented are based on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program for New Construction (LEED-NC) which is sponsored by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). This program encompasses a holistic approach to sustainable design. The intents of the program are to provide a quantifiable rating system universal to the building industry and to transform the marketplace to become more sustainable.

Points towards achieving certification are obtained by me will identify specific goals and requirements that pertain to all aspects of the design and construction of a project, ranging from recycled materials to energy efficiency to construction waste management. Strategies university, occupant, community, and global environment in the following ways:

Optimizing Energy Performance

- Projects that meet these goals and requirements will decrease building energy usage and provide tangible results for the university and our community through lower utility costs and reduced resource usage while meeting the environmental requirements of functions to be housed in the building.

Indoor Environmental Quality and Health

- Projects that achieve a high indoor environmental quality will provide benefits to the university and moreover to occupants. It is widely accepted that high indoor environmental quality increases occupant productivity and mental health while reducing absenteeism. Occupant health is a high priority for learning institutions.

Local/Regional Community

- Projects that meet these goals and requirements will benefit the University of Nebraska campus environments, and will directly affect the local and regional community of which the university is a member. These projects will reduce the load on our local municipality infrastructure. They will stimulate the local economy through increased demand for local resources and materials and new sustainable market development. These projects will also reduce the negative impact on our local environment as compared to a standard building.

Certified Level

This category pertains to credits (goals and requirements) that have been determined attainable based on good practices. These credits shall be considered mandatory on all projects unless the University of Nebraska requests otherwise. The costs to implement strategies that meet all of these credits are anticipated to add