

Appendix C

Assessing a New Construction, Modernization, Major Renovation or Existing Building Using

Third-Party Building Certification Systems

As directed in the [E.O. 13834 Implementing Instructions](#), the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has identified and recommended third-party building certification systems for qualifying sustainable Federal buildings for the purposes of meeting the policy outlined in this Guidance and in accordance with its authority under [42 U.S.C. § 17092\(c\)](#). The independent and public review process used by GSA in developing its recommendations is provided in [GSA's High-Performance Building Certification System Review Findings Report](#).

If agencies choose to use a third-party certification system to qualify their buildings as a sustainable Federal buildings, as provided by [E.O. 13834 Implementing Instructions](#), agencies should use the third-party certification systems and the version or later indicated below, and agencies should ensure that the chosen system meets the criteria in 10 CFR 433.300 and 435.300, as applicable.

New Construction, Modernization and Major Renovations	
Agencies may qualify a new construction, modernization, or major renovations project as a sustainable Federal building by obtaining certification through one of the following third-party building certification systems, at the certification level indicated or higher.	
Option 1	LEED® v4 for Building Design and Construction (BD+C): Silver
Option 2	Green Globes® for New Construction, version 2013: 2 Globes
Existing Buildings	
Agencies may qualify an existing building as a sustainable Federal building by obtaining certification through one of the following third-party building certification systems, at the certification level indicated or higher.	
Option 1	LEED v4 for Building Operations and Maintenance (O+M): Silver
Option 2	Green Globes for Existing Buildings (EB), version 2013: 2 Globes
Option 3	BOMA BEST® Sustainable Buildings, version 3.0: Silver
Option 4	BOMA 360 Performance Program® for Office Buildings: Designation
Option 5	BREEAM® In-Use USA, version 2016: 2 star
Option 6	Living Building Challenge (LBCTM), version 3.1: Certification

Statutory Alignment:

The Guiding Principles and associated criteria include references to statutory and regulatory requirements, many of which are not specifically referenced in third-party certification systems. If an agency chooses to utilize a third-party system for the purposes of qualifying and reporting a building as a sustainable Federal building, it must also ensure that all building-level statutory and regulatory requirements are met.

GSA has developed resources to assist agencies in identifying specific credits within each third-party system that may align with meeting various statutory and regulatory requirements, as referenced in the Guidance. These GSA resources are provided for informational purposes; agencies remain responsible for ensuring that meeting the credits indicated also meet the relevant statutory and regulatory requirements. These additional resources can be found on [GSA's SFTool: Guiding Principles for Sustainable Federal Buildings](#).