



Guidance on Innovation & Design (ID) Credits

ID Credit 1: Innovation in Design

As stated in the LEED Rating Systems, the intent of Innovation in Design Credit 1 is to provide design teams and projects the opportunity to be awarded points for *exceptional* performance above the requirements set by the LEED Green Building Rating System and/or *innovative* performance in green building categories not specifically addressed by LEED.

As a general rule of thumb, ID credits for *exceptional* performance are awarded for doubling the credit requirements and/or achieving the next incremental percentage threshold. For instance, an ID credit for exemplary performance in water use reduction (WE Credit 3) would require a minimum of 40% savings (20%=WE Credit 3.1; 30%=WE Credit 3.2, etc.).

ID credits for *innovative* performance are awarded for comprehensive strategies which demonstrate quantifiable environmental benefits. A representative list of innovative performance ID credits awarded to LEED certified projects is outlined below.

| | |
|--|--|
| Educational Outreach Program | (IDc1.1 inquiry 9-24-01) |
| Green Housekeeping | (IDc1.1 inquiry 4-8-04) |
| High Volume Fly Ash | (IDc1.1 inquiry 12-6-02) |
| Low-Emitting Furniture & Furnishings | (AD inquiry 1-6-03; IDc1.1 inquiry 10-21-03) |
| Organic Landscaping / Integrated Pest Management Program | (via certification submittal) |

LEED ID Credits are evaluated for each project. It is important to note that the award of an ID Credit for one project at a specific point in time does not constitute automatic approval for a similar strategy in a future project. Innovation credits are not awarded for the use of a particular product or design strategy if the technology aids in the achievement of an existing LEED credit.

Approved ID credits may be pursued by any LEED project, but the project team must sufficiently document the achievement using the LEED credit equivalence process. This process includes identifying the proposed innovation credit intent, the proposed requirement(s) for compliance, the proposed submittal(s) to demonstrate compliance, and a summary of potential design approaches that may be used to meet the requirements.

ID Credit 2: LEED Accredited Professional

At least one principal participant of the project team must successfully complete the LEED Accredited Professional exam for credit achievement. Please note that only one point is awarded regardless of how many LEED Accredited Professionals are on the team.